

**VENTURA RIVER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING HELD APRIL 8, 2009**

Pursuant to due and official notice, a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ventura River County Water District was held at 409 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, California on April 8, 2009.

President T. Jamison called the meeting to order at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

There were present Directors J. Curtis, M. Hanson, T. Jamison, E. Lee, and E. Ramseyer. Also present were General Manager Matthew Bryant, Carla Burke – substitute recording secretary for Janet Schaefer, and Counsel Lindsay Nielson. Public present was Mr. George Galgas of 523 E. Katherine Avenue, time of arrival noted at 5:33 p.m.

E. Ramseyer moved for approval of the March Minutes only, seconded by J. Curtis and carried. March Financials were not available. Approval of March Financials tabled for May 13th Board Meeting.

A Personnel & Finance Committee report was given by Directors' M. Hanson and E. Ramseyer. M. Hanson reported that three items were addressed in the course of two meetings; employee medical benefits, Term Life Policy and salary increases per COLA. More information is needed regarding the percentage of benefits covered in the industry for Medical and Retirement. M. Bryant will follow up on gathering more information. Regarding COLA increases for employees, it is this committee's recommendation to not implement any COLA increase at this time. E. Lee expressed opposition to this recommendation. M. Hanson suggested a Salary study. M. Bryant will perform a Salary study and submit the findings to the Board at the upcoming Budget Workshop on May 4, 2009.

A Budget & Operational report was given by Directors' E. Lee and J. Curtis. J. Curtis reports that one line item, employee salaries, is the only item that needs to be finalized. A Budget Workshop is calendared for May 4, 2009, at 1 p.m. The scheduled meeting to finalize, approve and adopt the new Budget for the Fiscal Year 2009/2010 is set for June 17, 2009.

M. Bryant informed the Board that they need to adopt an Identity Theft Policy, to conform to the Federal Trade Commission's Red Flag Rule. This Identity Theft Policy needs to be approved by the Board on an Annual basis. E. Lee moved to approve, J. Curtis seconded and carried.

M. Bryant discussed AB 49 – Mandatory 20% reduction in per-capita water use – with the Board. The bill is too broad and needs a baseline. In addition, the bill needs to acknowledge previous conservation efforts made by participating water districts, like the Smart Controller Rebate Program which we currently get through Casitas. M. Bryant will draft a letter in response to this bill, expressing these concerns.

The New Fair Political Practices newsletter regarding Gift Regulations was shared with the Board as an Informational item.

M. Bryant reported on wells, production, and usage. The aquifer level in Well #2 on April 1st was at 21.4' down 0.9 feet from last month. The "Water Conservation" banners continue to be moved around the community, depending on which "Book" has the most water usage.

Under Old Business M. Bryant reported the Request for Proposal on Water System Evaluation project was declined by the firm of Perliter & Ingalsbe. Other firms have expressed interest in bidding for the project. We are now waiting for quotes. Proposals for Audit Services are pending and are anticipated to be available for the May, 2009 meeting. A Budget Workshop is calendared for May 4, 2009, at 1 p.m.

Under New Business CalPers will be conducting an Election this year. The Board can designate M. Bryant as a representative for VRCWD. T. Jamison approved this motion, E. Lee seconded and carried.

M. Bryant reported that the AWA Water Symposium will be held on April 16th. The subject of discussion will be "Shifting Sands...Are We in for a Dry Future?" J. Curtis and M. Bryant will attend.

The Board Room now has an American Flag, compliments of Counsel Lindsay Nielson. M. Bryant asked the Board if they wish to adopt the motion of saying the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each Board meeting. T. Jamison approved this motion, E. Lee seconded and carried.

There being no further action to come before this meeting on motion duly seconded the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 o'clock p.m.

Attested:

Thomas W. Jamison, President

John R. Curtis, Vice President