

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MAY 11, 2016**

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

Directors present were: E. Lee, B. Kuebler, M. Hanson, T. Jamison and J. Curtis. Also present were: Legal Counsel L. Nielsen and General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp. Public present were: Mr. George Galgas and Ms. Peggy Wiles.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Board President E. Lee called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – T. Jamison
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - a. MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING MARCH 9, 2016
 - b. FINANCIAL EXPENDITURES FOR APRIL 2016
 - c. FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 2016

M. Hanson moved for approval, 2nd by J. Curtis. Motion carried 5-0

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT- FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA** - None
5. **LEAK APPEAL BYRON COX 9040 N. VENTURA AVE.** - B. Rapp reported that Mr. Byron Cox from Casitas Springs had a leak event likely caused by a hose that was left running. Mr. Cox has appealed the General Manager's denial for relief. He was offered a four month payment plan. The leak does not qualify under the leak relief program. J. Curtis moved to deny the claim, seconded by M. Hanson and carried 5-0.
6. **2016 DROUGHT MEASURES – Bert Rapp Report 5-11-2016** – B. Rapp reported that Casitas will be reducing allocations by 30% and restrict irrigation to one day per week. M. Hanson asked if there was any limit to amount of time per irrigation, B Rapp responded there was no limit on quantity of irrigation time. Casitas has prohibited irrigation between the hours of 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. B. Rapp indicated that if District customers all irrigated on the same day the District tanks may go dry. E. Lee recommended that the customers be allowed to choose the day to irrigate. An allocation agreement with Casitas should be presented to the Board in June or July.
7. **GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FORMATION: Bruce Kuebler:** On May 10 the Formation Committee had a marathon 6-hour meeting to finish up the Joint Powers Authority agreement and have reached agreement on all the provisions in it. Legal fees were to be about \$40,000 but have increased to \$68,000 mostly because of the boundary modification but also due to additional time required to form the GSA. Kear Groundwater Boundary Modification cost has increased from \$5,000 up to \$8,000. These costs are being split equally among the five agencies. With regard to appointing an agricultural representative the committee decided to have the Ventura County Farm Bureau recommend the agricultural representative. The proposed revisions will be presented at a stakeholder meeting on June 14, 2016. The selection of the environmental representative will be done by having the Directors solicit names from the community. Voting is focused on consensus, if consensus cannot be reached, items will be deferred one meeting and then it will be a simple majority unless it is on important measures as defined in the JPA, then a super majority vote is required. A conference call is scheduled for June 30th after the Stakeholder meeting June 14th in the event that new issues are raised by the Stakeholders. Adoption of the JPA by the member agencies is expected to occur in September.
8. **FY 2016/17 BUDGET – 4TH DRAFT REVIEW** – B. Rapp presented the latest draft of the 2016/17 Budget and Cost of Service Rates. The cost of living will be set at 1.7% for the lower paid employees, management employees will receive a fixed cost of living allocation based upon the

average of the lower paid employees. A \$25,000 allocation has been set aside for an emergency drought connection to the regional piping system & possible studies to determine the best ways deliver supplemental water. The changes to the CIP include postponing the VFD at Parker for Zone 5 and the Hydrant Valve Maintenance will be performed in the spring of 2017 when the revenues are known. On the Cost of Service rates B. Kuebler commented that the tiers need to be differentiated by usage impacts and called something other than tiers, he also recommended that the cost of Groundwater Sustainability Agency be placed on all tiers.

9. LEGAL COUNSEL FOR CHANNEL KEEPER LAW SUIT – L. Nielsen reported that Rob Sawyer of Remy Moose Manly (RMM) has been representing the District on the Santa Barbara Channel Keeper vrs. City of Ventura law suit. Mr. Sawyer is retiring and recommends he be replaced by Elizabeth Sarin of RMM. The consensus was to stay with RMM and work with Elizabeth Sarin. L. Nielsen indicated no Board action was necessary since the District is staying with the same legal firm.

10. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT ON WELLS, WATER STATUS – B. Rapp reported that conservation has continued at 30% below 2013. Revenues are tracking on budget for the last 3 months. The ground water elevation came up about 2.5 feet this month, levels are 15 feet lower than last year at this time. Rain to date has been 12.1 – inches.


11. RESOLUTION 2016 – 298 – Honoring Mr. Tom Jamison for 14 years of service on the Board. B. Kuebler moved to approve Resolution 2016-298, seconded by J. Curtis. Ayes: B. Kuebler, E. Lee, J. Curtis, M. Hanson; Nos: none; Abstentions: T. Jamison; Resolution passed 4-0.

RESOLUTION 2016 – 299 – Appointing Peggy Wiles to the Board of Directors of the Ventura River Water District to complete the term of Mr. Tom Jamison. Appointment is effective June 1, 2016. J. Curtis moved to approve Resolution 2016-299, seconded by B. Kuebler. Ayes: B. Kuebler, E. Lee, J. Curtis, M. Hanson, T. Jamison Nos: none. Peggy Wiles then took the oath of office.

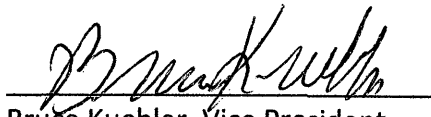
12. OLD & NEW BUSINESS – AWA meeting on recycle water and working with state holders to get it accomplished to the City of Thousand Oaks. No Directors will attend.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION – A closed session was not held.

14. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:27 p. m.

Attested:


Ed Lee, President



Bruce Kuebler, Vice President