

**VENTURA RIVER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 9, 2007**

Pursuant to due and official notice, a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ventura River County Water District was held at 409 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, California on May 9, 2007.

Vice 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, and E. Lee. E. Ramseyer arrived at 5:34 o'clock p.m. Also present were General Manager Matthew Bryant and, recording secretary/Office Manager Janet Schaefer and, Counsel Lindsay Nielson. Public present was Mr. George Galgas of 523 E Katherine Ave.

M. Hanson moved for approval of the minutes of the Regular Board meeting held April 11, 2007 and the Special Board meeting held April 27, 2007, seconded by E. Lee and carried. E. Ramseyer was absent for this vote. J. Curtis abstained.

E. Lee moved for approval of the financial statements for March 2007 and the disbursements for February 2007. Accounts Payable check numbers 8269 – 8312, Trust check numbers 2522 – 2523 and Payroll check numbers 4086 – 4018 totaling \$51,147 seconded by J. Curtis and carried.

The correction of the spelling error on the minutes for the March 14, 2007 was noted.

The Allocation Committee of E. Lee and J. Curtis reported on the meeting of April 18, 2007 with CMWD and other resale agencies to discussion revision of the Allocation program. Resale agencies were requested to bring production and demand information to aid in revising the Resale Conservation Class. Future meeting are on hold for a couple of months because Staff is busy formulating the next year's operating budgets. Director E. Lee asked Director Baggerly directly to guarantee that over allocation charges will not be invoked while the Allocation Program is being revised. Director Baggerly stated over allocation charges will not invoked while the plan is being revised.

J. Curtis moved for approval of Resolution 2007-219 accepting an easement agreement and deed for a waterline at parcel 033-0-050-060, seconded by M. Hanson and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2007 – 219**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
APPROVING AND ACCEPTING AN EASEMENT AGREEMENT AND DEED FOR WATER MAIN LOCATED AT  
11864 N. VENTURA AVE, APN # 033-0-050-060  
OJAI, CALIFORNIA**

WHEREAS; Ventura River County Water District owns a water pipeline which exists on private property owned by Donald K. Katich and Linda L. Altomare, Husband and Wife and,

WHEREAS, Donald K. Katich and Linda L. Altomare, Husband and Wife has agreed to grant an easement to the VRCWD over Ventura County Assessor's parcel (APN: 033-0-050-060); and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Ventura River County Water District hereby accept the attached easement and deed on behalf of the District.

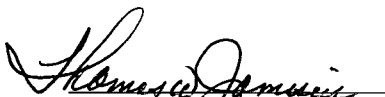
Adopted this 9 day of May, 2007


AYES: Curtis, Hanson, Jamison, Lee, Ramseyer

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:

  
Tom Jamison, Vice-President

  
Eddie Ramseyer, President

M. Hanson moved for approval of Resolution 2007-220 approving a water rate increase, seconded by T. Jamison and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2007 – 220**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VENTURA RIVER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
APPROVING A WATER RATE INCREASE**

WHEREAS, The VRCWD Board of Directors have identified over \$5 million in improvements and upgrades for the next 5 – 10 years; and,

WHEREAS, The water rates are adjusted to provide the funding for system improvements and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Over the past seven (7) years VRCWD has experienced an 18.7% decrease in property tax revenue as a result of the State of California Budget crisis; and,

WHEREAS, in the last two years VRCWD has experienced two major unanticipated system failures depleting available funds for emergencies and capital improvements; and,

WHEREAS, Funds generated for projects are not sufficient with the present water rates to accomplish the necessary upgrades, improvements, preventative maintenance, and emergency funds; and,

WHEREAS; The VRCWD Board of Directors held a public hearing on April 27, 2007 forty-five (45) days after properly noticing each property owner within the boundaries of the district as proscribed in Proposition 218 to present justification for a proposed 14% increase in water rates and hear public testimony; and,

WHEREAS, VRCWD received five (5) letters opposing the proposed 14% rate increase prior to the closing of the April 27, 2007 public hearing; and,

WHEREAS, VRCWD did not receive a majority of the property owners opposing the rate increase as proscribed by Proposition 218 in order to reject the increase; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Ventura River County Water District that effective with the June 30, 2007 billing period we will increase all water rates 14%.


PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2007.

AYES: Curtis, Hanson, Jamison, Lee, Ramseyer

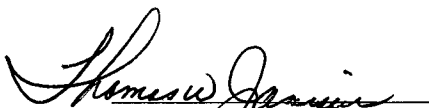
NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:



Eddie Ramseyer, President



Tom Jamison, Vice-President

J. Curtis moved for approval of Resolution 2007-221 requesting consolidation of the District election with the General election to be held November 6, 2007, seconded by E. Lee and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2007 – 221**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
VENTURA RIVER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
REQUESTING THAT THE GENERAL DISTRICT ELECTION  
TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 6, 2007, BE CONSOLIDATED  
WITH OTHER ELECTIONS CALLED TO BE HELD ON THE SAME  
DAY AND IN THE SAME TERRITORY**

WHEREAS, an election shall be conducted for the Ventura River County Water District pursuant to the Uniform District Election Law commencing with Section 10500 of the Elections Code on November 6, 2007, for the electing three directors; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors wishes the Elections Division of the Office of the County Clerk to conduct said election; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 10400 et seq. of the Elections Code, said election may be consolidated with other elections to be held on the same day; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors desires to request that the District's General District Election be consolidated with any other election which may be held on the same date and involving the same territory.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS as follows:

THAT the General District Election of this District is to be held on November 6, 2007, and consolidated with any other elections held on the same date and involving all or a portion of the territory of the District pursuant to Section 10400 et seq. of the Elections Code; and further

THAT, pursuant to Elections Code Section 10002, the District shall reimburse the County in full for the services performed upon presentation of a bill to the District.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2007.

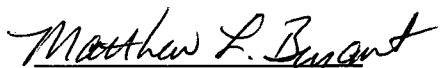
AYES: Curtis, Hanson, Jamison, Lee, Ramseyer

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:

  
Eddie Ramseyer - President

  
Matthew L. Bryant - Secretary

A Board Budget Planning Workshop for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008 was held May 8, 2007. The preliminary budget was discussed briefly with no action taken.

M. Hanson reported that the Valley Wide Discussion met in April. Concerns expressed at earlier meetings were prioritized. Ventura River CWD has concerns in the area of disaster preparedness and communication of information during an emergency. Disaster preparedness is in the top two items of concern as outlined in the letter from County Supervisor Steve Bennett dated April 27, 2007. Director Hanson was pleased that this item has received high priority. The Sheriff's office did not receive grant money for a valley wide communication system this year but will continue to seek funding for the future. The next Valley Wide Discussion will be held on October 28, 2007.

M. Bryant reported on the progress of Well #4. The well has been drilled and is being test pumped now. Staff has the electrical conduit in place and will contact Oilfield Electric to tie in the electrical when appropriate. Title 22 water samples will be taken and after the State Health Department gives approval to put the well on-line it will be activated. Staff hopes to have the well on line by the end of May.

M. Bryant reported on wells, production and usage. The aquifer level in Well #2 on May 1<sup>st</sup> was at 37'.4".

E. Lee moved for approval of Resolution 2007-222 declaring a drought condition and requesting conservation, seconded by M. Hanson and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION 2007 - 222**

**RESOLUTION DECLARING A DROUGHT CONDITION AND REQUESTING CONSERVATION FROM DISTRICT CUSTOMERS**

WHEREAS, the District has recorded only 5.75 inches of rainfall since October 1, 2006 where normal rainfall averages greater than 20 inches; and

WHEREAS, District groundwater is approximately 50% of normal due to the lack of normal rainfall reducing the district's ability to meet expected summer water demand; and

WHEREAS, water consumption for the April 2007 billing period has increased 84.6% above the same period in 2006; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of the findings and determinations made and adopted by the Board of Directors of VRCWD on this date intends by this resolution to request the customers of the Ventura River County Water District to voluntarily reduce their water consumption by 20%, requests eliminating outside watering of unnecessary water use between the hours of 12:00 pm and 5:00 pm; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of VRCWD requests staff to place notification on the next water bill asking for the customer to comply with the above listed requests.

ADOPTED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2007

AYES: Curtis, Hanson, Jamison, Lee, Ramseyer

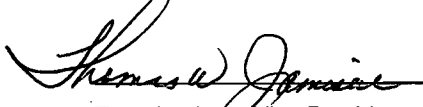
NOES: None

ABSENT: None



Eddie Ramseyer, President

ATTEST:



Tom Jamison, Vice President

M. Bryant reported that he has researched the cost of security cameras for the Baldwin facility. A small expandable system is about \$1,700. J. Curtis moved to authorize Staff to purchase a system as discussed not to exceed \$2,000, seconded by T. Jamison and carried.

Director T. Jamison inquired about an incident at the Help of Ojai West Campus earlier in the week that involved water loss. M. Bryant explained that Staff observed water running out of open irrigation lines in the field across from the water district office and in the pasture across the highway. Staff called the Help of Ojai West Campus office and was told that they had their well on and were checking their ability to have irrigation water for crops. Staff expressed that we are in a drought condition and water running to no particular purpose is a problem. Staff was told that no maintenance workers were available to turn it off and it would run all day. Staff explained that this type of activity is not beneficial to the aquifer we share. M. Bryant went over to the West Campus office to offer assistance in getting the water turned off. M. Bryant has some knowledge of the old Honor Farm system and helped locating valves etc. M. Bryant expressed to the Help of Ojai Staff that VRCWD has no problem with them testing their system but their Staff needs to be present and addressing the water losses and not just water run to waste and down Highway 150. Staff was instructed to write a letter to the Help of Ojai Board regarding wasting of water and enclose the drought resolution.

The VCSDA dinner to be held June 5, 2007 at the Port of Hueneme, Oxnard Harbor District was discussed. J. Curtis and M. Hanson will attend.

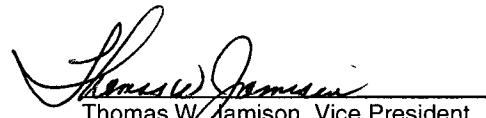
The AWA of Ventura County Water Symposium to be held May 17, 2007 was discussed. J. Curtis and M. Bryant will attend.

There being no further action to come before this meeting on motion duly seconded the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 o'clock p.m.

Attested:



Eddie P Ramseyer, President



Thomas W. Jamison, Vice President