

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING JUNE 29, 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 B. Kuebler, M. Hanson, J. Curtis and P. Wiles. Also present were: Legal Counsel L. Nielsen and General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp. Absent: E. Lee

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** - Vice President B. Kuebler called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by B. Kuebler

**3. CONSENT AGENDA** - None

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT- FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA** - None

**5. APPROVAL OF FY 2016/17 BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM** – B. Rapp reported that this year there are a lot of changes in the District budget. The valve maintenance program has been postponed 2 years because of conservation and dropping revenues but will be restarted in the coming year. A cafeteria health care plan is anticipated in the fall. Employees will be paying the 7% share of the CalPERS retirement. The Cost of living adjustment will be 1.7% for lower paid employees & management will receive a fixed amount based upon the average dollar amount for the lower paid employees. The water sales fluctuation reserves target will be \$870,000. This year we will be implementing new water conservation activities such as working with the Ojai Valley Green Coalition on rainwater infiltration & lower water landscape education. We will be replacing computers and replacing the F-150 truck and backhoe. Also we will be installing the mixing the valve in the south Alto tank in January or February. We will be doing budget based water rates for 2017. In the Capital improvement program we added upgrades to the system where fire flow deficiencies were identified. And we are replacing the water repair trash pump with a self-priming trash pump. The VFD at Parker for zone 5 is postponed until perhaps next year. J. Curtis asked if funding for the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) would continue to be equal contributions from member agencies or transition to pump fees. B. Kuebler responded that once formed the GSA would address this issue, the initial funding may be equal or proportional funding until the pump fees can be implemented. The pump fee may be \$8 or \$10 per acre foot. J. Curtis asked if funding for the Channel Keeper lawsuit was sufficient if during the coming year if the lawsuit becomes active. B. Rapp responded that the funding may be insufficient but will need to wait and see. M. Hanson moved to approve the FY 2016/17 Budget and Capital Improvement Program, seconded by J. Curtis. Ayes: M. Hanson, B. Kuebler, P. Wiles and J. Curtis. Nos: none. Absent: E. Lee

**6. COST OF SERVICE RATES - APPROVAL OF COST OF SERVICE RATE ANALYSIS AND**

**AUTHORIZE PUBLICATION OF THE PROTEST HEARING NOTICE** – B. Rapp highlighted the changes proposed in the Cost of Service Rates: the base rates reduce from \$14.70 to \$10.00. The additional dwelling charge increases from \$2.18 to \$5.00. The multi-family and commercial customers will be on a fixed price volume rate. The larger meter base rates were modified to conform AWWA meter flow rates. We will no longer have "Tiers" but will have "Cost Classes." Volumes of water in each cost class are based on the amount of peaking. The distribution of the Purchased Water Surcharge (PWS) will no longer be universal but will be applied to largest cost classes first and will exclude non well service areas. The Protest Hearing is scheduled for the Regular Board Meeting September 14, 2016. J. Curtis asked if the water billing program is set up to handle the cost of service rate changes. B. Rapp responded that staff has consulted with technical assistance staff for the program and the proposed changes should be able to be accommodated by the program. J. Curtis suggested that the 1,000 unit trigger for the Casitas PWS be eliminated. B. Rapp responded that there are times when the District uses small quantities of Casitas water and it is not cost effective to pass that cost on to the rate payers and the 1,000 trigger works well as a practical starting point each month for the PWS. P. Wiles moved to approve the Cost of

1515


Service Rate proposal and publication of the Protest Hearing Notice, seconded by J. Curtis. . Ayes: M. Hanson, B. Kuebler, P. Wiles and J. Curtis. Nos: none. Absent: E. Lee

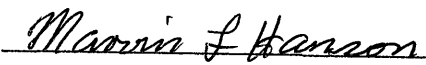
7. OLD & NEW BUSINESS - None

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

9. MEETING ADJOURNMENT – 10:53 A.M.

Attested:

  
Bruce Kuebler, Vice President

  
M. Hanson, Treasurer