

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 12, 2016**

Directors present were: E. Lee, B. Kuebler, M. Hanson, J. Curtis, and P. Wiles. Also present were: Attorney Lindsay Nielson, Kear Groundwater representative J. Kear, General Manager/Board Secretary B. Rapp, and Office Manager A. Bakken.

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** President Ed Lee called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

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

**3. CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. MINUTES SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

B. FINANCIAL EXPENDITURES FOR SEPTEMBER 2016

C. FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JULY 2016

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

**5. WELL #7 DRILLING UPDATE & APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL GEOTECHNICAL FEES**

B. Rapp gave summary of Well #7 development, pump test, and additional costs incurred due to construction delays caused by Jensen Drilling. B. Rapp expects costs to be covered by liquidated damages. L. Nielson asked what caused delays. B. Rapp explained Jensen Drilling had equipment breakage, brought the wrong drill, and required tools to be shipped from Canada which all contributed to the delay. J. Kear of Kear Groundwater gave a detailed update on Well #7 development and pump testing. J. Kear commented on the positive news story that was in the local newspaper about Well #7. Multiple graphs were presented indicating the 24 hour pump test's effect on water level and production for Well #7 and Well #1. It was noted that a steel drill casing is entombed 70 ft. underground. The drill casing was included in the as-builts presented to the County for final well construction and is not considered a health and safety issue. M. Hanson asked about water quality. J. Kear responded with description of recent nitrate tests of Well #1 and Well #7. Nitrates in well #7 are lower than Well #1 and decrease as pumping increases. J. Kear and B. Rapp both recommend waiting on further well development until April of 2017. B. Kuebler moved to approve additional hydrogeological fees on Well #7, seconded M. Hanson, approved 5-0.

**6. SALE OF 1982 CASE 480C BACKHOE** – B. Rapp gave explanation of steps taken thus far to sell Case 480C Backhoe which have been unsuccessful. Gave options of either listing Backhoe on Iron Planet (heavy equipment auction site) with an anticipated yield of \$1,663 to \$3,595 or selling to S. Gruber of Ojai who submitted a bid for \$3,000. J. Curtis moved to approve S. Gruber's bid of \$3,000 for purchase of Case 480C Backhoe, seconded M. Hanson, approved 5-0.

**7. REVIEW OF DRAFT FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP** – B. Rapp described some technical errors made on the FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map). FIRM shows district property is outside of flood plain and isn't required to carry flood insurance. Low value items of Quonset hut and sand/gravel bins are in the flood plain. B. Rapp will send letter to FEMA regarding technical errors on FIRM.

**8. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT ON WELLS, WATER STATUS** – B. Rapp discussed aquifer level being 35.3 feet below the 25-year average for October 1. Customers conserved at a rate of 39% for the month of September. B. Rapp said usage was down and pumping was up as a result of trying to lower Casitas usage. Suspects by end of next month will have to blend with Casitas. Casitas adds an additional \$5.00 charge for going over allocation. J. Curtis asked where the additional Casitas charge gets allocated by the district. B. Rapp indicated he will need time to consider how to allocate that cost. B. Kuebler asked how Casitas allocation is budgeted. B. Rapp explained the budget was developed last spring and provided to Steve for allocation agreement. B. Rapp continued water status


explanation discussing nitrate levels being on the rise in Well #1 and increasing sampling to once a week.

9. **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS** – B. Kuebler gave an update on the GSA. Concerns have been raised about removing the prohibition of Stakeholder Directors with ongoing litigation with the GSA or member agencies. September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting held for de minimis private pumpers. Ten to eleven de minimis private pumpers attended the meeting and shared concerns: The pumpers would like a more active role in the GSA. They would also like an interactive website where they could make comments. This will be recommended to the GSA Board once it is established. P. Wiles made recommendation that there be a dedicated site separate from all other sites for this kind of interaction. J. Curtis asked if private pumpers will want to change draft JPA for the GSA. B. Kuebler responded the hope was that the private pumpers would align with what had already been approved by the GSA Formation Committee. B. Rapp discussed upcoming Ethics Training to be held November 8<sup>th</sup>. District employees were able to bring health insurance costs back into budget postponing implementation of cafeteria plan for another year. B. Rapp will discuss funding a health insurance incentive for a cafeteria plan during budget planning for the next year. E. Lee asked about the cryptic comments in the customer complaint log. B. Rapp noted that more detail should be included on customer complaint log.

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – None

11. **MEETING ADJOURNMENT** – 4:14 P.M.

Attested:



Ed Lee, President



Bruce Kuebler, Vice President