

**VENTURA RIVER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 12, 2007**

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 December 12, 2007.

President E. Ramseyer 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 and, recording secretary/Office Manager Janet Schaefer and, Counsel Stuart Nielson. Public present was Mr. George Galgas of 523 E. Katherine Avenue.

M. Hanson moved for approval of the minutes of the regular Board meeting held November 14, 2007, seconded by J. Curtis and carried.

T. Jamison moved for approval of the Financial Statements for October 2007 and the disbursements for November 2007 Accounts Payable check numbers 8586 - 8628, Trust check numbers 2534 - 2535 , and Payroll check numbers 4192 - 4205 totaling \$73,998 seconded by E. Lee and carried.

Under public comment Mr. Galgas congratulated the incumbents on their re-election and stated that if the Board would like any suggestions from him in the coming year he will provide them.

The Allocation/Water Shortage Committee of J. Curtis and E. Lee reported that they met on October 25, 2007 with M. Bryant. Water conservation and drought preparedness materials compiled by Staff from the State of California Drought Preparedness workshop were reviewed and discussed. A draft plan was presented and reviewed. The Committee expressed that VRCWD's plan will need to go hand in hand with the regional committee's plan so all regional agencies use plans that are equitable to all users. After the first of the year the Committee will work to streamline the plan and work with Casitas MWD to provide collaboration. The final stages of the draft plan include an audit of customer use and how to facilitate that will be considered.

M. Bryant reported that he received a call from Captain Norris of the Ojai Police Department on Friday November 16, 2007 regarding a request Captain Norris received from Mr. George Galgas to have a deputy present at the December 12, 2007 Board meeting. Captain Norris stated that the reason for the request is Mr. Galgas stated he feared for his safety. Captain Norris discussed the content of the meeting with M. Bryant and concluded at the end of that conversation that he would not provide a Deputy; rather he would call Mr. Galgas back and tell him if he felt threatened in any way to call 911. Captain Norris felt no further action was required. Director T. Jamison asked Mr. Galgas why he felt threatened. Mr. Galgas said he feels when Directors speak out of order it is not right, and when Director Lee told him "you're outta here bud" that made him feel threatened. Director Lee disputed that he made that comment and told Mr. Galgas he does not run the meetings. After some exchange President Ramseyer called for order and moved the meeting forward.

M. Bryant reported on wells, production, and usage. The aquifer level in Well #2 on December 1<sup>st</sup> was at 69.1', down 2.7' feet from last month. Water production continues to decline. The Purchased Water Surcharge billed November 30, 2007 was 48 cents per HCF. Lake Casitas is at 80.6% of capacity.

M. Bryant reported on drought conditions. 43.1% of water sales were from the supplemental purchased water source. The use of water at the Help of Ojai West Campus by their lessee was discussed. M. Bryant reported that he has spoken directly to the lessee regarding his use and the drought conditions. M. Bryant also spoke to him about his use and its influence on the aquifer and VRCWD wells. M. Bryant was instructed to meet with the Executive Director of Help of Ojai West Campus to discuss the concerns and follow-up the meeting with a written letter. Director T. Jamison moved to approve the Staff recommendation to increase the hours of restriction on outside watering on a voluntary basis. The previous request was for customers to refrain from outside watering from Noon to 5:00 p.m., the new restriction is from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., seconded by M. Hanson and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

T. Jamison reported that the Finance/Personnel Committee will meet again in January to review the status of cash flow with regard to the employee wage freeze. Some other items discussed were establishing a 3% contribution of revenue for Operational Contingency, Emergency Contingency and Capital Improvement Contingency. One element the committee needs to properly formulate reserve funds is an aged inventory of the systems assets.

M. Bryant reported on his letter dated November 8, 2007 to the County of Ventura Building and Safety Department and carbon copied to Supervisor Bennett regarding the on-going battle with the County of Ventura's Building and Safety Department not requiring Will Serve Letters for new construction in violation of their own guidelines. Previously, the County was approving building permits without the required Will Serve Letter for buildings less than 700 square feet. The Sanitary District has a similar ongoing problem and is working cooperatively to address the mutual problem.

E. Lee moved to nominate E. Ramseyer for the office of President, seconded by T. Jamison and carried by unanimous roll call ballot.

E. Lee moved to nominate T. Jamison for the office of Vice-President, seconded by J. Curtis and carried by a unanimous roll call ballot.

E. Lee moved to nominate J. Curtis as Treasurer, seconded by T. Jamison and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 6:31 O'clock p.m. to discuss pending litigation.

The meeting reconvened at 6:35 o'clock p.m. President Ramseyer stated for the record that pending litigation was discussed with no action taken.

There being no further action to come before this meeting on motion duly seconded the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 o'clock p.m.

Attested:



Eddie P. Ramseyer, President



Tom Jamison, Vice President