

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 19, 2018**

Directors present were: Jack Curtis, Peggy Wiles, Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee and Marvin Hanson. Also present were: Attorney Lindsey Nielson, General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp. Public present were: Carl Enson, Jon McConnel.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** President Jack Curtis called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Jack Curtis.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. **MINUTES NOVEMBER 14TH, 2018**
 - B. **FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2018**

Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of the consent agenda items, seconded Peggy Wiles and carried 5-0.


4. **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)** – None.
5. **ALLOCATIONS TO RESERVE FUNDS** – Bert Rapp reported that the Board has \$2,919,697 to allocate to reserves per the completed audit. The recommendation was to assign \$140,000 to Operating Reserves, \$300,000 to Water Sales Fluctuation Reserves, \$1,696,727 to Capital Improvement reserves, \$26,518 to New Water Resources and \$750,000 to Emergency reserves. The current status of Designated Funds was also provided. Marvin Hanson moved to approve the proposed allocations to reserves, seconded by Ed Lee and carried 5-0.
6. **2019 AND 2020 AGENDA CALENDAR** – The agenda calendar for 2019 includes the new tasks of determining the Casitas Drought allocation in April and compliance with SB 998 in August of 2019. Bruce Kuebler asked Lindsay Nielsen if an item should be added to the regular agenda for having Directors report on outside meetings attended when Directors are compensated for the meeting. Lindsay Nielsen will research the issue and report back to the Board. Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of the agenda calendars, seconded by Peggy Wiles and carried 5-0.
7. **CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CASITAS NEW CONNECTION MORATORIUM** – Bert Rapp discussed the proposed connection moratorium to be considered by Casitas Municipal Water District in February 2019. The factors presented were: The moratorium would not apply to the City of Ventura; for the past 60 years Casitas has had a practice of charging the owners of vacant land property taxes to build Casitas water facilities; new development is required to capture storm water on site to the benefit of the watershed and is required to plant low water landscaping which reduces their water demand; the additional water demand on Lake Casitas by minimal new development in the Ojai Valley is extremely small and if Casitas was truly concerned about the minimal additional water use they could require all new development to provide conservation offsets to reduce the increase to zero. Bruce Kuebler recommended edits to the draft letter to Casitas. Ed Lee moved to have the Board President sign the letter to Casitas, seconded Marvin Hanson and carried 5-0.
8. **NORTH BALDWIN TANK REPAIRS** – Bert Rapp reported that the 5-year inspection of water tanks revealed that repairs are needed in the North Baldwin Tank. Up to three floor panels and two wall panels in the tank need replacing and the roof will need replacing in about 10 years. The proposed work also includes removing the existing siphon and connecting the pipe to the bottom of the tank and installing an access ladder inside the tank. Jack Curtis cautioned that the District should consider the cost of the repairs and life expectancy of the repairs verses the cost of replacing the entire tank. Peggy Wiles recommended having Superior tank conduct the inspection first and see if the estimate repair cost

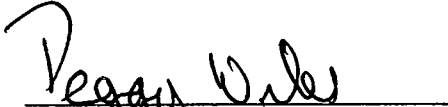
changes significantly before authorizing to work to proceed so Jack Curtis's concerns can be addressed. Peggy Wiles moved for the work to be processed using two Purchase Orders, one for inspection then one for the work, approve Budget Transfer #2 in the amount of \$38,000 and approve the cost proposal from Superior Tank in the amount of \$34,520 to perform the tank repairs, seconded by Marvin Hanson and carried 5-0.

- 9. UPDATE ON THE UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY** – Bruce Kuebler reported that the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency (UVRGA) is advertising for a Board Secretary position that would prepare agendas and staff reports. They are also working on developing the extraction fee and are considering an extraction fee that would be pay as you go and vary over the next several years as costs fluctuate with the preparation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan or having a fixed extraction fee that would require the participating agencies to provide short term loans to the UVRGA to smooth out the finances. The next UVRGA meeting is scheduled for January 10th.
- 10. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT ON WATER & DISTRICT STATUS** - The aquifer is currently 17 feet below the 30 year average for December 1st at an elevation of 491.4 feet. Well #1 is pumping 833 GPM, down 12 GPM from last month. Well #3 has been turned off due to low groundwater levels. Well #4 is off due to low water levels. Well #7 is pumping 555 GPM, down 110 GPM from last month. The wells are running at about 37% of their capacity to meet demand. No supplemental water was purchased from Casitas in November. Sales dollars billed on November 30, 2018 amounted to \$224,274, over budget by \$32,964 for November. Water sold in November 2018 amounted to 33,394 HCF, a decrease of 37% below the 53,064 HCF sold in November 2013. On December 1, 2018, Lake Casitas level was at 30.5% of full capacity at elevation of 481.4 feet, 85.7 feet below spill elevation. The lake has decreased 0.3% or 0.5 feet since last month and decreased 709 AF since last month. No action was taken on this item.
- 11. OLD & NEW BUSINESS**– Jack Curtis asked about the status of the Economic Study. Peggy Wiles mentioned that she and Bill Weirick with the City of Ojai spoke at the Casitas Board meeting on December 12th and the Board President indicated the study would be placed on a future agenda. Bruce Kuebler noted that the new Casitas Directors: Brian Brennen and Angelo Spandrio have been seated and their first meeting seemed positive. Lindsay Nielsen provided a summary of a “meet and confer” meeting with the City of Ventura attorneys and the cross complaint attorneys. The main issues discussed were changing the venue from San Francisco to Santa Barbara or Los Angeles and potential re-assignment to a new judge.
- 12. ELECTION OF OFFICERS** – Marvin Hanson nominated Bruce Kuebler for Treasurer. No other nominations were made. Bruce Kuebler was voted in as Treasurer 5-0. Bruce Kuebler nominated Ed Lee for Vice President. No other nominations were made. Ed Lee was voted in as Vice President 5-0. Jack Curtis nominated Peggy Wiles for President. No other nominations were made. Peggy Wiles was voted in as President 5-0.
- 13.** No Executive Session was held.

Peggy Wiles adjourned the meeting at 4:50 pm.

Attested:


 Jack Curtis, President


 Peggy Wiles, Vice President