

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 16, 2019**

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

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** President Peggy Wiles called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Peggy Wiles.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
  - A. **MINUTES DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**
  - B. **FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2018**

Jack Curtis moved for approval of the consent agenda items, seconded Marvin Hanson and carried 5-0.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)** – None.
5. **AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS VALLEY MEADOW DRIVE PHASE II** – Bert Rapp discussed specifics of the Valley Meadow Drive Phase II project. The 6" pipe will be replaced with a 10" pipe to provide an alternate transmission route from the Parker Pump Station to the Alto Tanks. The project will also take care of the fire flow deficiencies on La Cumbra and Del Valle St. The project timing was accelerated to accommodate the County's paving project. Estimated costs for Valley Meadow Drive Phase II are \$1,143,000. The project is budgeted at \$1,181,000. Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of the recommended actions, seconded by Ed Lee and carried 5-0.
6. **GOALS UPDATE 2019/20** – Bert Rapp reviewed and discussed the several items listed on the 2019/20 goals for the District. He noted that some unexpected items interfered with the completion of some projects on the list. He is considering hiring outside consultants to help move the Santa Ana and Parker VFD projects forward. There was some general discussion on each specific goal item. The board consensus was that no projects needed to be added to the current list. Marvin Hanson thanked Bert Rapp for all his hard work in moving projects forward and getting them completed. No action was taken on this item.
7. **BOARD REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED & UPDATE ON THE UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY (UVRGA)– BRUCE KUEBLER** – Bruce Kuebler discussed the last UVRGA meeting. He stated that an extraction fee was selected as the funding mechanism to prepare the GSP. The structure and concept of the fee is to base it on the 2017 pumping volumes. Letters will go out to all the water districts and pumpers with the pumping estimate for 2017 for feedback. There are currently two options on the table for funding the agency with the extraction fee. One option is to have the fee be fixed over the next five years, probably at about \$40-45/acre foot (AF). The other option is to have the fee be variable based on revenue requirements year to year. The beginning years of funding by extraction fee would be higher per acre foot, possibly at \$75/year going down in the subsequent years as revenue requirements are reduced. If the fee was fixed, it would require supplemental loan funding by the member agencies, likely at the current amount of \$50,000 per year per agency. Lindsey Nielson commented that the Meiners Oaks Water District (MOWD) board did not like the idea of loaning money. Bruce asked for feedback from the VRWD Board regarding their opinion of fixed vs. variable cost, the Board did not express a clear preference. An evening stakeholder meeting will be held for people to attend and make comments then the fee adoption will occur at a regularly scheduled meeting, not a special meeting. Brian Bondy is thinking of finding a consultant to work with them on a work order basis. The consultant would work alongside the agency to prepare the Groundwater Sustainability Plan instead of contracting out the

entire project at once. Bruce went on to discuss the difficulty the agency has had in filling the agency administrator position. UVRGA received twelve replies to their job ad but no applicants were qualified. No action was taken on this item.

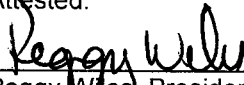
- 8. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT ON WATER & DISTRICT STATUS** - The aquifer is currently 11.6 feet below the 30 year average for January 1<sup>st</sup> at an elevation of 496.9 feet. Well #1 is pumping 850 GPM, up 27 GPM from last month. Well #2, 3 & 4 are turned off due to low groundwater levels. Well #7 is pumping 570 GPM, up 15 GPM from last month. The wells are running at about 26% of their capacity to meet demand. No supplemental water was purchased from Casitas in December. Sales dollars billed on December 31, 2018 amounted to \$142,992, under budget by (\$20,321) for December. Water sold in December 2018 amounted to 20,923 HCF, a decrease of 35% below the 32,019 HCF sold in December 2013. On January 1, 2019, Lake Casitas level was at 30.4% of full capacity at elevation of 481.0 feet, 86.7 feet below spill elevation. The lake has decreased 0.4% or 0.4 feet since last month and decreased 306 AF since last month. The SCADA system had two problems in the last month. The SCADA computer itself had issues and the radio communication from Parker stopped working. This cost the district overtime and there was overflowing of the Parker tank a couple of times. No action was taken on this item.
- 9. OLD & NEW BUSINESS**— Peggy Wiles stated she liked the new VRWD website. Marvin Hanson said he wanted to nominate Bruce Kuebler for CSDA's Director of the Year for his outstanding work. Bert Rapp responded he would prepare a nomination write up. There was some discussion about the legal requirements of Board Members reporting on meetings attended outside the District. Although Lindsay Nielsen indicated he did not find a legal requirement, it was the Board consensus for Directors report to the Board on outside meetings they attend.

Peggy Wiles moved the meeting into executive session at 4:26 pm.

- 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Executive session was held to discuss pending litigation as well as the General Manager performance review and Legal Counsel performance review.

Peggy Wiles moved the meeting out of executive session at 4:56 pm. No actions were taken on issues discussed in executive session. Peggy Wiles adjourned the meeting at 4:58 pm.

Attested:

  
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Peggy Wiles, President

  
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Ed Lee, Vice President