

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MAY 15, 2019**

Directors present were: Peggy Wiles, Jack Curtis, Bruce Kuebler and Marvin Hanson. Directors absent were: Ed Lee. 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 3:01 P.M.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Peggy Wiles.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. MINUTES APRIL 17TH, 2019
 - B. FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR MARCH & APRIL 2019

Marvin Hanson moved for approval of the consent agenda items, seconded Bruce Kuebler and carried 4-0.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)** – None.
5. **REVIEW OF DRAFT NEWSLETTER 2019**– The District's annual spring newsletter was presented to the board. The newsletter will be sent out with the regular May 31, 2019 water billing. This mailing is intended to cover conservation, drought status and District activities. Additional mailings to address adjudication updates and other topics will be prepared for future mailings. Peggy Wiles and Bruce Kuebler requested small edits which will be completed before mailing. The general consensus of the board was to mail out the newsletter once the edits were completed. No action was taken on this item.
6. **AWARD OF CONTRACT HYDRANT & VALVE REPLACEMENT 2019** – Five bids were received for the 2019 Hydrant & Valve replacement project. The low bidder was J. Vega Engineering with a bid of \$74,501. District staff checked references for this contractor and found them acceptable. The General Manager recommended awarding the contract for Hydrant & Valve replacement 2019 to J. Vega Engineering in the amount of \$74,501, authorizing the General Manager change order authority of \$7,500 and directing the General Manager to notify the State of the award using form PWC 100. Marvin Hanson moved for approval of the recommended actions, seconded Jack Curtis and carried 4-0.
7. **WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE VENDOR SELECTION**– After the April 17th board meeting, the Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) revised their quote for Worker's Compensation Insurance based upon updated class codes. The General Manager recommended renewing the District's Worker's Compensation Insurance with SDRMA in the amount of \$18,977. Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded Jack Curtis and carried 4-0.
8. **CONSIDERATION OF CLEAN POWER ALLIANCE FOR ENERGY-** The District now has the ability to purchase energy through the Clean Power Alliance (CPA) with delivery from Southern California Edison (SCE). Default enrollment under CPA's green power rate occurs after May 1st if the District doesn't opt out. The green power rate reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 100%. The District can opt out of the Clean Power Alliance at any time and return to SCE rates. There are three options under CPA, Lean Power, Clean Power and 100% Green Power. Green Power would increase the overall budget for the District by about 0.4% or \$9,655. Another consideration was the SCE Critical Peak Pricing (CPP) where SCE customers are financially rewarded for shifting peak hour loads. CPA is developing a CPP program as well. The General Manager recommended staying the CPA enrolled in 100% Green Power because 96% of Edison Customers in the Ojai Valley and 90% in the rest of Ventura County have elected to use the CPA 100% Green Power option. There was some general board discussion regarding the issue in partial disagreement with the General Manager's recommendation. The Board decided to vote in two

parts for this item. **Part One-The District will change from SCE to CPA:** Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of part one of this item, seconded Peggy Wiles, and carried 3-1 (AYES: Bruce Kuebler, Peggy Wiles, Marvin Hanson, NOES: Jack Curtis, ABSENT: Ed Lee). **Part Two-Choose Lean Power at a cost savings to the District of \$1,134 per year:** Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of part two, seconded Marvin Hanson and carried 3-1 (AYES: Bruce Kuebler, Jack Curtis, Marvin Hanson, NOES: Peggy Wiles, ABSENT: Ed Lee).

9. **2ND DRAFT BUDGET REVIEW FY 2019-2020-** The second draft of the budget was presented to the board. Some changes since the prior draft included adding a replacement of the District's Ford Explorer vehicle used by the General Manager, adding computer replacements, moving the fire booster pump for Casitas Springs project out two years to better align with the need and reducing budgeted adjudication legal fees. After some general board discussion, the board consensus was to remove the Ford Explorer replacement and use CIP Reserve funds to replace the vehicle if it should fail for some reason during the 19/20 year. Bruce Kuebler stated the UVRGA line item should be budgeted using VRWD's acre feet (AF) of 858 times the 19/20 proposed extraction fee of \$79/AF plus the no interest loan of \$30,000. Peggy Wiles stated she would email staff regarding her budget edits. The budget will be further edited and presented again at the June board meeting for adoption. No action was taken on this item.

10. **BOARD REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED & UPDATE ON THE UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY-BRUCE KUEBLER-** Bruce Kuebler attended the AWA meeting and the Ventura River Watershed Council meetings. The Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency's (UVRGA) meeting last week resulted in receiving and filing of the recommendation from the rate consultant. The pump fees that will be up for adoption at the June meeting are proposed at \$78/AF for FY 19/20, \$79/AF for FY 20/21, \$64/AF for FY 21/22, \$42/AF for FY 22/23 and \$48/AF for FY 23/24. The maximum would be set at \$79.16/AF. The next meeting will be June 13th when they are hoping to adopt the fees. Meiners Oaks Water District agreed to an additional \$30,000 as a no interest loan and so did the City of Ventura. The UVRGA will put together an agreement for the Boards to approve in order to get the money back at the end of the five year period.

Bert Rapp attended the California Association of Water Agencies water conference in Monterey. He discussed some highlights of his attendance including ideas for lowering electrical demand, partnering on solar panels, water audits, groundwater sustainability plan preparation, irrigation controller programs, and well level monitoring.

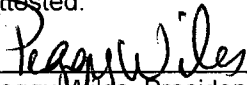
11. **GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT ON WATER & DISTRICT STATUS -** The aquifer is currently 0.8 feet below the 30 year average for May 1st at an elevation of 534.4 feet. Well #1 is pumping 1,070 GPM, unchanged from last month. Well #7 is pumping 780 GPM, down 30 GPM from last month. Well #2,3 & 4 are not online. No supplemental water was purchased from Casitas in April. Sales dollars billed on April 30, 2019 amounted to \$147,633, under budget by (\$28,526) for April. Water sold in April 2019 amounted to 22,202 HCF, a decrease of 45% below the 40,335 HCF sold in April 2013. On May 1, 2019, Lake Casitas level was at 45% of full capacity at elevation of 506 feet. The lake has increased 14.6% or 25 feet for the year. Usage and evaporation are about 16,000 AF/yr so the lake has gained about 2+ years' worth of water and the lake may stay above 40% through the summer.

12. OLD & NEW BUSINESS – The Special District's Association meeting is to be held June 4th at 5:30pm. Attorney Lindsey Nielson stated an executive session for a legal update on the status of the adjudication lawsuit was not needed and could be discussed in open session. He stated the second mediation is on hold until some more data can be collected. Two conference calls regarding the adjudication were coming up and more will be known about the next steps after those calls are completed.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

Peggy Wiles adjourned the meeting at 5:01 pm.

Attested:



Peggy Wiles, President



Bruce Kuebler