

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING JULY 15, 2020**

Directors present via Zoom video and teleconference were: Ed Lee, Jack Curtis, Peggy Wiles, Bruce Kuebler and Nathan Rosser. Also present were: General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp. Public present were: Angelo Spandrio, Kathy Dawson, Allan Connell, Fran Fitting, Jeanne Nickerson and Ted Schneider.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** President Ed Lee gave the ground rules for running the virtual meeting. He called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.
2. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
  - A. **MINUTES JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**
  - B. **FINANCIAL EXPENDITURES FOR JUNE 2020**

Jack Curtis moved for approval of the consent agenda, seconded Peggy Wiles and carried 5-0. (AYES: Jack Curtis, Nathan Rosser, Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee and Peggy Wiles. NOES: None.)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) – None.**

4. **APPROVAL OF TICO CONSOLIDATION AGREEMENT –** Bert Rapp explained that Tico was concerned about the "Due on Sale" provision, that they would like to add a Tico Capacity Charge and signatures for all 38 Tico Shareholders. An assessment District would eliminate the need for the Due on Sale provision and increase the probability of collecting on possible default payments. Bruce Kuebler asked about who would prepare the Engineer's report. Bert Rapp explained that the Engineers' report is necessary for LAFCo, SRF loan and the Assessment District and would likely be prepared by the General Manager with input from an outside consultant. Bruce Kuebler asked if the Tico Capacity Charge would interfere with the VRWD Capacity Charge. Bert Rapp explained that the Tico Capacity Charge is in addition to and separate from the VRWD Capacity Charge. The Tico Board would set the amount of the Tico Capacity Charge and the proceeds would be distributed to pay down remaining balance owed by each Tico Shareholder and not distributed as a cash disbursement to Tico Shareholders. Nathan Rosser asked about the 8-AF of Casitas Allocation owned by Tico and indicated that it doesn't appear that Casitas will allow it to be transferred to VRWD. Bert Rapp indicated that Mike Flood, General Manager of Casitas, indicated the transfer would have to be approved by the Casitas Board and that it would likely be approved because VRWD should have the allocation to take over service to Tico. Bruce Kuebler noted that Section 3.c.ii indicates there are 43 parcels owned by 38 shareholders and Exhibit 3 indicates 41 parcels. Bert Rapp indicated that the numbers would be reviewed and made consistent. Bert Rapp recommended an edit to Section 3.c.ii that future tax rates would include administrative costs from the County Tax Collector and VRWD administration. Jack Curtis requested that "(or current)" be added to the contact persons for the agreement. **Public Comment:** Kathy Dawson thanked VRWD staff for their assistance in preparing the agreement and indicated that she felt the \$5,000 for the delinquency reserve account was overly conservative. Bruce Kuebler moved for the recommended action with the changes to the agreement as discussed. Peggy Wiles seconded the motion and carried 5-0 (AYES: Jack Curtis, Nathan Rosser, Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee and Peggy Wiles. NOES: None.).

5. **COMMENT ON CASITAS WATER RESOURCES PLAN –** Bert Rapp reported that the Casitas Comprehensive Water Resources Plan is out for public review with comments due to Casitas by August 24<sup>th</sup>. Bruce Kuebler noted that he would like to work with the General Manger to prepare a comment letter for Board consideration at the August 19<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. He also noted that the Plan does not indicate which State Water projects are priority and does not include "in lieu" use of State Water by the City of Ventura in the recommended plan. Neither does the plan included timing on when in lieu usage and purchases of State Water should be implemented. Bert Rapp indicated that the Plan did not include VRWD's Wet Year Water Capture concept of harvesting surplus water in wet years with VRWD and MOWD surplus pumping capacity even though the concept had been submitted to Casitas. The Board consensus was to prepare a comment letter for Board consideration

on August 19<sup>th</sup> and to inquire of Meiners Oaks Water District to see if they would also like to submit a comment letter to study the Wet Year Water Capture concept.

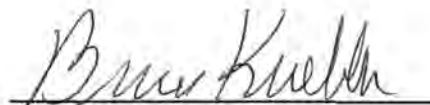
6. **BOARD REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED & UPDATE ON THE UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY-BRUCE KUEBLER** –Bruce Kuebler discussed the UVRGA public workshop scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup>. The workshop will update the status and goals of the agency. The UVRGA held their election of officers: Angelo Spandrio will serve as Secretary, Bruce Kuebler as Vice Chairman and Diana Engle as Chairperson. The UVRGA Board eliminated the Technical Review panel because with the redundancy of consultants it was not necessary. They are also looking to hire a biologist to review of groundwater dependent ecosystems in the Ventura River. Jack Curtis noted that the Ojai Valley Sanitation District has conducted extensive vegetation analysis of the Ventura River in conjunction with the Nutrient TMDL analysis and this information may be helpful to the UVRGA.
7. **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON WATER & DISTRICT STATUS-** The aquifer is currently 3.9 feet above the 30 year average for July 1 at an elevation of 531.5 feet. Well #1 is pumping 980 GPM, up 4 GPM from last month. Well #2, #3, #4 were not online in June. Well #7 is pumping 782 GPM, down 2 GPM from last month. Sales dollars billed on June 30, 2020 amounted to \$248,207, over budget by \$24,170 for June. Water sold in June 2020 amounted to 37,101 HCF, a decrease of 37% below the 58,444 HCF sold in June 2013. On July 1, Lake Casitas level was at 43.6% of full capacity at elevation of 504 feet. The lake has decreased 0.8% or 1.2 feet since last month and decreased 1,881 AF since last month. No action was taken on this item.
8. **OLD & NEW BUSINESS** – Bruce Kuebler noted that he read of a lawsuit against J.M. Eagle with Calleguas and Casitas participating in the suite regarding J.M. Eagle's PVC pipe and that VRWD should be aware of potential issues with J.M. Eagle pipe. Also, there will be a Technical Group meeting Friday afternoon as part of the adjudication mediation and will include a presentation by the Fishery consultants on their latest work.
9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – No executive session was held.

Meeting adjourned at 4:09 pm

Attested:



Ed Lee, President



Bruce Kuebler, Vice President