

**VENTURA RIVER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 13, 2008**

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 February 13, 2008.

Vice President T. Jamison called the meeting to order at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

There were present Directors J. Curtis, M. Hanson, T. Jamison and, E. Lee. Eddie Ramseyer was absent. 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.

Minutes for the regular Board meeting held January 9, 2008 were approved as presented.

J. Curtis moved for approval of the Financial Statements for December 2007 and the disbursements for January 2008 Accounts Payable check numbers 8676 - 8623, Trust check numbers 2538, and Payroll check numbers 4221 - 4241 totaling \$78,313, seconded by M. Hanson and carried.

M. Bryant reported that the Personnel/Finance Committee of M. Hanson and T. Jamison met with Staff on January 30, 2008 to discuss the District's current and projected financial position to review lifting the wage freeze for non-probationary employees (probationary employees were not subject to the freeze). J. Curtis moved to approve the Committee recommendation to lift the wage freeze and approve a 5% increase for non-probationary employees retroactive to January 1, 2008 and approval of Budget Transfer #2 to fund the increase, seconded by M. Hanson and carried. Budget Transfer #2 to fund the deficit in the projected budget and provide for a 5% increase. From: 93500000 Operating Contingency \$32,000 To: 70500000 Salary Expense \$27,000, 71750000 Calpers Expense \$3,000, 72500000 SUTA Expense \$1,600, 74500000 Worker's Compensation Insurance Expense \$400.

T. Jamison stated that the Committee's will start meeting in March 08 to begin work on the Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009. One goal in future budgeting is to implement planned funding of restricted assets for Operating, Capital Improvement and Emergency Contingency Funds.

M. Bryant reported that under AB1234 Ethics training for Directors is required every two years and the last training was in 2006. Director J. Curtis suggested that Staff contact other agencies in the area to see if a local training session can be set-up. M. Bryant will check into that. Additionally, M. Bryant will check into on-line individual training.

M. Bryant reported on the information received from Casitas MWD regarding the potential for a Quagga/Zebra Mussel invasion of Lake Casitas and possible transmission into the distribution system. The migration and mitigation techniques and associated costs were discussed. The next information meeting will be held by Casitas MWD on Tuesday March 4, 2008 at 5:30 o'clock p.m. at the Nordhoff gymnasium.

M. Bryant reported on wells, production, and usage. The aquifer level in Well #2 on February 1st was at 29.6' up 39.4' over January 1st. On February 4, 2008 Lake Casitas was 11' from spill. January 2008 required record water purchases of 78.3% of demand to mitigate water quality problems as a result of pumping so low in the well. The large purchases resulted in a record high 84 cent per HCF Purchased Water Surcharge. Recorded rain is at 21.42" since October 1, 2007. Directors expressed that even though rain is nearing normal for the year conservation efforts need to continue and become a way of life. In that spirit the restriction on watering between noon and 5pm will remain in effect. Staff expressed the need for public education about the current water availability and need for continued conservation efforts to prolong the supply. Staff will write a letter to the editor of the Ojai Valley News.

M. Bryant presented a rate comparison with other local water agencies as requested by the Board. The study was based on VRCWD customer average use of 26 units per month. In Zone 1 VRCWD rates are 13.4% lower than Casitas MWD and 58.8% lower than Golden State Water Company. In Zone 2 VRCWD rates are 8.2% lower than Casitas MWD and 53.1% lower than Golden State Water Company.

M. Bryant reported that the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Quality in cooperation with the USGS is doing a groundwater ambient monitoring and assessment program. Representatives made a site visit and took water samples previously and the results of those samples have been received. The tests provided data on constituents VRCWD is not required to test for as well as constituents VRCWD does test for. The samples reflect a good clean water source well within health standards. J. Curtis expressed that these test results will be valuable as a baseline for documenting the water quality before impacts to the area for the Matilija Dam removal that will deposit fines contained behind the dam in the area of VRCWD wells.

Under Old Business Staff noted for the record that a typographical error was made in the December 12, 2007 approved minutes. The date of November 14, 2007 was corrected to read November 16, 2007 in the 8th paragraph.

M. Bryant reported that he met with the Executive Director of Help of Ojai and Mr. Sprinkle who is leasing land from Help of Ojai for growing. VRCWD expressed concern over excessive watering when Mr. Sprinkle had promised drip irrigation for his project. Mr. Sprinkle expressed that his problem is with the irrigation well and the necessity to reduce pressure to enable drip irrigation. The meeting went well with suggestions to mitigate the problem and another promise from Mr. Sprinkle to get his irrigation on a full drip system. The Help of Ojai Executive Director facilitated the meeting.

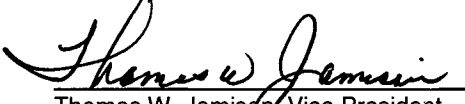
Under New Business several upcoming meetings were discussed. The AWA 16th Annual Water Symposium will be held April 17, 2008, an invitation will be sent to VRCWD. J. Curtis and M. Bryant will attend the AWA Breakfast on Thursday February 21, 2008 the subject is Drought Watch. AWA will hold a free water issues meeting on Tuesday February 19, 2007 from 7:30 o'clock a.m. to 9:00 o'clock a.m. at Nordman, Corman, Hair & Compton conference room in Oxnard. CSDA is offering free Board Member Training in Marina Del Rey on March 6 and 7, 2008.

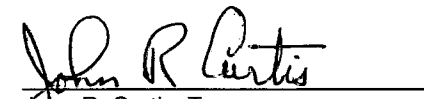
The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 6:35 o'clock p.m. to discuss pending litigation. Mr. Galgas left the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 6:46 o'clock p.m. Vice President T. Jamison stated for the record that pending litigation and a personnel matter were discussed and no action was taken.

There being no further action to come before this meeting on motion duly seconded the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 o'clock p.m.

Attested:


Thomas W. Jamison, Vice President


John R. Curtis, Treasurer