

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2020**

Directors present via Zoom video and teleconference were: Ed Lee, Jack Curtis, Peggy Wiles, Bruce Kuebler and Nathan Rosser. Also present were: Attorney Lindsay Nielson, General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp and Office Manager Amy Joy Bakken.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** President Ed Lee called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.
2. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. **MINUTES OCTOBER 21, 2020**
 - B. **JULY AND AUGUST FINANCIALS**

Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of the consent agenda, seconded Nathan Rosser and carried 4-1. (AYES: Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, Nathan Rosser and Jack Curtis. NOES: None, ABSTAIN: Peggy Wiles)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)** – None.
4. **OATH OF OFFICE: KUEBLER, WILES & ROSSER**–Bert Rapp led Oaths of Office for Bruce Kuebler, Peggy Wiles and Nathan Rosser. No action was taken on this item.
5. **WATER AGENCY PARTNERSHIP**-Bruce Kuebler presented his idea for a Water Agency Partnership made up of Directors and General Managers from Casitas Municipal Water District, Ventura River Water District, Meiners Oaks Water District and City of Ventura. It is proposed that the participants would meet informally 3 to 4 times a year. This type of partnership would increase transparency and communication between the agencies which would be beneficial to the community. Ed Lee assigned Director Kuebler to be the representative for VRWD. Bert Rapp recommended the Board authorize the Board President to sign the transmittal letter to the Casitas Municipal Water District. Peggy Wiles moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded Jack Curtis and carried 5-0 (AYES: Jack Curtis, Ed Lee, Bruce Kuebler, Nathan Rosser, Peggy Wiles. NOES: None.)
6. **HIGHEST WATER BUDGET EXCEEDERS**-Bert Rapp discussed the District's 85 highest water users. These customers exceed their water budgets by 20 units or more each month. The District double checked that the customer's water budgets were correctly set and made some small adjustments. Some ideas to assist these customers include sending outreach conservation letters, irrigation efficiency reviews with Aqua Flo, upgrading manual read meters to smart meters and changing the name of the conservation penalty. Bert Rapp also reviewed some of the reasons to reach out to these customers and help them achieve the required 30% conservation objective, such as the lake level and projected low rain year. Peggy Wiles volunteered to take the lead on assisting Bert with the rollout of the outreach for this item with the assistance of Nathan Rosser. Bruce Kuebler recommend reaching out to the customers by phone. There was some general discussion regarding specifics. **Recommended Actions:** 1) Install Smart Meters for the top 85 at a cost of about \$15,000. 2) Change the wording on the water bill from "Conservation Penalty" to "Wasted Water Penalty" and "Abusive Waste Penalty". 3) Send a "Conservation Letter" to the top 85. Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of the recommended actions including Peggy Wiles and Nathan Rosser working together to implement, seconded Jack Curtis and carried 5-0.
7. **BOARD REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED & UPDATE ON THE UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY (UVRGA)-BRUCE KUEBLER**– Bruce Kuebler stated there was not a lot to report. The agency is continuing to work on the groundwater plan. No action was taken on this item.

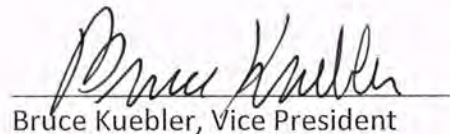
8. **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON WATER & DISTRICT STATUS-** The aquifer is currently 8.8 feet above the 30-year average for November 1. Well #1 is pumping 943 GPM, down 15 GPM from last month. Well #2, #3, #4 & #6 were not online in October. Well #7 is pumping 715 GPM, down 13 GPM from last month. No supplemental water was purchased from Casitas. Sales dollars billed on October 31 amounted to \$267,463, over budget by \$31,608 over budget for October. Water sold in October 2020 amounted to 38,465 HCF, a decrease of 25% below the 51,064 HCF sold in October 2013. On November 1, Lake Casitas level was at 40.3% of full capacity at elevation of 498.9 feet. The lake has decreased .8% or 1.2 feet and decreased 1,882 AF since last month. No action was taken on this item.
9. **OLD & NEW BUSINESS-** Ed Lee stated next month there is a meeting to elect the new officers.
10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Ed Lee moved the meeting into executive session at 3:51 pm. The Board came out of Executive Session at 3:55 pm. No action was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm

Attested:



Ed Lee, President



Bruce Kuebler, Vice President