

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING JUNE 16, 2021**

Directors were present via Zoom video or in person were: Jack Curtis, Bruce Kuebler, Nathan Rosser, Peggy Wiles and Ed Lee whose unreliable internet connection eliminated him from discussions and voting although he was able to listen to the meeting for about 45 minutes. Also present were: Attorney Lindsey Nielson, General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp. Public Present: None.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** President Bruce Kuebler called the meeting to order at 3:22 P.M.
2. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. **MINUTES MAY 19, 2021**
 - B. **FINANCIALS APRIL AND MAY 2021**

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

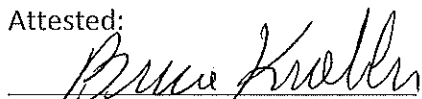
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) – None.**
4. **ADOPTION OF FINAL FY 2021/22 BUDGET**–The final draft of the fiscal year 2021/22 budget was presented to the Board for review. Bert Rapp discussed items that were updated from last month's review. Budget line items were added for tuition reimbursement and capital improvement projects (CIP) for the Zero Interest Loan moved out one year on the 10 year Capital Improvement Program. Bruce Kuebler indicated the UVRGA pump fee is now \$67,920. Bruce recommended that Salaries be lowered to \$650,000 because it has been coming in under budget in recent years. Bert Rapp explained that the Salary Range Schedule was updated for Cost of Living (COLA) with the highest paid 50% of staff receiving the dollar amount of COLA received by the lowest 50% of employees. **Recommended Actions:** 1) Review and approve the final draft of the budget for FY 2021/2022. 2) Approve the 10- Year Capital Improvement Program dated June 16, 2021. 3) Approve the Salary Range Schedule dated June 16, 2021. 4) Adopt Resolution 2021-332 updating the Investment Policy. Jack Curtis moved for approval of the recommended actions, seconded Peggy Wiles and carried 4-0 (AYES: Jack Curtis, Bruce Kuebler, Nathan Rosser, and Peggy Wiles. NOES: None. ABSENT: Ed Lee).
5. **PROCESSING OPTIONS FOR ZERO INTEREST LOAN –** Bert Rapp explained that the District has the option of applying for up front Planning funding and then applying for Construction funding (Option 1). Or only doing one application for Construction funding which will include reimbursement for Planning expenses (Option 2). Using the two-step application process delays the work by one year but means the District must advance the planning monies and wait for reimbursement. The projects that were "primarily fire flow" related have been removed from proposed projects list for the Zero Interest loan per instructions from the loan processing staff. The Monte Via project was revised back to pipe replacement. The replacement of the North Baldwin Tank was added into the Baldwin Booster Station Rehabilitation. Nathan Rosser expressed concern about the State reviewers changing plans prepared by our future consultants and causing increased costs. Bert Rapp indicated that that is a possibility, and the Request for Proposals warns the consultants that the State will be reviewing the plans and specifications. Bert Rapp reported that on June 15, 2021 the State Water Resources Control Board modified the Drinking Water SRF program to provide a non-repayable loan that will cover up to 100% of the Tico related costs. Peggy Wiles indicated that this will likely require a new agreement with Tico Mutual. **Recommended Action:** Direct staff to proceed with Option 2 to utilize District monies to pay for the planning work in anticipation of reimbursement with loan proceeds in 2023 and to approve the revised "Projects Included in SRF \$10,000,000 Zero Interest Loan" list dated June 2021. Peggy Wiles moved for approval of the recommended actions, seconded by Jack Curtis

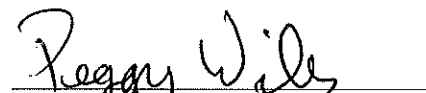
and carried 4-0 (AYES: Jack Curtis, Bruce Kuebler, Nathan Rosser, and Peggy Wiles. NOES: None. ABSENT: Ed Lee).

6. **AWARD OF CONTRACT HYDRANT & VALVE REPLACEMENT 2021** – The District received 6 bids for the project. The low bid was \$187,832 from J&H Engineering, Inc. Bert Rapp reported that J&H is an excellent contractor who's done good work for the District in the past and recommends the contract award to J&H. The bids came in within budget and the project will replace 16 fire hydrants and 20 water valves. **Recommended Action:** Award the Hydrant and Valve Replacement 2021 Project to J& H Engineering in the amount of \$187,832.00 and authorize the General Manager change order authority on the contract of \$25,000 to cover unknowns. Direct the General Manager to notify the State of the award of contract. Jack Curtis moved for approval of the recommended actions, seconded Peggy Wiles and carried 4-0 (AYES: Jack Curtis, Bruce Kuebler, Nathan Rosser, and Peggy Wiles. NOES: None. ABSENT: Ed Lee).
7. **BOARD REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED & UPDATE ON THE UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY (UVRGA)-BRUCE KUEBLER-** Bruce Kuebler said that the first draft of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan should be available for UVRGA Board review on June 24th. It should be released to the public in July or August for stakeholder review. There is concern about the amount of the pump fees that UVRGA will need to charge and there is also concern about the amount of overlap between the Groundwater Sustainability Plan and the Physical Solution and how the costs are going to be shared. No action was taken on this item.
8. **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON WATER & DISTRICT STATUS-** The aquifer is currently 13.8 feet below the 30-year average for June 1. Well #1 is pumping 944 GPM, down 18 GPM from last month. Well #2, #3, #4 & #6 were not online in May. Well #7 is pumping 728 GPM, down 17 GPM from last month. No supplemental water was purchased from Casitas. Sales dollars billed on May 31, 2021 amounted to \$248,947, over budget by \$52,052 for May. Water sold in May 2021 amounted to 34,036 HCF, a decrease of 37% below the 54,146 HCF sold in May 2013. On May 1, 2021, Lake Casitas level was at 37.3% of full capacity at elevation of 494 feet. The lake has decreased 0.7% or 1.1 feet and decreased 1,610 AF since last month. No action was taken on this item.
9. **OLD & NEW BUSINESS** - The Board voted unanimously to support Elaine Magner as a representative on the California Special Districts Association Board. No nominations were made for the Association of California Water Agencies President or Vice President positions.
10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION-** No executive session was held.

Meeting adjourned at 4:37 pm.

Attested:


Bruce Kuebler, President


Peggy Wiles, Vice President