

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

Directors present in person and via Zoom video were: Jack Curtis, Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, Nathan Rosser. Absent: Peggy Wiles. Also present were: Attorney Lindsey Nielson, General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp, Office Manager Emily Arnbrister Public Present: Carl F Enson, and Mo Ehsani

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** President Bruce Kuebler called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.
2. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. MINUTES OCTOBER 20, 2021
 - B. FINANCIALS SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2021
 - C. RENEWAL OF RESOLUTION 2021-335 REMOTE MEETINGS

Jack Curtis moved for approval of the consent agenda, seconded Ed Lee and carried 4-0. (AYES: Jack Curtis, Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, and Nathan Rosser. NOES: None. Absent: Peggy Wiles)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)** – Mo Ehsani from InfinitiPipe shared a video regarding onsite manufactured continuous FRP pipe.
4. **RESOLUTION 2021-338 CONGRATULATING JOE ZUNIGA ON HIS RETIREMENT:** Joe Zuniga has served as field supervisor at Ventura River Water District for almost 10 years. Joe Zuniga made a significant impact in the district's advancement in Smart Meter technologies and valve turning efficiency. General discussion from the board of kind words for Joe Zuniga and all his improvements made to the district. **Public Comment:** Carl F Enson asked if there is a plan of replacement for the General Manager. Discussion ensued of General Manager replacement plan. **Recommended Action:** Adopt Resolution 2021-338. Jack Curtis moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded Ed Lee and carried 4-0. (AYES: Jack Curtis Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, Nathan Rosser. NOES: None. Absent: Peggy Wiles.)
5. **ACCEPTANCE OF BID AND PURCHASE OF WORK TRUCK:** The bids are in for replacing the 2008 F-250. Ford of Ventura is the lowest bidder. The expected delivery is June or July of 2022. **Public Comments:** None. **Recommended Actions:** Award bid to Ford of Ventura for the purchase of the new F-250 work truck. Ed Lee moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded Jack Curtis and carried 3-0. (AYES: Jack Curtis Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee. NOES: None. Absent: Peggy Wiles and Nathan Rosser. Director Nathan was temporarily disconnected from the zoom meeting.)
6. **ACCEPTANCE OF IMPROVEMENTS HYDRANT & VALVE PROJECT 2021:** 2021 Project is complete, with 11 infill hydrants, 7 hydrants replaced, and 9 old water valves were replaced. Final project cost \$321,550. There was an increase in price due to two additional hydrants added to the project due to failure, and a few change orders. **Public Comment:** None. **Recommended Action:** Accept the project as complete, direct the General Manager to record the Notice of Completion, release the 5% retention of \$11,338.51 after the 35-day lien period. Jack Curtis moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded Nathan Rosser and carried 4-0. (AYES: Jack Curtis Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, Nathan Rosser. NOES: None. Absent: Peggy Wiles.)
7. **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2021-337 1000 BURNHAM RD ANEXATION:** After the October Board meeting, Mr. Gonzales (owner of 1000 Burnham Rd) told the General Manager he would not sign the monitoring agreement with the 10-year minimum term. In response, the General Manager asked President Kuebler to speak to Mr. Gonzalez and try to reach an agreement, which he was unable to accomplish. Resolution 2021-337 will approve the application for annexation of 1000 Burnham Rd. Property owner will still be financially responsible for paying capacity charge, and cost to connect to district. Property is expected to have a home built on it. VRWD connection would be

primarily for domestic water but could be used for outdoor usage if the property owner's private well goes dry. General board discussion regarding the property, the groundwater agency's views, and the ability to build home based on water connection. **Public Comment:** None. **Recommended Action:** Adopt resolution 2021-337 regarding 1000 Burnham Rd. Ed Lee moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded Jack Curtis and carried 3-0. (AYES: Jack Curtis Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee. Abstain: Nathan Rosser. NOES: None. Absent: Peggy Wiles.)

8. **UPDATE PERSONNEL POLICY TO CHANGE "UTILITY WORKER" TO "WATER OPERATOR":** Current field technicians who maintain the District's potable water system are called "Utility Workers". State regulations refer to those people as Water Operators. This update to the Personnel Policy will change the title to "Water Operator". General Board discussion was held regarding the change of classification. **Public Comment:** None. **Recommended Action:** Update the personnel policy to change the title of "Utility Worker" to "Water Operator". Jack Curtis moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded Ed Lee and carried 4-0. (AYES: Jack Curtis, Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, Nathan Rosser. NOES: None. Absent: Peggy Wiles.)
9. **BROWN ACT MEETING REQUIREMENTS AFTER COVID:** General Manager discussed the rules of the Brown Act and requirements for staying in compliance with the Brown Act after COVID 19 emergency is no longer in effect. **Public Comment:** None. No action was taken on this item.
10. **FORM AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR SELECTION OF CONSULTANT FOR 2023 WATER PROJECT DESIGN AND CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION:** District is advertising for consultants for 2023 Water Projects. It is important to select the correct consultant and a review committee will help ensure the correct choice is made. A representative from Tico Mutual Water Company may participate. **Public Comment:** None. Board President Bruce Kuebler appointed himself and Peggy Wiles to serve on the ad-hoc committee.
11. **PREPARATION OF A COMMENT LETTER TO CASITAS REGARDING THE CALLEGUAS INTERTIE:** Casitas Municipal Water District is investigating two connections to State water. One through Camarillo/Calleguas Water, the other through Carpinteria. VRWD has historically supported both connections. General discussion was held regarding the two different water connections and the importance of moving ahead with the in-lieu agreement with Ventura. **Public Comment:** None. **Recommended Action:** Direct General Manager to work with the ad-hoc adjudication committee to prepare a comment letter to Casitas supporting the Calleguas connection. Ed Lee moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded Jack Curtis and carried 4-0. (AYES: Jack Curtis, Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, and Nathan Rosser. NOES: None. Absent: Peggy Wiles.)
12. **BOARD REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED & UPDATE ON THE UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY (UVRGA)- BRUCE KUEBLER:** Bruce Kuebler reported on recent UVRGA meeting. UVRGA approved tentative final GSP. There will be a public hearing on it on December 9 prior to adoption. UVRGA is on schedule and budget for GSP. No action was taken on this item.
13. **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON WATER & DISTRICT STATUS:** The static aquifer level at Well #2 on November 1, 2021, was at elevation 494.4, dropping 3.0 feet since the first of last month. The aquifer is currently 13.8 feet below the 30-year average for November 1. Well #1 is pumping 890 GPM, down 29 GPM from last month. Well #2, #3, #4 & #6 were not online in October. Well #7 is pumping 580 GPM, down 13 GPM from last month. No supplemental water was purchased from Casitas. Sales dollars billed on October 31, 2021, amounted to \$240,428, under budget by \$30,054

for October. Water sold in October 2021 amounted to 33,836 HCF, a decrease of 34% below the 51,064 HCF sold in October 2013. On November 1, 2021, Lake Casitas level was at 32.9% of full capacity at elevation of 486.11 feet. The lake has decreased 0.5% or 1.0 feet and decreased 3,270 AF since last month. No action was taken on this item.

14. OLD & NEW BUSINESS: None.

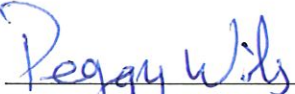
15. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Bruce Kuebler moved the meeting into executive session at 4:29 pm to discuss pending litigation and brought the board out of executive session at 4:45 pm. No action was taken in Executive Session.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.

Attested:



Bruce Kuebler, President



Peggy Wiles, Vice President