

VENTURA RIVER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 12, 2012

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 December 12, 2012.

There were present Directors: J. Curtis, M. Hanson, T. Jamison, E. Lee and E. Ramseyer. Also present were General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp, Office Manager/recording secretary Janet Schaefer, and Counsel Lindsay Nielson. No public were present.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – President E. Lee called the meeting to order at 5:30 o'clock p.m.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by L. Nielson.
3. CONSENT AGENDA – A. MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 14, 2012.
B. FINANCIAL EXPENDITURES FOR NOVEMBER 2012 AND FINANCIAL REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2012.

M. Hanson moved for approval of the consent agenda, seconded by E. Ramseyer and carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT – None
5. PUBLIC PROTEST HEARING – RATE INCREASE AND ADOPTION OF AN UPDATE TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS – President E. Lee opened the public hearing at 5:31 o'clock p.m. and stated that the hearing would remain open until the end of the meeting. Six (6) letters of protest were received. The Public hearing was closed at 6:20 o'clock p.m. Director T. Jamison moved for approval of Resolution 2012-275, seconded by M. Hanson and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

A. RESOLUTION 2012 – 275

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VENTURA RIVER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT APPROVING A WATER RATE INCREASE AND REVISIONS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, The VRCWD Board of Directors have identified over \$6 million in improvements and upgrades for the next 10 years; and,

WHEREAS, water rates must be adjusted to provide the funding for operations, maintenance, and system improvements; and

WHEREAS, for the period of October 2011 to September 2012 the annual Cost of Living has increased 3.0% according to Bureau of Labor Statistics as reported November 30, 2012 for the area of Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange counties, All Urban Consumers; and,

WHEREAS; The Ventura River County Water District has approximately 33 miles of water mainline. Over twenty miles of the water mains were built 50 & 60 years ago. The cost of these water mains when they were installed was approximately \$25 per foot totaling approximately \$2.8 million. Today those same water mains would cost an average of \$220 per foot to replace totaling \$38 million; and

WHEREAS; The VRCWD Board of Directors held a public hearing on December 12, 2012 forty-five (45) days after properly noticing each water customer/property owner within the boundaries of the district as proscribed in the California Constitution Article XIII D, § 6, Subdivision (a)(also known as Proposition 218) to present justification for a proposed water rate increase and receive public testimony or written protests; and,

WHEREAS, VRCWD did not receive written protests against the rate increase from a majority of the property owners as prescribed by Proposition 218 in order to reject the increase; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Ventura River County Water District hereby adopts the revised pages to the Rules and Regulations dated December 15, 2012 and declares that the new water rates will be effective with the January 31, 2013 billing period, i.e.: water meter readings from December 15, 2012 to January 15, 2013, the water rates are as indicated in the Rules and Regulations Appendix I, II & III.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of December 2012.

AYES: Curtis, Hanson, Jamison, Lee, Ramseyer

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:

Marvin J. Hanson

Marvin Hanson, Vice President

Ed Lee

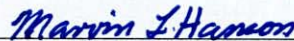
Ed Lee, President

6. STEELHEAD OVER-SUMMERING POOLS – B. Rapp reported that Director J. Curtis suggested an idea to create additional over-Summering pools in the Ventura River that could offset some of the impacts of pumping to endangered Steelhead Trout as a result of pumping. In January 2013 the EPA is expected to publish a draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for pumping of reach 4 of the Ventura River. The idea is to build new pools in the perennial stretches of the river to provide areas for the fish to spend the summer months. The idea was discussed and the logistics involved. The Board as a whole thought it is a good idea. Staff was instructed to share the idea with other interested agencies and parties as a way to mitigate pumping impacts, and to help eliminate pumping restrictions anticipated by the upcoming TMDL or other pumping restrictions. The next meeting to discuss the TMDL will be held Monday, December 17, 2012 at the Farm Bureau office at 1:30 o'clock p.m. E. Lee and J. Curtis will attend with B Rapp.
7. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT – WELLS, WATER PRODUCTION & USAGE UPDATE - B. Rapp reported on wells, production, and usage. The static aquifer level at Well #2 on December 1, 2012 was 70.5 feet below surface. The level has risen 0.7 feet since the first of last month, and is 19.4 feet below the 25 year average for December. District wells can no longer meet customer demand requiring the purchase of supplemental water since October 4, 2012. The Purchased Water Surcharge billed on the November 30, 2012 billing was at 52 cents per unit. If the recent storms continue and demand reduces it is possible that some of connections for purchasing water may be turned off and more of the system can be put back on the Well system which would reduce the surcharge.
8. ATTORNEY'S REPORT – EXECUTIVE SESSION – None. L. Nielson stated that the District needs to provide a written response to the EPA's draft Pumping TMDL and suggested that possibly the District could work with Meiner's Oaks Water District to jointly hire Jordan Kear of Kear Groundwater to help with formulating a response.
9. OLD BUSINESS – None
10. NEW BUSINESS – President E. Lee called for nomination of Officers for the calendar year 2013. T. Jamison moved to nominate M. Hanson for President and duly carried by unanimous ballot. J. Curtis moved to nominate E. Ramseyer for Vice President and duly carried by unanimous ballot. M. Hanson moved to nominate T. Jamison for Treasurer and duly carried by unanimous ballot.
11. MEETING ADJOURNMENT - On motion duly seconded at 6:30 o'clock p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Attested:



Ed Lee, President



Marvin Hanson, Vice President