

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING JUNE 3, 2015**

Pursuant to due and official notice, a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ventura River Water District was held at 409 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, California.

Directors present were M. Hanson, T. Jamison and B. Kuebler. Also present were Legal Counsel Lindsay Nielsen, General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp. Public present was Mr. Bill O'Brien.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Treasurer B. Kuebler Called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by B. Kuebler.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. Financial expenditures for May 2015 and financials for December 2014 & January 2015
 - B. Minutes for regular meeting May 13, 2015

T. Jamison moved for approval, seconded by M. Hanson. Action carried 3-0.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – None
5. **REVIEW OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO WATER RATE CASE AS RELATED TO VRWD RATES** –
L. Nielsen reported that the California Association of Water Agencies, League of California Cities and the Council of California Counties plan to submit a petition to the California Supreme Court Supreme Court to depublish the court of appeal's decision, and in the alternative to take the decision up on appeal sua sponte. L. Nielsen recommended the District make no changes to the rates at this time and forward to Mr. Peterson the formal claim form. T. Jamison moved to direct the General Manager to study the tiered rate structure to assure it matches the cost of water service and provide an update to the Board at the September 9th meeting along with a schedule for possible implementation. Seconded by M. Hanson and carried 3-0.
6. **APPROVAL OF ANNUAL NEWSLETTER** – B. Kuebler recommended emphasizing that the District must cut back as a whole and there are no individual water budgets for each customer. T. Jamison moved for approval of the newsletter seconded by M. Hanson and carried 3-0.
7. **APPROVAL OF BUDGET - FY 2015/2016, SALARY RANGE SCHEDULE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM** – B. Rapp reported that revenues this year are projected to be \$280,000 lower than last year but the budget has been balanced by cuts and delays of capital improvement projects. A 10% rate increase is projected for January 2016 and Well #7 is scheduled to be drilled in winter/spring 2016. M. Hanson moved for approval of the 2015/16 Budget, Capital Improvement Program and Salary Range Schedule. Seconded by T. Jamison and carried 3-0.
8. **GROUND WATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY – WAIVER FOR BHFS** – B. Rapp explained that Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck (BHFS) are requesting a waiver because of potential conflicts related to the City of Ventura Cross Complaint on the Santa Barbara Channelkeepers lawsuit. All the other agencies have approved the waiver except Ventura and Casitas. Bill O'Brien recommended that the District try to avoid the lawsuits and work instead towards the collaborative Groundwater Sustainability process. B. Kuebler shared a bullet point list of reasons why the GSA process would be better than the legal process. T. Jamison moved to authorize the Board President to sign the waiver after all the other participating agencies have approved the waiver. Seconded by M. Hanson and carried 3-0.
9. **GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT ON WELLS, WATER STATUS** – B. Rapp reported that customer conservation has reached 18% with only 7% to go to achieve 25% from 2013. Ground water levels at Well #2 are at record low levels for June 1st at 63.7 feet below the ground surface. The wells are producing 1,077 GPM and are pumping about 17 hrs per day on warm days.

10. **OLD & NEW BUSINESS** – ACWA-JPIA Candidates, SDRMA Election. The Board decided to not vote for the candidates in the ACWA-JPIA and SDRMA elections.

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 4:04 p.m.

11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held regarding litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9, Government Code, Small vrs. VRWD case # 56-2015-00464077-CU-EI-VTA, Cross-Complaint City of Ventura case #CPF-14-513875.

No action was taken in executive session. The meeting reconvened at 4:27 p.m.

T. Jamison moved that the District use the legal services of Rob Sawyer [pk1] with Remy, Moose, Manley along with technical assistance from Kear Groundwater. Seconded by M. Hanson and carried 3-0. T. Jamison moved for the Board to support the concept of putting the Channelkeeper lawsuit on hold and work with other defendants to get a delay in the Channelkeeper lawsuit allowing the GSA process to proceed. Seconded by M. Hanson and carried 3-0.

12. **MEETING ADJOURNED** at 4:35 p.m. to Wednesday July 9, 2015

Attested:

Marvin L. Hanson
Marvin Hanson, Director

Bert J. Rapp
Bert Rapp, Secretary