

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF
March 3, 2010
1:30 P.M.

President Clare Henry Day called the Board Meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 1:30 p.m. All present stood for the pledge of allegiance, led by President Day.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Clare Henry Day, President
Melody McDonald, Vice President
Manuel Aranda, Director
Arnold Wright, Director
John Longville, Director (1:49 P.M.)
Richard Corneille, Director
David E. Raley, Director

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

GENERAL COUNSEL PRESENT:

David Cosgrove, Rutan & Tucker, LLP

STAFF PRESENT:

R. Robert Neufeld, General Manager
Claud Seal, Assistant General Manager/District Engineer
Samantha Brown, Finance Supervisor
Tonya Davis, Temporary Assistant

GUESTS PRESENT:

Christine Goeyvarts, Robertson's Ready Mix

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President Day announced this as the time for any persons present, who so desire, to make an oral presentation to the Board of Directors. Hearing none, the meeting proceeded with the published agenda items.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions/deletions to the agenda.

3. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEM

Director Raley reported attending the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Regular Board of Directors meeting.

Director Aranda reported attending WESTCAS in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Communications (Outreach) Committee in Sacramento, California. Both of these events are focusing on educating the public in continuing to speak about the crisis on water. Discussion continued on educating the public.

Director McDonald reported attending several meetings including: the Building Committee meeting with Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) in Sacramento, California; Basin Technical Advisory Committee (BTAC) meeting, where it was discussed about State Water Project allocation supply as well as an update on the Santa Ana Sucker; and Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Washington DC Conference, where she and the General Manager met with Senator Feinstein's office and Congressman Lewis's office. She also attended the Water Management State Legislative Committee Meeting in Sacramento.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

No consent calendar items at this time.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Board Committee Reports

None at this time.

B. Financial Report

Ms. Brown reported that Tonya Davis is our temporary staff that will be assisting with Administrative duties while the Executive Assistant II is out of the office. The Finance Department is also getting ready for the Budget Workshop. Ms. Brown answered questions regarding temporary staff asked by the Board of the Directors.

C. Assistant General Manager's Report

Mr. Seal reported the following:

1. We have continued spreading stream water in our Mill Creek spreading basins. Initial runoffs have contained too much mud and silt to capture. We are now diverting from 0 to 20 cfs, some cases up to 40 cfs. We have been spreading about 3 to 4 cfs of Santa Ana River water and have had periodic surges. As of yesterday, we had spread 1000 AF in SAR basins, backed by a total of 1115 AF of State Water spread earlier this water year, last calendar year. Mill Creek has had 978 AF of stream water spread so far this year, and we have previously spread 831 AF of State water in Mill Creek. We are beginning to examine how we can divert more of the initial storm run-off waters, so we can create basins for letting the silts and clays settle out so we can capture more water.
2. Since the retained water behind the Seven Oaks Dam (SOD) is above the Southern California Edison (SCE) access road, they cannot reach their valves up stream of the dam to resume diverting water through their highline to Power Plant No. 3. Therefore the water being released by SOD is not suitable for usage by Redlands, Bear Valley and East Valley Water District due to the clarity of the water.
3. As of this morning, the SOD water reservoir level was at 2267-feet (msl), or at the "Intermediate Water Level." This is above the basic Debris Level required to contain debris behind the dam. This new water elevation storage capacity is 11,102 AF, which approximately 7.5% full. Total dam capacity, when the reservoir is full, is 115,000 AF.
4. There has been substantial rain and snow fall in upper mountain elevations, especially in Northern California; the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has raised their forecasts to 15% of the annual Water Contractors' allocation that will be available later this year. That provides about 7,500 AF to the Valley. Coupled with 15,000 AF stored in DWR reservoirs, there should be enough water for Valley customers.

Mr. Seal also reported an update on The District's head Field Operator, Randy Carlisle, the transition from the office personnel computing the accumulative DFR spread totals for the water year to allowing the field operators and an update on the Borrow Pit No. 3 gate structure, on the north side of the Pit that developed a leak. Mr. Seal reported attending the Basin Technical Advisory Committee (BTAC) meeting with Director McDonald. The Valley District sponsored Enhanced Water Storage Facilities Project with Black and Veatch Engineering is slowly developing momentum with research and design parameters being established. The preparation of the Engineering Investigation Report is progressing and should be completed, with additional information, on time. Various maps were distributed by Mr. Seal and were asked of the Board to

comment on color combinations, as last year some were reportedly hard to see. Mr. Seal answered questions asked by the Board of Directors.

D. General Manager's Report

Mr. Neufeld reported participating in the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Groundwater Committee teleconference, as he was appointed too. He summarized that the main topics were the issue of pending legislation on bill SBX77, dealing with Water Conservation; a state wide water reduction referred to as "20 percent by 2020." Mr. Neufeld continued with bill SBX76, which is dealing with groundwater monitoring. They are trying to get local agencies to monitor groundwater elevations. The local agencies will be required to monitor and report back, if they cannot do so the Department of Water Resource will be required to ask local counties to complete the data and submit the report. The monitoring program must begin on or before January 1st, 2012. Mr. Neufeld is proposing that the Water Conservation District become the lead agency on this monitoring policy. Mr. Neufeld answered questions asked by the Board of the Directors.

Mr. Neufeld also attended the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Washington DC Conference, where he met with Senator Feinstein's office and Congressman Lewis's office. The discussions were focused on the US Fish and Wildlife Service's pending Critical Habitat Designation for the Santa Ana Sucker. Mr. Neufeld summarized the proposal and the implications of creating new habitat for the Santa Ana Sucker. If this plan is implemented then the District could be barred from spreading water beyond the Seven Oaks Dam. The District is collaborating with other agencies around the area to fight this plan. Discussion continued regarding the Delta and the Santa Ana Sucker.

Mr. Neufeld reported that since the Consolidation effort in July of 2009, the District has been trying to improve relationship with the local community. The success of that came in an email sent by Ross Jones, City Council member for City of Highland, informing us of a new funding opportunity coming from a HUD program for Regional Sustainable Planning that could be very useful for the District in creating the proposed Park and transportation efforts in the Greenspot Road area. Mr. Neufeld was asked for concurrence from the Board of Directors to submit comments back to the program. Mr. Neufeld summarized the Sunrise Ranch Project that the District is hoping to be involved with during the development process and that the Sunrise Ranch project could be the year round source of water for the Wetlands.

6. ACTION ITEMS, NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider Proposal to Direct Staff to Lease the Mentone Property.

Mr. Neufeld led discussion by stating that Director Raley requested this be placed on the agenda for possible action. Director Raley reported on the need to Lease the Mentone Property. Director Day summarized the other concerns that were discussed at a prior Board Meeting.

It was moved by Director Longville and seconded by Director Raley that staff prepare an assessment of the net costs associated with preparing the Mentone property for lease.

Discussion ensued regarding the cost assessment.

The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Consider Proposal on Establishing an appropriate Educational Program as a Goal for the General Manager and be included in the 2011 District Budget.

Director Raley distributed material and led the discussion of similar educational programs in the area.. Director Raley proposed that the District start an educational program and reflect that in the budget for fiscal year 2010-2011.

Director Aranda suggested that this item be forwarded to the Outreach Committee to Build a Road Map on how to move forward with an educational program and bring it back to the Board of Directors.

It was moved by Director Raley and seconded by Director Aranda to assign item B “Consider Proposal on Establishing an appropriate Educational Program as a Goal for the General Manager and be included in the 2011 District Budget” to the Outreach Committee and report back to the Board with a Road Map for educational programs. The motion carried unanimously.

- C. Consider Extension to Randy Scott’s Contract Cost by \$15,000.

It was moved by Director Longville and seconded by Director McDonald to approve extension of Randy Scott’s contract by \$15,000.

Discussion ensued regarding the need of Mr. Scott’s services and the upcoming Wash Plan Task Force Meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS

Director Aranda presented that he is a member of the Communications Committee that is meeting at the ACWA Legislative Symposium in Sacramento.

It was moved by Director McDonald and seconded by Director Wright to Approve Director Aranda to attend the ACWA Legislative Symposium. The motion carried unanimously.

8. CLOSED SESSION

At 3:27 p.m., it was moved by Director Longville and seconded by Director Corneille to adjourn to Closed Session, Government Code Section 54957(b), to discuss a personnel matter; Government Code Section 54956.9(c), consider whether to initiate litigation and Government Code Section 54956.9(b)(3)(a), and Section 54956.0(c), and Section 54956.0(b)(1), confer with legal counsel regarding significant exposure to litigation in one case. The motion carried unanimously.

The Closed Session adjourned at 3:45 p.m., and the regular meeting reconvened, with no reportable action.

9. ADJOURN MEETING

At 3:46 p.m., the meeting adjourned to the regular Board meeting scheduled for March 10, 2010, at 1:30 p.m., at District Headquarters, 1630 W. Redlands Blvd., Suite A, Redlands, CA.

R. Robert Neufeld
Secretary of the Board