

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
PUBLIC MEETING ON GROUNDWATER and BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES OF April 9, 2014  
1:30 P.M.

President Corneille called the Board Meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 1:31 p.m. All present stood for the pledge of allegiance, led by President Corneille.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Corneille, President  
Melody McDonald, Vice President  
David E. Raley, Director  
Manuel Aranda, Director  
John Longville, Director (1:33 p.m.)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

GENERAL COUNSEL PRESENT:

David Cosgrove, Rutan & Tucker, LLP

STAFF PRESENT:

Daniel Cozad, General Manager  
Athena Monge, Administrative Services Specialist  
Jeff Beehler, Land Resource Manager

GUESTS PRESENT:

Charles Roberts, Highland Community News  
Don Lee, Tetra Tech

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President Corneille 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 continued with published agenda items.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions.

Groundwater and the article on the Paso Robles Basin. Director Raley requested feedback from the Board regarding the Basin's current condition. He stated that the preference is to have local management of the Basin.

Mr. Cozad presented a PowerPoint on this item. He stated that the over withdrawal of the Paso Robles Basin is an issue that is compelling legislative input. Mr. Cozad provided the Board with the ACWA handout "Recommendation for Achieving Groundwater Sustainability". He said that the state board and legislature will be reviewing groundwater conditions. Mr. Cozad reviewed the Paso Robles previous and current conditions. The population as well as the water use has significantly increased. Previously the area was used to dry farm cattle and is now used to grow grapes for wineries. Paso Robles has two sets of wells; those pumping within the basin and those along the river. The wells along the river have constraints on how much can be pumped since they want to avoid exhausting the river which will have an adverse effect on the habitat therein. The new wells that are going in are deeper and in the heart of the region (south of Highway 46). Mr. Cozad reviewed water levels. Lake Nacimiento will become their dominate water supply in 2025. It does not look as though Paso Robles Basin is sustainable. Mr. Cozad stated that the issue is who is going to pay the bill for the pipeline, physical system and imported water. He indicated that the imported water will cost an average of \$500-\$800 per acre foot. The issue here is one of water management. The basin is not adjudicated and they did not invest in SWP nor recharge. They recently started monitoring their water and growth. They are a CASGEM high priority basin. If you are a medium or high priority the state will test your sustainability.

Mr. Cozad reviewed the well map for the Bunker Hill Basin from the 2013 EI where it indicates well levels are lower. The water levels are within 10% of the lowest levels reached in the basin; near the trigger where subsidence and minimum well issues occur. Discussion ensued. At Monday's BTAC meeting they stated that the indicator wells are 13 ft. above the level that was set in the 1969 judgment which would require San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD) to purchase water. The total amount of recharge for the Bunker Hill Basin is 106,000 AF since 2008 using State Water Project Water (SWP). Discussion ensued. The SBVMWD Drought Task Force is developing orders for delivery of SWP and other supplies (i.e. ideas of where they are going to get the water they need). We have no new SPW allocation currently. Those receiving surface water have been meeting frequently since the drought was declared to determine where the water will come from next year. The shortage will leave us about 1600 AF shorter than if we received SWP. Mr. Cozad asked if the Basin should have a plan where partners in the Basin could purchase water when it's available at a cheaper rate for storage. Discussion ensued. Director Raley attended SBVMWD's Engineering Committee where they authorized an expenditure of approximately \$750,000 to reactivate wells. He said they are using stored water in the basin to help up North. Mr. Cozad said that Metropolitan Water District (MWD) has a provision shortage where it can't meet the needs to their Foothill Pipeline where it has to remain full. He indicated that MWD has asked the Basin to take water from Diamond Valley Lake in exchange. Everyone is bending some this year to help others, while meeting their demands.

President Corneille said that the Board should identify and suggest specific actions that could be taken to obtain and conserve more water and avoid this issue in the future. The District has currently taken action and is involved in the additional conservation plans. However, we also need to identify what to do if we get to the low point of the Basin (-167,000 AF). President Corneille said that the District needs to know the probability of lowering well pumps or drilling wells deeper and what the cost would be to do so. President Corneille indicated that the Board should ask BTAC to document the cost of obtaining more water and procedures to avoid low

basin water conditions. He said there is a prediction for a wet year next year and in the past rather than buy water when it was cheaper and available, managers decided to wait to see if there was going to be a wet year. President Corneille indicated that in the future the recommendation will certainly be to buy water when it is affordable and recharge into the basin and not assume we will get a wet year. The District is concerned about the current drought conditions and should develop recommendations of what areas should be looked at. Discussion ensued. Director Raley asked why SBVMWD does not put more water into the Basin. Mr. Cozad indicated that they have done so in the past but the issue becomes who owns it. SBVMWD has bought down the cost of the water and looked for partner agencies to contribute. Mr. Cosgrove said that the concept has been proposed by the District as a rolling fund to purchase water for recharge of the basin but other agencies did not feel the need to contribute for us to buy and store water for them. It has been floated and was not well received. President Corneille indicated that this should be a cooperative effort rather than for any one agency to own it. There is zero allocation available next year of SWP; only carry over. In wet years we should be able to put everything we can into the Basin.

Director Raley advocated that the low level of Bunker Hill Basin needs to be identified and we need to set a basin target level when it approaches that level we should discuss remedies. President Corneille said that the the Basin managers need to take what we have learned and proactively plan ahead. He indicated recycled water may be another option. Director Raley said that storm water capture is another thing to look into. Vice President McDonald stated that BTAC is the forum to discuss these issues. The Board concurred to have Staff prepare summary and submit to the Advisory Commission and BTAC.

**C. SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION ELECTION FOR REGULAR LOCAL AGENCY AND ALTERNATE LAFCO**

**It was moved by Vice President McDonald and seconded by Director Raley to vote for James Curatalo as LAFCO Regular Member. The motion carried with all directors present voting in the affirmative.**

**President Corneille: Yes  
Vice President McDonald: Yes  
Director Longville: Yes  
Director Raley: Yes  
Director Aranda: Yes**

The Board held brief discussion regarding a LAFCO alternate.

**It was moved by Director Raley and seconded by Vice President McDonald to vote for Steven Farrell as LAFCO Alternate Member. The motion carried with all directors present voting in the affirmative.**

**President Corneille: Yes  
Vice President McDonald: Yes  
Director Longville: Yes  
Director Raley: Yes  
Director Aranda: Yes**

## 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

### A. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Cozad indicated that regional water conservation outreach efforts were covered previously and a complete written GM report is in Board package. He provided a brief overview of outreach efforts the District is participating in. A survey was performed and it indicated that 70% of people thought most water use occurs indoors and most people think that they are already making conservation efforts. Additionally, Mr. Cozad said that the cost for the regional conservation outreach program will come back to the Board. ACWA/JPIA has paid a claim to DWR contractor Spiniello filed against the District in the amount of \$9,000 for damages that occurred to their pipeline from the overflow from our Mill Creek turnout during the storm. The District has received a release. The District has approximately 50,000 tons of rock that is being stored for the City of Highland related to their Greenspot Project. The aggregate will be processed by Upland Rock and the topsoil which contains native seed bank will be used in restoration of the road edges and embankments.

In accordance with authority provided by the Board, Mr. Cozad has signed a lease for Suite I and all suites are now occupied for Redlands Plaza. Also, he has met with LAFCO staff on fiscal indicators. LAFCO is currently looking at financials from 2008-current for Special Districts and will be preparing a report.

### B. MONTHLY RECHARGE REPORT

The report is included in package. There was no discussion on this item.

### C. WASH PLAN REPORT

Mr. Beehler said that there will be a meeting with FWS tomorrow to line up high and low impacts with covered activities. He provided a hand out of draft maps for discussion. Mr. Beehler indicated that we are dealing with impacts to three species and may potentially add another species. This will be brought to the Wash Plan Technical Committee. The areas listed as conserved with different habitat values associated with them for that particular species. Exhibit 1B is where the covered activities are occurring and impacts that are relative to species and the maximum potential species impact. The areas for preservation must be lined up with mitigation and impacts. The numbers will change many times before the HCP is final. This will be reviewed with FWS, Technical Committee and Task Force. EVWD wants to add a treatment plant(s); which may include both a water and waste water plants. This works well with this rough step process where if the activity does not occur the mitigation does not occur. There will potentially be two locations for facilities in or near the Wash Plan. Vice President McDonald thanked Mr. Beehler with his attention to detail and information provided. Brief discussion ensued. The Board received and filed report.

### D. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & STAFF TASK REQUEST FROM DIRECTORS

The Board requested that a Drought Impact Recommendations Summary, based on the discussion in Item B of these minute, be brought forward to the April 23, 2014 Board of Directors meeting.

7. MONTHLY BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE ACTIVITY REPORTS, AND/OR COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Raley attended the BTAC and SBVMWD Board meeting as well as those in written reports included in Board package.

Director Longville made no report.

Vice President McDonald included written reports for meetings she attended in Board package. She attended BTAC, SBVMWD Board meeting, and SBVMWD Engineering Committee.

Director Aranda attended BTAC and Rise N Shine as well as those included in the Board package.

President Corneille Chaired the Advisory Commission meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup>; where there was a presentation on CASGEM. He referenced the handout of recommendation made by the Advisory Commission to the SBVMWD Board on support of the water supply contingency Workgroup.. He also attended the Operations Committee Meeting and Field Tour. The Committee reviewed and made revisions to the CIP list. President Corneille indicated that the Canyon Shop where we store field equipment needs maintenance. Also, the potential removal of the Canyon House should be reviewed. He also attended the open house at EVWD.

8. UPCOMING MEETINGS

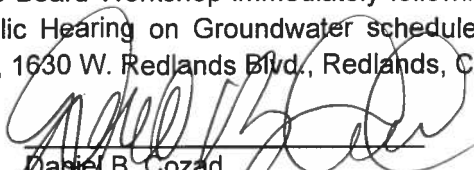
President Corneille indicated that June 5<sup>th</sup> is the next Advisory Commission meeting.

9. ADJOURN MEETING

**It was moved by Director Aranda and seconded by Director Longville to adjourn. The motion carried with all directors present voting in the affirmative.**

**President Corneille: Yes  
Vice President McDonald: Absent  
Director Longville: Yes  
Director Raley: Yes  
Director Aranda: Yes**

At 3:16 p.m. the meeting adjourned to the Board Workshop immediately following this meeting and the next regular Board Meeting/Public Hearing on Groundwater scheduled for April 23, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. at District Headquarters, 1630 W. Redlands Blvd., Redlands, CA.

  
Daniel B. Cozad  
General Manager