

**VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
August 16, 2005

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District was held on Tuesday, August 16, 2005, in the Board Chambers of the District Office at 19039 Bay Street, El Verano, California.

**1. CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL**

**President Michael Woods** called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call by **Deputy Secretary Walk** noted the following present:

Directors Present:	Mark Bramfitt Ed Kenny Ron Prushko Sanford Smith Michael Woods
District Personnel:	Shari Walk, Office Supervisor
General Manager:	Krishna Kumar
Public Present:	Carrie Pollard, Sandi Hansen, Sonoma Index-Tribune

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A.** Receive and Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 5, 2005
- B.** Resolution No. 050801 – Accepting the Closing Papers, Fire Line Service Installation Agreement with Creekside 50 LLC, Project No. 2883

Motion by **Director Bramfitt**, seconded by **Vice President Smith** and carried unanimously by a voice vote to adopt the Consent Calendar, as shown.

**4. PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

There was no public presentation.

**5. OPERATIONAL & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A.** Approve Current Financial Reports for June 2005

**Office Manager Shari Walk** advised that the report was the last for Fiscal Year 2004/05. She reported that revenues had totaled \$3,413,000, approximately \$65,000 less than budgeted. Total expenditures were \$3,245,000 including allocations to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), approximately \$230,000 less than budgeted, resulting in a net positive budget variance of \$165,000.

Motion by **Director Prushko**, seconded by **Vice President Smith**, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote to approve the monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for the month of June 2005 in the amount of \$381,835.68.

**B. Review/Comment on Current District Projects and Significant O & M Issues**

**General Manager Krishna Kumar** presented the summary review of current District projects and significant operations and maintenance issues for July 2005, as follows:

- **Project #2855 - Glen Ellen Storage Tank:** Construction began on July 5, 2005. As directed by the Board, an emergency drill had successfully been performed on July 12 with the help of the Glen Ellen Fire Department. The water main, service lines and fire hydrants had been completed. Site piping was in process and the initial ground compaction work was underway. Four meter boxes had been placed close to the road. Completion of the tank project was expected in late October or early November.
- **Project #2891 – Locust Avenue, Spring Street, Toy Lane, and Queeno Lane Main Replacements:** Construction began on July 11, 2005. The water mains and service lines had been completed on Locust Avenue, Spring Street, and Queeno Lane. The construction work associated with Toy Lane started on August 10, 2005. Project completion was expected by the end of August, 2005.

**C. Water Source Report**

**Mr. Kumar** reported that the total water production for Fiscal Year 2004/05 at 3,300 acre feet was approximately eight percent less than the last fiscal year. That amount also represented the lowest total annual production in the last seven years. He attributed that situation to a combination of mild weather, increased conservation by VOMWD customers and potentially introduction of tiered water rates.

**Director Prushko** questioned how that production would compare to the consumption for the year in an attempt to determine how effective the tiered rates had been, to which Mr. Kumar advised that he would provide that information.

**6. RECEIVE & FILE PRESIDENT’S AND DIRECTOR’S REPORTS OR COMMENTS**

**Director Bramfitt** pointed out that the Sonoma County Water Agency (Water Agency) would repeat its presentation on the Groundwater Study and the Recycled Water Project at the Sonoma Valley Citizens Advisory Commission (CAC) meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 24, 2005.

As the Director most immediately affected by the Glen Ellen Project, **Vice President Smith** reported that the work on the Glen Ellen Storage Tank had produced no problems or delays to date. He commended the extensive planning and direction to construction and VOMWD personnel for ensuring a smooth operation.

**7. GENERAL MANAGER’S AND DISTRICT COUNSEL’S REPORTS**

**A. Water Advisory Committee Special Meeting of August 1, 2005**

**General Manager Kumar** reported that Chris DeGabriele of North Marin Water District had provided an update on the status of the Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership where significant work remained to be done to finalize the organizational details of the proposed Partnership. In addition, Virginia Porter from the City of Santa Rosa had provided an update on the status of the work accomplished to date by the task force appointed under AB 2717, which required the California Urban Water Conservation Council to convene a stakeholder task force to evaluate and recommend proposals for improving water use efficiency in new and existing urban irrigation landscapes in California.

Further, **Mr. Kumar** presented the status of negotiations by advising that the governing bodies of the VOMWD and the City of Rohnert Park had approved the Restructured Agreement and the Impairment Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), in principle, pending the availability of the final draft. The other seven water contractors were in the process of presenting the documents to their respective Boards and Councils.

B. Eldridge-Madrone Pipeline

**Mr. Kumar** reported that the Water Agency had re-awarded the contract for the construction of the Eldridge-Madrone Pipeline to North Bay Construction, which had resumed work on the project on August 8, 2005. It had been reported by Water Agency personnel that North Bay was making good progress and expected completion of the project by the end of November.

C. Status of the Fire-only Connection to the Residence in Glen Ellen

**Mr. Kumar** referenced the Board's approval in April 2005 of a new fire service connection from the Sonoma Aqueduct for the property at 12560 Dunbar Road, Glen Ellen, provided that there was a document generated which could be part of the title for the property such that the current and any new owners of the property would be on notice that the connection was solely for fire service and could not be converted to any other use without the approval of the VOMWD Board. With the assistance of the Sonoma County Counsel's office, he reported that the document had been created and recorded with the County Recorder on July 29, 2005.

D. Dollars and Sense

**Mr. Kumar** advised that the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) had recently published a set of financial reporting and management guidelines for public water agency officials entitled "Dollars and Sense," a copy of which had been provided to Directors. The document provided an introduction to the government financial environment and the fiduciary responsibilities of water district directors and management. He noted that the VOMWD's finances were audited on an annual basis and had always obtained an "unqualified opinion" from the auditor. One of the items mentioned in the ACWA report related to the rotation of auditors once every five years. He stated that the VOMWD had done that this past year and now had a new auditor.

E. Saving Water in Sonoma Valley

**Mr. Kumar** presented a new annual report for 2003-04 titled "Saving Water in Sonoma Valley" prepared by Carrie Pollard on behalf of the VOMWD, Water Agency, City of Sonoma and the Sonoma Valley Sanitation District. The report provided a quick overview of the combined efforts of those four agencies to conserve water use in the Valley.

F. Copy of Water Agency Presentation

As requested, **Mr. Kumar** presented copies of the PowerPoint presentation offered by Jay Jasperse at the Board's July 5 meeting regarding the Sonoma Valley Recycled Water Feasibility Study and the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Study.

G. ACWA Region 1 Tour

**Mr. Kumar** reported that ACWA Region 1 was organizing a tour of the Geysers Recharge Project on October 7, available to interested Boardmembers.

**8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Discuss/Approve:** Amendment to the Water Conservation Agreement with the Sonoma County Water Agency

**Mr. Kumar** reported that the VOMWD had limited staff available to handle all the ongoing water conservation programs. At the request of the VOMWD, the Water Agency had assigned Carrie Pollard, Water Conservation Specialist, to work with the VOMWD's Special Programs Coordinator and the General Manager to assist in the implementation of all the required Best Management Practices (BMP's) and to develop innovative water conservation programs for the VOMWD. Ms. Pollard was expected to provide services up to approximately 10 hours a week at an estimated annual cost of up to \$33,000. All costs incurred by the Water Agency would be charged against any remaining funds due the VOMWD through the water conservation ten year program.

**Mr. Kumar** recommended the approval of an amendment to the cooperative agreement for funding of the Valley of the Moon Water District Water Conservation Program and authorizing the General Manager to execute the amendment.

**President Woods** verified with Mr. Kumar that the cost was the same as was being charged the cities of Sonoma and Rohnert Park.

**Director Prushko** expressed concern for the cost as being somewhat excessive.

**Mr. Kumar** described the details of the cost, which included a Water Agency 70 percent overhead charge. He emphasized that Ms. Pollard's time could be tailored to the VOMWD's needs with monitoring to determine whether or not the process was working. He emphasized that the VOMWD would get full value from Ms. Pollard's experience.

**Director Bramfitt** commented that he had recommended the hiring of a college student for the summer to do the work, although he recognized the benefit of the experience and coordination with the other agencies Ms. Pollard would offer. He otherwise expressed concern with a 70 percent overhead cost.

**Mr. Kumar** stated that since there were several programs which were similar in nature, there would be some savings without a duplication of effort in the work done by Ms. Pollard for the cities of Sonoma and Rohnert Park, and VOMWD.

Motion by **Director Bramfitt**, seconded by **Vice President Smith**, and carried unanimously by a roll call

vote to approve the amendment to the cooperative agreement for funding of the Valley of the Moon Water District Water Conservation Program, and authorized the General Manager to execute the agreement.

- B. **Discuss/Vote:** ACWA Region 1 Officers and Boardmembers for 2006-2007 Term

**Mr. Kumar** advised that the ACWA Region 1 Nominating Committee had recommended candidates to fill the Chair, Vice Chair and four Boardmember positions for ACWA Region 1, as detailed in the staff report dated August 16, 2005. He recommended that the Board discuss and authorize the President to cast the vote for the selected candidates.

Motion by **Director Bramfitt**, seconded by **Vice President Smith**, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote to authorize the President to cast the vote for the candidates recommended by the nominating committee.

**President Woods** adjourned into Closed Session at 7:02 P.M.

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Conference with Legal Counsel on Existing Litigation, under Government Code 54956.9(a) – VOMWD vs. Jacobson

10. **RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION**

**President Woods** reconvened the meeting at 7:25 P.M. and reported that no action had been taken in Closed Session.

11. **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no request for future agenda items.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by **Director Smith**, seconded by **Director Kenny** and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is a regular meeting on September 6, 2005 at 6:30 P.M.

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Shari Walk, Deputy Board Secretary