

**VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
April 3, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District was held on Tuesday, April 3, 2007, 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 Ed Kenny** 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 Ron Prushko Sanford Smith Russell Townsend Ed Kenny
District Personnel:	Shari Walk, Office Supervisor Paul Gradolph, Operations and Maintenance Supervisor
General Manager:	Krishna Kumar
Public Present:	Sandi Hansen, <u>Sonoma Index-Tribune</u> & Cordel Stillman, Sonoma County Water Agency

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the public.

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A.** Receive and Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 6, 2007
- B.** Adopt Resolution No. 070401 supporting the nomination of Paul Kelley as Vice President of the Association of California Water Agencies.

**President Kenny** requested removal of item B from the Consent Calendar.

Motion by **Vice President Bramfitt** seconded by **Director Smith**, and carried unanimously by a voice vote to adopt Consent Calendar Item 3A.

**President Kenny** stated he was not in support of Paul Kelley as Vice President of the Association of California Water Agencies since he did not campaign for the position, and noted when President Kenny ran for various offices, he went out to meet the public that he would be representing, and felt that Mr. Kelley should have done the same.

**Vice President Bramfitt** said that although he would have loved to have seen at least a letter from Mr.

Kelley, he noted the value for the County, the District and the Water Agency for having representation at the ACWA level, and as such supported Mr. Kelley's nomination.

**Director Smith** stated that Mr. Kelley has been the Supervisor sitting on the Water Advisory Committee (WAC) meetings and had shown, by his continuing presence at the WAC meetings, that he was interested in water matters. Also, it would be very helpful to have someone who is local as the ACWA Vice President and as such, supported Mr. Kelly.

**Director Prushko** echoed Director Smith's comments, also noted the fact that Mr. Kelley understood the process, and seemed to have the time to commit to this important work.

**Director Townsend** said that although he doesn't know Mr. Kelley, he respected the fact that he had been involved, and had shown interest in water matters.

Motion by **Vice President Bramfitt**, seconded by **Director Smith**, to adopt Resolution No. 070401 supporting the nomination of Paul Kelley as Vice President of the Associations of California Water Agencies, and carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Townsend, Smith, Prushko, Bramfitt

Noes: Kenny

#### 4. **PUBLIC HEARING**

There was no public hearing.

#### 5. **OPERATIONAL & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### A. Approve Current Financial Reports for February 2007

Motion by **Director Prushko**, seconded by **Director Smith** and carried unanimously by a roll call vote to approve the monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for the month of February 2007 in the amount of \$254,441.50.

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

**Operations and Maintenance Supervisor Paul Gradolph** presented the summary review of current District projects and significant operations and maintenance issues for March 2007, as follows:

**Project #2902 – Production Well No. 5:** The pilot water treatment test and additional well development was completed on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Preliminary results indicate that a process called *Green Sand Filtration* will be the most effective method of treatment for Iron and Manganese. Mr. Gradolph also reported that the well was developed above 200 gpm.

When asked by **President Kenny**, Mr. Gradolph explained the process of green sand filtration in detail. In response to **Director Prushko**, Mr. Gradolph clarified that the backwash from the process goes into a storage tank, and at some point the sludge will have to be pumped out of the tank.

In response to **Director Prushko**, Mr. Gradolph reported that the District had approximately 1,500 more polybutylene services to replace.

C. Water Source Report

There were no comments on the Water Source Report

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

**Director Smith** reported that he attended the ACWA/JPIA Insurance and Personnel Committee on March 15, 2007 in Sacramento. He noted reductions in the Life Insurance and the Disability Insurance and no changes to the Dental, Vision and Long Term Disability Insurances rates. The medical insurance rates will be discussed at the meeting in July 2007.

**Director Smith** also reported that he attended the Water Advisory Committee as well as the Technical Advisory Committee meetings on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Vice President Bramfitt** reported that his employer requested him to attend a meeting on the same day that the ACWA Legislative symposium was to be held, and as such his employer reimbursed the District for the out of pocket expenses the District had incurred.

**Vice President Bramfitt** also reported on the Sonoma Groundwater Basin Advisory Panel, noting that the committee is discussing the groundwater monitoring portion of the program and what additional monitoring should be required.

7. GENERAL MANAGER'S AND DISTRICT COUNSEL'S REPORT

A. Technical and Water Advisory Committee Meetings of April 2, 2007

**General Manager Krishna Kumar** reported that he attended the ACWA Legislative Symposium, and it was useful, especially the discussions on Proposition 84, and Proposition 218. ACWA was sponsoring legislation to clean up certain provisions of Proposition 218, enabling the Water Utilities to comply with the provisions more easily.

**Vice President Bramfitt** noted that he received his water bills with the inserts regarding the proposed rate increase and budget process and was impressed with how easy it was to read them.

**General Manager Krishna Kumar** reported that the Water Agency's board of directors was holding a workshop on April 10th at 10:00 am to discuss the status of the Water Project. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), at its meeting on April 2nd, had approved a draft resolution, for consideration by the WAC that same day. The WAC, after making some changes, had unanimously approved that resolution, a copy of which was provided to the Board.

**Director Smith** reported that he had received a copy of the letter of Feb 4, 2006 to Paul Kelley that stated we would receive the biological opinion by Dec 2006, and of course Dec 2006 had come and gone, and we don't know when we'll receive the biological opinion. Adoption of the EIR is our number one priority.

**Vice President Bramfitt** said he applauded the efforts of the WAC and the TAC to get this resolution done. It cannot be overstated how critical the completion of the EIR is. He did not believe it will get done in the suggested time frame. The Water Agency is asking the water providers to pump like heck and use their own resources to the extent they can right up until the time they get the new pipelines built.

**Vice President Bramfitt** opined that there are going to be moratoriums between now and then. This is so critical that he didn't think we can send a strong enough message to the Board of Supervisors who manages the Water Agency. He also thought that the Board should consider on a future agenda item other avenues of making its concerns about this known, whether it's a stronger/more direct or more forceful letter to Valerie Brown, the District's representative on the Board of Supervisors, and possibly a meeting with her to discuss this issue.

**Vice President Bramfitt** reiterated that it's time to get this done, and his confidence level of the Water Agency staff is compromised at this point. He also felt that they need to perform at a higher level.

## 8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Discuss/Determine:** The need for the WAC Board representative to participate in the meeting on April 25, 2007, called for by the Sonoma County Water Agency, to discuss sustainability goals and indicators for Sonoma County and the Bay Area

**General Manager Krishna Kumar** stated the Sonoma County Water Agency has hired a consultant to identify sustainability goals and indicators for the Sonoma County and the Bay Area. The Water Agency is convening a meeting of the leaders in the community to discuss the findings of the consultant on April 25<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the Water Agency will be presenting a new website that they have commissioned to report on the Water Agency's progress in water conservation and in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Areas of the website will be set aside for the Water Agency's water contractors to track the contractors' progress as well.

The Water Agency has sent an invitation to **Director Smith**, in his capacity as the Board representative on the WAC. Since he is the only invitee from the District to attend the meeting, **Director Smith** felt that it is appropriate for the Board as a whole to discuss this matter and determine the level of participation.

**General Manager Kumar** introduced Cordel Stillman who is the Capital Projects Manager for the Sonoma County Water Agency to answer any questions the Board may have.

**President Kenny** asked about greenhouse gas emissions. Mr. Stillman said the Sonoma County Water Agency is the single largest user of electricity in Sonoma County, using about 15-20% of the power in the County. The Water Agency's board of directors had made a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions both at the County level and the Agency level to 25% below the 1990 levels by 2015.

In response to **Director Townsend**, Mr. Stillman said they have taken a number of steps in this direction; the largest is construction of solar power facilities at the administration building, at the airport treatment plant and one under construction at the Sonoma Valley Treatment Plant. Those three projects will reduce approximately 2 megawatts of electric power that will not be coming off the grid. Other areas are in the efficiencies of the Water Agency's operations, where they are looking at replacing old motors with more efficient motors, and scheduling of pumping times to take advantage of off peak power. They are also looking at ways to reduce employees' commute time, working with PG&E to get incentives for purchasing hybrid vehicles or electric vehicles.

**Director Smith** reported that he had asked for this agenda item, since he is the one being asked to do surveys for the Board and or attend meetings on behalf of the Board as the WAC representative. He did not feel this was appropriate when these are important matters to all Board members and not just to him as the WAC representative. He wanted to make sure all the other Board members had the opportunity to attend the meeting if the Board wanted to do so.

**Vice President Bramfitt** said, on this specific meeting, he didn't think the Board will get into hot water; he thought that whoever would attend that meeting can largely listen, and report back to the Board. The other issue is fairness of Director Smith's time, and just because he is the WAC representative, doesn't mean he should get saddled with additional responsibilities.

**Vice President Bramfitt** said this district probably doesn't have much to report as far as involvement with reducing energy consumption/helping with the global climate change. We did some energy efficiency with the new booster station, but what are we doing with our facilities/fleet? Even though we're a small district, maybe we should be looking into some ways to conserve.

**Director Townsend** said this is something that can't be ignored, and that there will be increasing pressure on all public entities.

**Director Prushko** said our district should be looking into that direction when making purchases. We should be doing our part, and he did not believe people need to change their lifestyle, but there are things that still can be done.

**President Kenny** adjourned into Closed Session at 7:30 P.M.

**9. CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 – General Manager

**10. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION**

**President Kenny** reconvened into open session at 7:45 P.M. and advised that there was nothing to report from Closed Session.

**11. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

An agenda item regarding potential sustainability measures that can be implemented by the District was requested.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by **President Kenny**, seconded by **Director Smith** and carried unanimously by a voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 1, 2007 at 6:30 P.M.

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Shari Walk, Deputy Board Secretary

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Edward Kenny, Board President