

REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – July 7, 2009

VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 7, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District was held on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, in the Board Chambers of the District Office at 19039 Bay Street, El Verano, California.

President Ron Prushko 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 Al Bandur Russell Townsend Ron Prushko
Directors Absent:	Ed Kenny
District Personnel:	Shari Walk, Office Supervisor
General Manager:	Krishna Kumar
Public Present:	Heidi Danieli, Mark Heneveld, and Sandi Hansen, <u>Sonoma Index-Tribune</u>

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of the June 2, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting.

On motion by **Director Bramfitt**, seconded by **Vice President Townsend** and carried by a voice vote to adopt the Consent Calendar, as shown.

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

- A. Presentation by Jay Jasperse, Deputy Chief Engineer, Sonoma County Water Agency: Water Agency's Strategic Priorities.

Jay Jasperse, Deputy Chief Engineer, Sonoma County Water Agency, made a PowerPoint presentation on the Water Agency's Strategic Priorities. This was a condensed presentation that the Water Agency staff had given to their Board on April 13th and the Board had directed the Water Agency staff to make these presentations to solicit inputs from the water contractors. The presentation emphasized the summer time constraints in the Russian River supply and the 12 recommended strategies, noted below, to overcome that.

1. Address Dry Creek Summer Flows
2. Modify Operation of Russian River System
3. Evaluate Potential Climate Change Impacts on Water Supply
4. Pursue Combined Water Supply & Flood Control Projects
5. Develop Low Impact Development (LID) Standards
6. Work with Stakeholders to Promote Sound, Fact- Based Water Supply Planning Programs
7. Increase Transmission System Operational Reliability
8. Prioritize & Fund Projects Protecting Agency Facilities from Natural Hazards
9. Reevaluate Operational Strategy for Transmission System
10. Take Advantage of Energy & Water Synergies
11. Renegotiate Restructured Agreement for Water Supply
12. Overcome Organizational Fragmentation to Promote Efficiency of Water System Operations & Planning

Mr. Jasperse confirmed that the Water Project EIR is currently on hold, pending a better understanding of the implications of the recently released Biological Opinion and the reduced Eel river diversions.

Director Bramfitt had the following recommendations for the Water Agency:

1. Re-visit the last FERC decision to re-license the Potter Valley project since the implementation of that decision was resulting in over 30% of reduced water diversion from the Eel River to the Russian River, while the intent of the parties involved in the decision was a reduction of only 15%.
2. Start working on making the required revisions to the Restructured Agreement
3. Formulate and implement a specific regulatory relations strategy

In response to **President Prushko**, Mr. Jasperse confirmed that a Frost Protection Task Force has been formed at the behest of the State Water Resources Control Board to figure out ways to protect the fish while providing the required amount of water for frost protection for the vineyards and the Task Force is to submit its recommendations to the State Board by the end of this year.

5. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

- A.** Monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements.

On motion by **Director Bramfitt**, seconded by **Vice President Townsend** and carried unanimously by a roll call vote to approve the monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for the month of May 2009 in the amount of \$214,596.83.

- B.** Water Source Report

President Prushko noted the 27% water use from wells for the month of May 2009.

6. PRESIDENT'S AND DIRECTORS' REPORTS OR COMMENTS
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Director Bramfitt reported that he and Director Bandur went on a field trip to the Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) and described the trip as very educational. He had provided a written summary of the visit to the General Manager and offered to provide a copy of the report to the fellow directors. He described the

trip as very useful as the District was in the lookout for future opportunities for partnership with the SDC.

Director Bandur added that they looked at the current operations and procedures that the SDC had as well as some of the rehab work that they had undertaken.

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

A. Technical Advisory Committee Meeting of July 6, 2009.

General Manager, Krishna Kumar reported that the State Water Resources Control Board's final order required a 25% reduction in Russian River diversion from June 15th thru October 2nd, as compared to 2004. The Technical Advisory Committee was in the process of compiling the statistics from all the water contractors for the month of June and will be made available to the Water Advisory Committee at its meeting in August. The current indications were that the Water Agency had met the target of 25% less diversions from the Russian River so far. However, as the State order was through October 2nd, continued emphasis on conservation was critically needed.

As for the District, deliveries from the Water Agency were down by 36% for the months of April thru June, with an overall water savings of about 26% for the period. The District's customers were doing a phenomenal job of conserving. The comparatively milder weather was also largely helping the cause.

The Water Agency's Board recently declared a temporary water transmission system impairment, based on budget constraints, and adopted a temporary allocation of water deliveries for the water contractors. However, the Water Agency's Board has allowed the water contractors to substitute that allocation with any alternative allocation unanimously acceptable to the water contractors. The Technical Advisory Committee was engaged in that process. The District's current deliveries from the Water Agency were considerably less than the monthly allocation of 286 AF or 3.0 MGD.

There was discussion about a Water Agency contract to IBM to develop a data platform for sharing of information between and among the Water Agency and its water contractors. The question was raised as to how the Water Agency could afford this unbudgeted expenditure when they claim they don't have the financial resources to keep the booster stations operational.

Director Bramfitt added that he was scheduled to meet with an IBM representative on July 13th.

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Water Conservation Cost Sharing Agreement with the City of Sonoma.

Vice-President Townsend confirmed with staff that this item was brought to the attention of the Board at the last meeting.

In response to **Director Bandur**, General Manager Kumar clarified that the staff anticipates spending an amount not exceeding \$25,000 under this contract annually, although the agreement does not have a limit, *per se*.

In response to **Director Bramfitt's** observation that the District needs to be more proactive in pushing the water conservation programs, General Manager Kumar elaborated that the District and the City of Sonoma

are jointly embarking on a fairly large and comprehensive marketing effort to actively encourage water conservation in the Valley.

Director Bramfitt shared with the Board the idea of promoting an awards program in Sonoma Valley by the Basin Advisory Panel with the participation of the District, City of Sonoma, and possibly the Water Agency and the Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District to recognize and publicize people who have done either a recharge project or a cash-for-grass conservation project and to set up a friendly competition among businesses to outdo each other with better conservation efforts. This idea would be further explored and firmed up at the next Basin Advisory Panel meeting.

Motion by **Director Bramfitt** seconded by **Vice President Townsend** and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the Water Conservation Cost sharing Agreement with the City of Sonoma and authorize the General Manager to execute the Agreement.

President Prushko declared a five-minute recess prior to adjourning into Closed Session at 8:32 P.M.

9. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Discussion of existing litigation pursuant to Government code section 54956.9(a): proposed settlement in *State of California, et al., ex rel. Armenta v. James Jones Co., et al. and City of Banning, et al. v. James Jones Co., et al.***
- B. Conference with Labor Negotiator Pursuant to Government code Section 54957.6; Agency Negotiator: General Manager Krishna Kumar; Negotiating Parties: International Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Local 39 AFL-CIO.**

10. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION
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President Prushko reconvened from Closed Session at 9:05 P.M. and reported the following:

- A. The Board authorized a settlement amount of not less than \$20,000 in the *State of California, et al., ex rel. Armenta v. James Jones Co., et al. and City of Banning, et al. v. James Jones Co., et al.* litigation.**
- B. Directors Kenny and Bandur** were appointed to serve on a labor negotiation Ad Hoc Committee.

11. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
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There was no request for future agenda items.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by **Director Bramfitt**, seconded by **Director Bandur**, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is a regular meeting on August 4, 2009 at 6:30 P.M.

Shari Walk, Deputy Board Secretary

Ron Prushko, Board President