

REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – October 6, 2009

**VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT**  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 6, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District was held on Tuesday, October 6, 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:	Ed Kenny Al Bandur Russell Townsend Ron Prushko
Director(s) excused:	Mark Bramfitt
General Manager:	Krishna Kumar
District Personnel:	Shari Walk, Office Supervisor
Members of the Public:	Laurie Gallian, and Sandi Hansen, <u>Sonoma Index-Tribune</u>

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. Minutes of the September 1, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting.
- B. Minutes of the September 10, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting
- C. Annual District audit report.

On motion by **Director Bandur**, seconded by **Director Kenny** and carried by a voice vote to adopt the Consent Calendar, as shown.

**4. PUBLIC PRESENTATION - NONE**

**5. OPERATIONAL REPORTS**

- A. Monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements.

On motion by **Director Kenny**, seconded by **Vice President Townsend** and carried unanimously by a roll call vote to approve the monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for the month of August 2009 in the amount of \$564,837.43.

- B. Water Source Report

**President Prushko** noted the drop in water pumped from the wells compared to last month, and confirmed with General Manager Kumar that this was due to cutting back on well use and not because of well production issues.

In response to **President Prushko**, Mr. Kumar said there was not a noticeable drop in the level of the wells.

## **6. PRESIDENT'S AND DIRECTORS' REPORTS OR COMMENTS**

**President Prushko** noted his disappointment over the Sonoma County Water Agency's (Water Agency) intended action to either withdraw or modify the pending water rights application with the State Water Resources Control Board and for not pursuing the Dry Creek pipeline project. 2 to 3 years of reserve water is available in Lake Sonoma. We should go ahead and pursue that water, not necessarily for stimulating growth, but as a back up to what's available in case of a huge fire, like we had in the 60's. It takes millions of gallons of water to fight a fire of that magnitude. It seemed short-sighted on the part of the Water Agency not to pursue the pipeline project.

**President Prushko** made reference to the 26 miles of pipeline that the City of Santa Rosa installed from its treatment plant to the Geysers, at a cost of approximately 20 million dollars a mile. The 12 miles of pipeline from Lake Sonoma to the collectors seemed to be of the same scope. At a cost of approximately \$250 million, and if shared among 300,000 hookups in Sonoma and Marin counties, with a 30 year bond, it would cost each connection approximately \$30 per month, or \$1.00 a day for everyone that's hooked up to the system.

**President Prushko** suggested pursuing legislative relief through Assemblymember Jarred Huffman's office for effecting governance change from the current situation where the Board of Supervisors acts as the Board of Directors of the Water Agency. Instead, a potential new governance structure could include all the members of the Water Advisory Committee, thereby giving a true and direct representation to all the water contractors in conducting the affairs of the Water Agency.

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

### **A. Technical Advisory Committee Meeting of October 5, 2009.**

**Mr. Kumar** reported the following:

#### **Summer 2009 Water Contractor Statistics**

**Mr. Kumar** provided a copy of the August water usage data for all water contractors of the Water Agency. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) had mandated a 25% reduction in the diversions from the Russian River by the Water Agency for the period June 15 through October 2, 2009 and the Water Agency was right on target to comply with the State Board order.

#### **Petition to modify Decision 1610**

On September 23, 2009, the Water Agency filed a petition with the State Water Resources Control Board to modify its Water Rights Permit, also known as Decision 1610, as required under the Biological Opinion. It is a long, multi-year process and, if approved, would result in more streamlined flow regimes. The Biological Opinion also requires the Water Agency to file temporary urgency change petitions each year until such time the permanent changes to Decision 1610 are approved by the State Board.

### **SCWA Water Project Redirection**

On September 15, 2009, the Water Agency's Board of Directors adopted a Resolution authorizing the General Manager/Chief Engineer of the Water Agency to work with the Board Liaison to the Water Advisory Committee (WAC) and the Chairs of the WAC and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to carry out several actions.

The WAC Chair had requested the Water Agency Board Liaison Paul Kelley to include the Vice-Chairs of the WAC and TAC to be part of this group. Mr. Kumar reported that he is the Vice-Chair of the TAC, and Susan Gorin is the Vice-Chair of the WAC. This group will soon meet to start discussing an Implementation Plan to carry out the tasks outlined in the Water Agency's Board Resolution.

In response to **Director Bandur**, Mr. Kumar confirmed that the Water Agency board resolution was developed by the Water Agency staff.

<b>8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS</b>
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**A. Sonoma County Water Agency Strategic Priorities.**

**General Manager Kumar** reported that in an attempt to present a combined response to the Water Agency, the WAC has directed the TAC to compile inputs regarding this matter from each of the water contractors. For Board consideration, District staff had come up with a list of top priorities for the Water Agency as listed below:

- Restore reliability of current water supply of 75,000 acre-feet per year and current transmission system capacity to deliver water at a maximum monthly average rate of 92 million gallons per day
- Achieve reliable future water supply of 101,000 acre-feet per year and future transmission system capacity to deliver water at a maximum monthly average rate of 150.4 million gallons per day
- Prioritize the Water Agency's and water rate payers' resources to achieve current and future water supply reliability
- Protect water quality
- Address impacts on listed salmonid species

**Director Bandur** requested that increased operational reliability of the transmission system be added to the list.

The Board directed staff to provide the list, as amended, to the Chair of the TAC for compilation and onward submission to the Water Agency.

**President Prushko** adjourned into Closed Session at 7:00 P.M.

<b>9. CLOSED SESSION</b>
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**A. Conference with legal counsel to consider initiation of litigation, pursuant to**

**Government Code Section 54956.9(c) – 1 case**

**10. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION**

**President Prushko** reconvened from Closed Session at 7:33 P.M. There was nothing to report.

**11. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no request for future agenda items.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by **Director Bandur**, seconded by **Director Kenny**, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is a special meeting on November 3, 2009 at 6:30 P.M.

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Shari Walk, Deputy Board Secretary

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Ron Prushko, Board President