

**VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT**  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 3, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District was held on Tuesday, November 3, 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 Mark Bramfitt Al Bandur Ron Prushko
Director(s) excused:	Russell Townsend
General Manager:	Krishna Kumar
District Personnel:	Paul Gradolph, O & M Supervisor Shari Walk, Office Supervisor
Members of the Public:	None

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. Minutes of the October 6, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting.
- B. Employee Travel and Credit Card Use Policies

On motion by **Director Bramfitt**, seconded by **Director Bandur** and carried by a voice vote to adopt the Consent Calendar, as shown, noting **Director Bramfitt's** abstention on item 3.A.

**4. PUBLIC PRESENTATION - NONE**

**5. OPERATIONAL REPORTS**

- A. Monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements.

On motion by **Director Bramfitt**, seconded by **Director Kenny** and carried unanimously by a roll call vote to approve the monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for the month of September 2009 in the amount of \$357,360.60.

- B. Water Source Report

**President Prushko** noted the 20% well use for the month.

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

There were no reports or comments.

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

### **A. Water & Technical Advisory Committee Meetings of November 2, 2009.**

**Mr. Kumar** reported the following:

#### Summer 2009 Water Contractor Statistics

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) mandated a 25% reduction in the diversions from the Russian River by the Water Agency for the period June 15 through October 2, 2009. The Water Agency fully complied with the State Board order with a reduction in diversion of 35%.

#### Water Agency's New Water Supply Strategies

The Water Advisory Committee (WAC) unanimously adopted the priorities, compiled by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on the basis of inputs received from the various water contractors on the Water Agency's new water supply strategies.

The WAC also directed the TAC to work with the Water Agency staff to prepare a time line for an 'Implementation Plan' of the major activities that the Water Agency need to complete in the near future, including the timely completion of the 2010 Urban Water Management Plan.

**President Prushko** confirmed with Mr. Kumar that the newly formed Water Supply Coordinating Committee (WSCC) included:

- Paul Kelley, Chair of the Water Agency Board of Directors and Board Liaison to the WAC
- Randy Poole, General Manager/Chief Engineer, SCWA
- Jake Mackenzie, Councilmember, City of Rohnert Park and WAC Chair
- Susan Gorin, Mayor, City of Santa Rosa and WAC Vice-Chair
- Chris DeGabriele, General Manager, NMWD and TAC Chair
- Krishna Kumar, TAC Vice-Chair

In response to **Director Bandur**, Mr. Kumar said the 12 strategies, currently proposed by the Water Agency, does not translate into a concrete plan or a project yet and the WSCC will serve as a coordinating group to ensure that the water contractors' interests and needs are met in a collaborative fashion.

**Mr. Kumar** further reported that the Water Agency's board approved a proposal to segregate the position of the Water Agency General Manager/Chief Engineer into two positions – a General Manager and a Chief Engineer to coincide with the retirement of the current incumbent in that position, Randy Poole, on February 23, 2010.

In response to **Director Bandur**, Mr. Kumar said standard procedures were followed by the Water Agency

in selecting HDR, an engineering and consulting firm, to conduct a feasibility study on the Dry Creek pipeline project. The feasibility study was to be completed by the end of 2010.

**Director Bramfitt** further commented on the WAC meeting, noting that it was one of the most frustrating WAC meetings that he had ever attended. The announcement regarding the Dry Creek pipeline by Randy Poole was one of the most enraging thing that he had seen, at least at that meeting, if not all year at the WAC. Randy Poole indicated that a dry creek pipeline was there solely to solve the environmental issues on dry creek and not to allow the Water Agency to deliver any more water than they were delivering now. Randy's direct comment was that if you want to upsize the pipe, make it bigger than the one he might propose, then you the contractors can come to us and offer us the money to make it bigger. To try and separate the environmental and water supply components into two was just incredible.

**Director Bramfitt** reported that there was a lot of tension among the WAC members, who are the elected officials, who didn't know what was going on and there was too much going on at once. The Water Agency has put 12 strategies in front of the water contractors who have to do long-term water supply plans, Urban Water Management Plans, the Biological Opinion that has an incredible Gantt chart associated with it, and what the water contractors want is a master schedule of everything that is going to happen in the next 5 years. He didn't think that discussing these 12 strategies is as important as revisiting the Restructured Agreement. The Water Agency has contracted out more supply than they can deliver. That agreement needs to be revisited to figure out where the water contractors are going in the future. If the available supply is limited to 75,000 acre-feet, that's not what the current agreement talks about – it talks about 101,500 acre-feet. When that matter is opened up for discussion, the issue of the governance of the Water Agency needs to be considered. That would also provide an opportunity to fix some of the problems that VOMWD has identified in the current agreement regarding how the Sonoma Aqueduct is paid for. All of these things are more important than talking about the 12 strategies.

**Director Bramfitt** added that he thought that the water contractors are getting played, and that the elected officials are very frustrated, but there's not any strong push from the chair of the WAC or the vice-chair of the WAC or from him to try and see this all cleared. There's discussion that all the contractors should speak as one voice. He didn't think that's necessarily true. He thought that the District's issues are dramatically different than they are in Petaluma, and he thought that 's okay. He emphasized that what's most important is to get back on track and think about restructuring the current agreement. A lot of people were very frustrated, but with no clear course of action emerging to get the region's water supply back on track. The dry creek pipeline announcement, in his opinion, was a bombshell. He didn't know if that was a gentle jab or someone playing games.

**President Prushko** attested to the need to revisit the governance matter through Assembly Member Jared Huffman's office and felt that this may be the only recourse available to the water contractors.

#### Sandi Hansen

**Mr. Kumar** regretfully announced that Sandi Hansen has been laid off from the Sonoma Index-Tribune, as part of the paper's budget cuts. He stated that he had come to enjoy her presence at the Board meetings and the professionalism and fairness that she always reflected in her stories.

**Director Bramfitt** mentioned that the District should establish a relationship with the Index-Tribune's editor, if not already done, to make sure to get news that is newsworthy out to the community.

<b>8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS - NONE</b>
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**President Prushko** adjourned into Closed Session at 7:00 P.M.

**9. CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Conference with legal counsel to consider pending litigation, pursuant to government code section 54956.9 (a) – City of Santa Rosa vs. Sonoma County Water Agency**
- B. 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 7:34 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 Bramfitt**, seconded by **Director Kenny**, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is a special meeting on December 1, 2009 at 6:30 P.M.

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Shari Walk, Deputy Board Secretary

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Ron Prushko, Board President