

REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – December 1, 2009

VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 1, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District was held on Tuesday, December 1, 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 **Secretary Kumar** 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
Members of the Public:	None

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of the November 3, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting.

On motion by **Director Kenny**, seconded by **Director Bandur** 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 Bramfitt**, seconded by **Director Bandur** and carried unanimously by a

roll call vote to approve the monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for the month of October 2009 in the amount of \$254,026.86.

B. Water Source Report

6. PRESIDENT'S AND DIRECTORS' REPORTS OR COMMENTS

Director Kenny reported a conversation that he had with a constituent where in they discussed the need to push harder for reducing the overall turf areas in both residential homes and business establishments to maximize savings from water conservation.

Director Bramfitt reported that the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Basin Advisory Panel had a meeting a few weeks ago, where they presented awards for water conservation and water reuse projects for a variety of customers in the valley. He described the event as staggeringly successful and a real joy. There were 6 awards presented, got great coverage by the press, and this was something the Advisory Panel will be doing on an annual basis. He encouraged staff and fellow directors to look for businesses and residential customers in VOMWD's service area who have done great things regarding conservation, so that we can recognize them next year.

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

Mr. Kumar reported the following:

State Legislative Package

The state legislature passed a comprehensive water package in November. The package consisted of four policy bills and a proposal for seeking voter approval for an \$11.4 billion bond issue. Two of the four bills – Senate Bills No. 1 and 8 largely addressed the Delta issues.

Senate Bill No. 6 dealt with groundwater monitoring. It required, for the first time in California's history, that local agencies monitor the elevation of their groundwater basins to help better manage the resource during both normal water years and drought conditions. If the local agencies fail to do the required monitoring, the Department of Water Resources may implement the groundwater monitoring program for that region. The good news for Sonoma Valley was that we already have a well run voluntary groundwater monitoring program in place - led by the Sonoma Valley Basin Advisory Panel chaired by **Director Bramfitt**. Like on many other fronts, the VOMWD Board was well ahead of the curve on this one too.

Senate Bill No. 7 created a framework for future planning and actions by urban and agricultural water suppliers to reduce California's water use. For the first time in California's history, this bill required the development of agricultural water management plans and required urban water agencies to reduce statewide per capita water consumption 20% by 2020. This bill also established four different ways for urban water suppliers to achieve the statewide goal of 20% reduction in urban water use. This bill allowed for calculating the base water use by averaging a continuous 10-year period ending no earlier than December 31, 2004, and no later than December 31, 2010.

In response to **Director Bandur**, Mr. Kumar explained that in the case of VOMWD, for a ten year period ending in 2004, the base water use was approximately 144 gallons per person per day. And hence the District's target for 2020 will be approximately 115 gallons per person per day. The good news was that for the fiscal year 2008-09, the District's actual water use was 115 gallons per person per day. He noted that the District should, however, continue its emphasis on water conservation in the coming years as well and should strive to exceed the target set by Senate Bill No.7.

In further response to **Director Bandur**, Mr. Kumar noted that the Senate Bill No.7 required the agricultural water suppliers to:

- a) Measure water deliveries and adapt a pricing structure for water customer based at least in part on quantity delivered, and, where technically and economically feasible, implement additional measures to improve efficiency.
- b) Submit Agricultural Water Management Plans beginning December 31, 2012 and include in those plans information relating to the water efficiency measures they have undertaken and are planning to undertake.
- c) Makes ineligible for state grant funding any (urban or) agricultural water supplier who is not in compliance with the requirements of this bill relating to water conservation and efficient water management.

In response to **Director Bramfitt, Director Bandur** and Mr. Kumar explained the modalities of calculating the population base for the area served by the District.

President Prushko strongly suggested that the region should vigorously pursue any available bond money to pay for at least part of the Dry Creek Pipeline Project.

The \$11.14 billion bond proposal, which is a major component of the state legislative package, is comprised of seven categories:

- 1) Drought relief - \$455 M
- 2) Delta Sustainability - \$2.25 B
- 3) Water Supply Reliability - \$1.4 B (of which \$45M is earmarked for North Coast)
- 4) Statewide Water System Operational Improvement - \$3.0 B
- 5) Groundwater Protection and Water Quality - \$1.0 B
- 6) Water Recycling and Water Conservation - \$1.25 B
- 7) Conservation and Watershed Protection - \$1.785 B

The catch, of course, was to wait and see if the voters will eventually approve this bond measure.

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Larbre Well Easement Agreement

The District was in the final year of a 5 year agreement with the Larbre Trust (Larbre) to lease

capacity in the well located on their Arnold Drive property. The agreement will expire on December 1, 2009.

The existing terms of the lease agreement required the District to pay \$188.26 per acre-foot of water taken from the well, subject to annual adjustments based on the consumer price index. The District also must pay for the cost of electricity, chemicals, water testing, and normal maintenance and repairs. Staff had completed negotiations with Larbre for a five-year renewal agreement with no change in the existing terms and conditions.

On motion by **Director Bramfitt**, seconded by **Director Bandur** and carried unanimously by a roll call vote to adopt Resolution No. 091201 approving a water well easement agreement with the Larbre Testamentary Trust and accepting and consenting to the recordation of the easement agreement and authorizing the president to sign the easement agreement and the certificate of acceptance.

President Prushko adjourned into Closed Session at 7:05 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
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President Prushko reconvened from Closed Session at 7:50 P.M. There was nothing to report.

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 Kenny**, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is a special meeting on January 5, 2010 at 6:30 P.M.

Shari Walk, Deputy Board Secretary

Russell Townsend, Board President