

VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 4, 2011

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District was held on Tuesday, October 4, 2011, in the Board Chambers of the District Office at 19039 Bay Street, El Verano, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL

Vice President Bramfitt 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:	Ron Prushko Ed Kenny Mark Bramfitt
Directors Absent:	Russ Townsend
General Manager:	Krishna Kumar
District Personnel	Paul Gradolph, Operations & Maintenance Supervisor Shari Walk, Office Supervisor
Public:	Mark Heneveld and Heidi Danieli

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mark Heneveld commented on the Sonoma County Water Agency tour that he attended the previous month.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of the September 6, 2011 Board of Directors Meeting.
- B. Resolution No. 111001 approving the AB 1600 annual Report for FY 2010-11.
- C. Resolution No. 111002 to fulfill the reporting requirements regarding employee contributions.

Director Prushko requested Items 3.B and 3.C to be pulled for further discussion.

On motion by **Director Kenny**, seconded by **Director Prushko**, and carried unanimously by a voice vote to adopt item 3.A of the Consent Calendar.

In response to **Director Prushko**, under item 3.B, General Manager Kumar clarified that the AB1600 Annual Report is to ensure that connection fees collected by the District are spent on Capital projects within five years and not accumulated for a longer period.

In response to **Director Prushko**, under item 3.C, Mr. Kumar elaborated on the funded status of CalPERS and the current attempts by several CalPERS employers to reign in pension costs.

On motion by **Director Prushko**, seconded by **Director Kenny**, and carried unanimously by a voice vote to adopt the balance of the Consent Calendar, items 3.B and 3.C.

4. PUBLIC HEARING – NONE

5. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

A. Monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for August 2011.

On motion by **Director Kenny**, seconded by **Director Prushko**, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote to approve the monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for the month of August 2011 in the amount of \$593,508.72.

B. Water Source Report.

Director Prushko noted the amount of water pumped from the District wells over the past three months.

6. PRESIDENT’S AND DIRECTORS’ REPORTS OR COMMENTS

Director Prushko commented that he was shocked by the pension amounts earned by County senior executives and wondered how long could such lofty pension levels be sustained.

In response to **Director Prushko**, Mr. Kumar speculated that the SCWA wholesale water rate increase for the next fiscal year will be around 5%.

Vice-President Bramfitt said he thought the amount of home foreclosures resulting in higher vacancy levels contributed to the drop in water demands.

Director Kenny spoke about the breaching of the sand bars at the mouth of the Russian River in Jenner by the Sonoma County Water Agency (Water Agency) and the changes resulting from the recent Biological Opinion.

Vice-President Bramfitt reported that he attended the Board of Supervisors meeting where the EIR for that project was approved and the fact that the Water Agency has been sued by a group based in Guerneville.

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

Mr. Kumar reported the following:

October 3rd TAC Meeting

The Water Agency indicated that it was in the process of revising its Strategic Action Plan. Toward that end, the Water Agency representatives circulated an executive summary, which summarized the actions so far completed, the areas where substantial progress had been made, the projects that have been reprioritized and some of the new actions to be included in the revised plan. The Water Agency will be taking the revised Action Plan to its board before the end of this year.

IBM Collaboration Platform

The Water Agency had developed a data management system called “Collaboration Platform” in partnership with IBM that made available operational data of the Water Agency’s water supply and transmission system

in addition to participating water contractors' supply systems. Currently, the cities of Cotati, Santa Rosa, and Rohnert Park participated in that program. The availability of this mutual data among the various entities obtaining the bulk of their potable water from the Russian River provided all the participating agencies with better water supply planning tools. This would also help integrate and coordinate the water supply planning process for the entire region and to utilize the available water supply in a dynamic fashion, based on near real-time information.

The system includes geographical and system map views so that agencies can quickly identify and address specific issues such as low chlorine residual or low storage tank levels, in minutes rather than hours. In addition, it provided new analytic capabilities that enabled users to slice and dice data as needed, rather than having to rely on pre-defined reports, supporting a more collaborative and proactive approach to managing water resources. This analysis can include historical trend studies to determine seasonal variations in flow and water quality, on which future decisions may be based. This would also improve coordination between the Water Agency and the water contractors responding to emergencies such as earthquakes.

The District was currently collaborating with the Water Agency and the IBM on the leak detection project and would soon be participating in the Collaboration Platform project as well.

SWRCB Rules on Frost Protection

On September 20th, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) approved a sweeping set of rules to govern how vineyard and orchard operators in the Russian river watershed use water to protect crops from springtime frost. The rules were meant to safeguard beleaguered salmon and steelhead populations and could affect hundreds of growers and more than 21,000 acres in both Sonoma and Mendocino County.

Under the new rules, growers will be required to participate in a "demand management" program that tracked their water diversions for frost, recorded stream flows and reported the data to state and federal agencies. The rules were set to take effect in February and be phased in over the next three years. For the first time, agricultural users must track and report their water use from March 15 through May 15, including pumping of groundwater that is connected to streams.

In response to **Vice-President Bramfitt**, Mr. Kumar said the SWRCB would be the lead agency implementing the provisions of this new regulation.

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Officers 2011/2012.

Director Prushko nominated **Director Bramfitt** as the **President** and **Director Bramfitt** nominated **Director Prushko** as the **Vice-President** of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District for the period ending in December 2012. There were no other nominations. The nominations were closed. The motions carried by acclamation.

B. Appointment of Board Member.

President Bramfitt introduced the item, noting that only one application, submitted by Mark Heneveld, was received for the vacancy on the Board of Directors.

In response to **President Bramfitt**, Mr. Heneveld stated that he wasn't involved in any business or had other interests that would potentially required him to recuse himself from any Board business or activities.

In response to **President Bramfitt**, Mr. Heneveld said that he saw water as a big challenge, and more specifically getting water to the Valley through the existing pipeline.

Motion by **Director Prushko**, seconded by **Director Kenny** and carried unanimously by a voice vote to adopt Resolution No. 111003, appointing Mark Heneveld as a Member of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District.

C. VOMWD Golden Anniversary.

Mr. Kumar introduced this item, noting at the request of **Director Townsend**, staff was proposing a budget not to exceed \$2,000 to plan this event.

President Bramfitt mentioned that he had already contracted Supervisor Valerie Brown inquiring about recognition for the District. He also pointed out that he thought a booklet outlining the District's history will be beneficial.

The item carried by acclamation.

9. CLOSED SESSION - NONE

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by **Director Kenny**, seconded by **Director Prushko**, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is a regular meeting on November 1, 2011 at 6:30 P.M.

Shari Walk, Deputy Board Secretary

Mark Bramfitt, Board President