

**VALLEY OF THE MOON WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 1, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Water District was held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, in the Board Chambers of the District Office at 19039 Bay Street, El Verano, California.

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

President Foreman called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call by **Deputy Secretary Yankovich** noted the following present:

Directors:	Jon Foreman Ron Prushko Bruce Adams Mark Heneveld Ed Kenny
General Manager:	Daniel Muelrath
District Personnel:	Matt Fullner, Operations & Maintenance Supervisor Jennifer Yankovich, Administration & Finance Manager
Public:	James Scriven

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of the February 2, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting.**
- B. Records Retention Policy and Schedule Update**

On motion by **Director Heneveld**, seconded by **Director Adams**, and carried unanimously by a voice vote to approve all items on the Consent Calendar.

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATION - NONE

5. OPERATIONAL REPORTS

- A. Monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for January 2016**

Motion by **Director Prushko**, seconded by **Director Adams**, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote to approve the monthly Financial Reports & Disbursements for the month of January 2016 in the amount of \$240,328.82.

B. Water Source Report

Operations and Maintenance Supervisor Fullner reported that two wells are resting and three wells are currently operating, 14% of the water supplied in January 2016 was from the District's wells. It was noted that water levels at Park and Mountain wells are rising.

C. Operational Updates

Operations and Maintenance Supervisor Fullner reported the following:

- Staff submitted District data required as part of its annual report to the State Water Resources Control Board.
- Work is continuing on the Sonoma Springs project, the work is no longer taking place in the road and should not require additional shutdowns.
- The valve replacement at Agua Caliente and Cedar has been completed except for paving.
- The District is in the process of testing its larger meters with consultant Mike Wolf.
- A VOMWD staff member has taken a position with another water district so recruitment for a Water Distribution System Operator I has begun.
- A new valve turning machine has been acquired. This equipment can be attached to any of the work trucks for efficient use at job sites throughout the District.

6. PRESIDENT'S AND DIRECTORS' REPORTS OR COMMENTS

President Foreman stated that he would be attending a LAFCO groundwater sphere of influence study session on March 2, 2016 with General Manager Muelrath.

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

General Manager Muelrath reported the following:

A. Water Supply Update

- Lake Sonoma reached a peak on February 26th of 96.2% of its water supply capacity and is currently at 96.1%.
- Lake Mendocino is currently at 116% of target water supply curve, which is good timing as significant rainfall is predicted over the next 10 days and the expectation is that Lake Sonoma will exceed the water supply pool and Lake Mendocino further into the flood pool. We should expect the Army Corps releases to increase from these reservoirs as they exceed the water supply pool.
- SWRCB Reporting – January use was 27% lower in 2016 compared to 2013 (compliance year). From June 2015 through January 2016 VOMWD customers conserved over 216 million gallons, well above our target conservation goal of 192.5 million gallons through February 2016. (Compliance period is June 2015- February 2016)

B. WAC/TAC Meetings: The TAC monthly meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2016.

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Investment in Local Groundwater Wells

General Manager Muelrath provided a staff report highlighting a cost comparison of pumping vs purchasing water. Currently the District cost to pump groundwater is approximately \$300 per acre foot compared to \$836.55 per acre foot to purchase water from SCWA. The staff report also listed important factors to be

considered for installation of new groundwater wells such as sustainability of pumping from aquifer, quality of groundwater, depth to water and well yields.

After discussion of potential benefits to the District, including decreased dependence on SCWA and cost savings to customers, the Board expressed support for staff to explore options for additional investments in groundwater wells.

B. Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) Draft Budget

General Manager Muelrath provided background information regarding the development of the SCWA budget and proposed rate increases to retailers. The proposed rate increase for Sonoma Aqueduct is 5.9%; however this includes a decrease to the capital charge for future projects.

Staff recommends that the capital charge remain at its current level to prevent future rate spikes while building fund balances at appropriate rates. Staff's recommendation coupled with the SCWA rate increase results in a 6.94% wholesale rate increase.

The Board expressed displeasure with the large rate increase from SCWA, but recognized their limited ability to affect the rate increase. By general consent the Board agreed it would be in the District's best interest to continue the capital charge for future projects at \$32/AF, and directed Director Heneveld, acting as the District's WAC representative, to vote in favor of the SCWA's draft budget.

9. CLOSED SESSION - NONE

10. ADJOURNMENT

President Foreman adjourned the meeting at 7:26 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is a regular meeting on April 5, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.

Daniel Muelrath, Board Secretary

Jon Foreman, Board President