



MINUTES
of the Regular Meeting
Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency
Board of Directors
April 24, 2006

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency was Called to Order by Chair Shirrel at 7:00 p.m., on Monday, April 24, 2006, in the Board Room at 5 Harris Court, Bldg. D, Monterey, California.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Peggy Shirrel, Chair
Ramiro Cortez
Carlo Cortopassi
Jerry Edelen
Kenneth Nishi
Libby Downey
W.B. "Butch" Lindley
Dan Cort
Gloria De La Rosa
Mary Ann Carbone
Darryl Choates
Dewey Baird

Moss Landing County Sanitation District
Boronda County Sanitation District
Castroville
Del Rey Oaks (Alternate)
Marina Coast Water District
Monterey (Alternate)
Monterey County
Pacific Grove
Salinas
Sand City (Alternate)
Seaside
US Army

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joe Russell, Vice Chair	Del Rey Oaks
Jeff Haferman	Monterey
David Pendergrass	Sand City

STAFF PRESENT:

Keith Israel	General Manager
Jim Heitzman	Assistant General Manager
Rob Wellington	Legal Counsel
John Tiernan	Director of Administrative Services
Tom Buell	Director of Finance
Bob Holden	Recycled Water Project Coordinator
Karl Kline	Source Control Inspector I
Maria Sandoval	Safety Officer
Gary Weier	Source Control Supervisor
Ben Salas	Source Control Tech
Patrice Friedmann Parsons	Lab Analyst II
Betty Nebb	Executive Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carl Niizawa	City of Salinas
Bjorn Lundegard	City of Seaside

AUDIENCE: 4

Chair Shirrel announced that three Board Alternates: Libby Downey (Monterey), Jerry Edelen (Del Rey Oaks), and Mary Ann Carbone (Sand City) were here tonight representing the entities and thanked them for attending.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At 7:04 p.m. with no comments received, Chair Shirrel opened and closed Public Comments.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Cortopassi requested a correction to the Strategic Planning Workshop Minutes of April 14. He indicated that verbiage regarding “*a plan to provide conveyance capacity*” on page two, last paragraph, number two, should include Castroville.

Mr. Nishi requested Chair Shirrel's memorandum regarding *Updated Board Committee Assignments for April 2006 through March 2007* (emailed/faxed to Board members prior to the meeting) be included with Consent Agenda Item J.

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Mr. Cort, seconded by Mr. Cortopassi, the Board unanimously approved Consent with above noted corrections/additions:

- A. Approve Minutes – Regular Meeting, March 27, 2006
- B. Approve Minutes of Strategic Planning Workshop April 14, 2006 (as corrected)
- C. Receive Financial Statements – March 2006
- D. Receive Comparison Percentage of Budget Expended Through March 2006 vs. 2005
- E. Receive Check Register – March 2006
- F. Receive Plant Flows and Effluent Quality for Connected Agencies, Plus Flow Charts for Salinas, Monterey Peninsula, Marina, Fort Ord, and Castroville March 2006
- G. Receive Actual vs. Budgeted Fiscal Year 2005/06 Expenditures for the Capital Improvement Program and Capitalized Equipment Fund
- H. Receive Actual vs. Anticipated Fiscal Year 2005/06 Revenues from Capacity Charges
- I. Receive Residential Dwelling-Unit Aggregate as of March 31, 2006
- J. Receive Updated Board Committee Assignments for April 2006 through March 2007 (including April 21st memorandum from Chair Peggy Shirrel)
- K. Approve Award of Contract for Replacement of the CP 18 A & B Sludge Pumping Control Panel

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RELATED ACTION ITEMS

A. Budget Personnel Committee

1. **Receive and Approve Committee Minutes/Report for Monday, April 10, 2006.** In response to a question from Mr. Lindley, Mr. Heitzman explained the difference between painters and coating specialists and advised that the Coating Management Program would encompass the entire Agency (including all pump stations). He also reiterated up-front costs would be higher due to sand blasting requirements but would stabilize after two to three years into the program.

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Mr. Lindley, seconded by Ms. De La Rosa, the Board unanimously approved the Budget Personnel Committee Minutes for April 10, 2006, with the following recommendation:

- **That the Board approve staff recommendation to commence development and issuance of an *Invitation for Bid* to perform work related to the management and**

execution of a Ten-Year Facility Coating Management Program.

B. Recycled Water Storage Committee

- 1. Receive and Approve Committee Minutes/Report for Thursday, April 13, 2006.** Mr. Nishi referenced a comment attributed to Mr. Russell in the April 13 Committee Minutes (Page 71) that said, *‘Marina Coast would likely pay up front and MRWPCA would negotiate accumulated expenses.’* Mr. Nishi indicated reluctance to approve this item without clarification; and in the absence of Mayors Russell and Pendergrass, he asked the Minutes be continued to the following monthly Board meeting. Mr. Wellington advised that continuance of the Minutes would provide an opportunity to reconfirm and clarify the statement. After some discussion, Mr. Wellington advised the Board move to approve the recommendations from the Committee to allow staff to proceed. He recommended, however, approval of the Minutes be withheld for clarification to the next Board meeting.

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Mr. Nishi, seconded by Mr. Choates, the Board agreed to a CONTINUANCE of approval for the Recycled Water Storage Committee Minutes for April 13, 2006, but unanimously approved the following recommendations from the Committee:

- **That the Board approve the contract with CDM to perform \$85,680 of Engineering Services related to the Groundwater Replenishment Project.**
- **That the Board approve pursuance of Option 3 of the Water Augmentation Project on an interim basis under direction of the General Manager and that staff propose contracts with RMC and DDA or identify the full cost needed to reimburse MCWD.**

Mr. Choates expressed discomfort with current closed session policies. He suggested policies be revised to ensure the Board is 100% informed about Committee business. Mr. Wellington explained that the recent Recycled Water Storage Committee’s Closed Session was an interim update on negotiations and meant to ensure negotiators follow correct processes. He offered assurance that any item requiring a decision would be presented to the full Board in a closed session.

7. RECOGNITION

Chair Shirrel provided recognition for the following accomplishments:

- A. Recognition of Science Fair winner Amanda Fridley, 7th grader at Junipero Serra School, for her work on “Storm Drains and On-Shore Oceanic Bacteria.”
- B. Recognition of Science Fair winner Laura Boronda, 12th grader at Salinas High School for her work on “The Effects of Seawater Intrusion on Fresh Water Pond Fauna and Flora.”
- C. Presentation of California Water Environment Association Certification of Competence as Grade II - Laboratory Analyst to Patrice Friedmann Parsons.
- D. Presentation of California Water Environment Association Certification of Competence as Grade I - Environmental Compliance Inspector to Benjamin Salas.

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Fort Ord Update

No questions or comments.

B. Reclamation Project Status Summary

Mr. Israel advised the Regional Treatment Plant tertiary process once again had a late start-up date this year, just as last year, due to the unusually long rainy season.

9. STAFF REPORTS

A. General Manager/Assist. General Manager/Legal Counsel

1. Strategic Workshop Recap: Mr. Israel provided a presentation recapping the Strategic Planning Workshop. He indicated he would welcome comments or suggestions on some of the wording of the goals. Chair Shirrel commented that the Workshop was a good study and produced valuable input.

Mr. Israel also briefed the Board on the previous week’s Special Districts Association Meeting. He advised that a key initiative included information regarding coordination and upgrading of public agency radio phones (i.e., broadband). He explained the need to convert all public agencies to the same radio frequency over the next five or six years to enable interactive planning for emergencies.

Mr. Israel commended Board Member Baird and said how much staff appreciated his assistance with the Grease Interceptor project.

Mr. Israel then called attention to recent comments about water in “Letters to the Editors” in the *Herald*. He invited the Board to review the Agency collection of articles/letters and to share any information they might have.

Mr. Israel asked the Board to note page 52 of the agenda packet, showing quarterly figures for dwelling unit hookups. He quoted the number of hookups as about 7.6% versus the expected 37.5% (based on AMBAG predictions). He advised the MRWPCA has been working closely with the City of Salinas regarding future increases in hookup activity.

Mr. Wellington advised MRWPCA has joined with Monterey County Water Resources Agency regarding the CH2M Hill copper pipe litigation. He stated a closed session with the Board is unnecessary at this time. He reported the case was moved from local Superior Court to Federal Court. He said the upcoming mediation will be with retired Supreme Court Justice Pannell in San Jose on June 8. He indicated he anticipates bringing the Board specific information regarding status of the case at a closed session at the May Board Meeting.

2. Plant Safety Award: Mr. Heitzman proudly announced MRWPCA received the CWEA Plant Safety Award and advised that ‘Safety’ is the Agency’s number one priority. Following a presentation, he shared safety history and future strategies.

Mr. Cort asked how and through whom insurance is purchased. Mr. Heitzman explained California Risk Management for Sanitation Agencies (CSRMA) provides insurance and safety expertise. Mr. Cort asked if CSRMA is the only agency selling this type of insurance. Mr. Buell explained MRWPCA is one of the founding agencies of CSRMA whose Board consists of representatives from participating agencies. He said the Board makes decisions but has hired a management firm to oversee the administration of insurance policies. Mr. Wellington further explained that the pool of waste water agencies provides the opportunity to take advantage of relatively lower group rates.

Mr. Cort asked about the probability of fire in the secondary or tertiary ponds and/or tanks. Mr. Heitzman responded the risk of fire in the secondaries is next to zero due to the water. He further explained the methane is under a pressure tank with a flare system; extra pressure or fire will cause the flare to self-ignite resulting in tall candlelit flares. He went on to explain staff is in the process of installing a remote security camera.

Mr. Israel advised the Board that several copies of the May CSRMA 2005 Annual Report are available for review.

B. Department Head(s)

Mr. Heitzman called attention to an article in *The Californian* highlighting MRWPCA employees Bill Cronin, Danny Burns, and James Dix for their participation in the “Christmas in April” program. He explained the mission of

the project is to restore/rehab homes for disadvantaged people. He emphasized that participants invest their own time and talent to help raise the quality of life for others.

Karl Klein, Source Control Inspector and Vice President of the Monterey Bay Section of the California Water Environment Association (CWEA), stepped forward to announce that Ed Oyama's daughter, Denise Oyama, a Source Control Intern with MRWPCA, was awarded a \$1,250 academic scholarship from CWEA for the 2006-2007 school year. He advised she plans to attend San Francisco State University.

10. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Cortopassi indicated that he toured the Regional Treatment Plant with Jim Heitzman and Tom Kouretas. He said in his professional opinion the contractor did a good job replacing the copper pipe with Schedule 80 PVC.

He further commented, although the Orange County Recycle Plant is impressive, MRWPCA's treatment plant is outstanding. He urged others to visit the plant and to be sure to tour the underground tanks, pump system and control system. He guaranteed the visit would evoke pride in being part of the MRWPCA Team!

Mr. Cort asked if MRWPCA has plans relative to the Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) requirements. Mr. Heitzman stressed the Agency's commitment to assisting member entities in solving any problems. As an example, he indicated for the past two years MRWPCA has run a successful pilot project to deal with Pacific Groves' summer rain and water runoff. Mr. Israel advised that Bob Jaques is helping coordinate the local storm water group to deal with storm water issues.

Mr. Choates requested the Board receive a copy of all Board Policies and Mr. Israel advised that every Board Member will receive a new *Directors' Manual* in May.

Mr. Nishi indicated the Strategic Planning Workshop was a very positive experience. He said he appreciated the opportunity to participate and felt it was of great benefit to interact with one another on a different level.

Ms. Downey, who attended the Strategic Workshop on behalf of the City of Monterey, commented that she found it exceptional. She commended the Board and Agency for their foresight in areas of biological significance. She also advised that she plans to encourage the Monterey Mayor and Vice Mayor's participation in a trip to Orange County.

Mrs. Shirrel urged Board members to review the MRWPCA 2005 *Annual Report* and take note of the number of certifications held by MRWPCA employees. She congratulated staff for the time and effort they expended obtaining their certifications.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Shirrel adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m. to the next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting in the Board Room at 5 Harris Court, Building D, on Monday, May 22, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Keith E. Israel
General Manager/Secretary to the Board

Margaret Shirrel, Ph.D.
Chair of the Board of Directors