



MINUTES
of the Regular Meeting
Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency
Board of Directors
March 26, 2007

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 Russell at 7:03 p.m., on Monday, March 26, 2007, in the Board Room at 5 Harris Court, Building D, Monterey, California

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Haferman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Joe Russell, Chair	Del Rey Oaks
Mayor Dave Pendergrass, Vice Chair	Sand City
Director Ramiro Cortez	Boronda County Sanitation District
Director David Lewis	Castroville Water District
Director Kenneth K. Nishi	Marina Coast Water District
Vice Mayor Jeff Haferman	Monterey
Director Gage Dayton	Moss Landing County Sanitation District
Mayor Dan Cort	Pacific Grove
Mayor Pro Tem Steve Bloomer	Seaside
Chief Dewey J. Baird, Utilities Branch	U.S. Army, Ex-Officio

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Supervisor Louis Calcagno	Monterey County
Mayor Pro Tem Gloria De La Rosa	Salinas

STAFF PRESENT:

Keith Israel	General Manager
Rob Wellington	Legal Counsel
John Tiernan	Director of Administrative Services
Tom Buell	Director of Finance
Betty Nebb	Executive Assistant
Lonnie Fredrickson	Administrative Support Specialist II
James Dix	WWTP Operations Manager
Karl Klein	Source Control/Safety Technician
Richard Gilliam	Supervising WWTP Operator
John Serrata	Maintenance Mechanic II
Patrice Parsons	Laboratory Analyst II
Thomas Tolerson	WWTP Operator III
Bill Young	Operations and Maintenance Supervisor

AUDIENCE:

Mrs. Richard Gilliam
Bjorn Lundquist – City of Seaside
Carl Niizawa – City of Salinas
Les Turnbeaugh – City of Monterey
Josh Cort

OTHERS: 0

4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Chair Russell introduced new Board member, Mr. Gage Dayton, representing Moss Landing County Sanitation District.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At 7:05 p.m. with no comments received from the public, Chair Russell opened and closed Public Comments.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Mr. Cort, seconded by Mr. Pendergrass, with Mr. Nishi abstaining from the vote, the Board unanimously received and approved the Consent Agenda Items A - I, as follows:

- A. Approve Minutes – Regular Meeting, February 26, 2007
- B. Receive Financial Statements – February 2007

- C. Receive Comparison Percentage of Budget Expended Through February 2007
- D. Receive Check Register – February 2007
- E. Receive Plant Flows and Effluent Quality for Connected Agencies, Plus Flow Charts for Castroville, Fort Ord, Marina, Monterey Peninsula, and Salinas for February 2007
- F. Receive Actual vs. Budgeted Fiscal Year 2006/07 Expenditures for the Capital Improvement Program and Capitalized Equipment Fund
- G. Receive Actual vs. Anticipated Fiscal Year 2006/07 Revenues from Capacity Charges
- H. Approve Award of Construction Contract for the Pump Station Grating Replacement Project
- I. Receive Board Committee Assignments for April 2007 through March 2008

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RELATED ACTION ITEMS

A. RECYCLED WATER STORAGE COMMITTEE

- 1. Receive and Approve Committee Minutes/Report of March 8, 2007

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Mr. Pendergrass, seconded by Mr. Haferman, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes/Report of the Recycled Water Storage Committee meeting for Thursday, March 8, 2007, with the following recommendation:

- That the Board note the consensus of the Committee is to authorize staff to move forward with planning for a 10th Year Anniversary to celebrate the Salinas Valley Reclamation Projects

B. BUDGET/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

- 1. Receive and Approve Committee Minutes/Report of March 12, 2007

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Cort, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes/Report of the Budget Personnel Committee meeting for Monday, March 12, 2007, with the following recommendation:

- That the Board approve contract renewal with Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP (VTD) for audit services for an additional year at a cost not to exceed \$40,000

8. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Mr. Heitzman announced that CWEA-Monterey Bay Section presented several awards to MRWPCA and staff members at an awards dinner held last month. Mr. Dix, on behalf of the Regional Treatment Plant, received the following Agency awards.

1. Appreciation for Training Venue
2. Public Education – Small Budget
3. Plant of the Year - Greater than 20 mgd

Chair Russell presented awards to each of the following individual employee awards:

1. Richard Gilliam – Supervisor of the Year
2. Karl Klein – PS3 (Pretreatment Pollution Prevention & Stormwater) Person of the Year
3. Patrice Parsons – Laboratory Person of the Year
4. John Serrato – Mechanical Technician of the Year
5. Thomas Tolerson – Operator of the Year

Mr. Heitzman also announced agency staff members newly elected to the CWEA-Monterey Bay Section Board and congratulated Karl Klein, Patrice Parsons, Jason Sinkler and Tom Kouretas for volunteering for this service.

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Fort Ord Update

No changes or comments.

B. Reclamation Project Status Summary

No changes or comments.

C. Strategic Planning Goals (2005-2008) and One-Year Objectives Update

No changes or comments.

10. STAFF REPORTS

A. General Manager/Assistant General Manager/Legal Counsel

Mr. Israel noted March has been an extremely busy month. He provided the following updates/information:

- NRWI convened the Independent Advisory Panel here in Monterey for one and one half days to review the MRWPCA Replenishment Project. The meeting seemed very productive and a final report from the panel is expected next week.

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- A MPWMD Citizen Group met earlier in the day and was very pleased to receive information regarding progress for current and proposed water projects. MRWPCA provided an update on the Monterey Peninsula Groundwater Replenishment Project. Comments indicated the consensus was that all of the projects seem very worthwhile. Mr. Baird said the group seemed very supportive of the recycled water project.
- Mr. Joel Moreno, KION reporter for a local television station, requested an interview with Mr. Israel which will be held on March 27 at the Regional Treatment Plant.
- The Strategic Planning Workshop will take place on Friday, March 30, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Members were reminded to RSVP to Betty Nebb regarding their attendance.
- City of Watsonville and Pajaro Water Management District are holding a ground-breaking ceremony for their recycled water agricultural project on Friday, March 30, at 4 p.m.
- Regarding a recent Letter to the Editor from Mr. James Smallwood questioning the safety of our recycled water, Mr. Israel provided a response which was printed in the Herald. Copies of the article are available.

B. Department Head(s)

No comments or questions.

C. Presentation(s)

Mr. Heitzman introduced Mr. James Dix, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Manager, who provided the 2006 Annual Report which highlighted the recycled water production and permit compliance. He stated 3.61 billion gallons of recycled water was produced in 2006. This year production will start late due to the later rains.

Following the presentation, Chair Russell asked about the level of the Agency's compliance and Mr. Dix responded the plant is 100% compliant with regional, state and national regulations.

Mr. Haferman asked what percent of recycled water (produced in 2006) was going to the ocean and what percent to agricultural crops. Mr. Dix advised that all of the recycled water goes to agriculture – only secondary effluent goes to the ocean.

Mr. Cort asked if an aquifer could be recharged with recycled water. Mr. Israel advised there are some cases where tertiary water can be used; however, reverse osmosis treated water is the most effective.

Mr. Dayton asked about the type of water being discharged to the ocean and Mr. Israel responded that tertiary water is used above ground and water discharged to the ocean is secondary treated water – it is not disinfected to avoid any impact on marine life.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Board of Supervisors of Monterey County appointing Mr. Gage Dayton to represent Moss Landing County Sanitation District for the MRWPCA Board of Directors.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Pendergrass reported that he and Mr. Israel traveled to Washington, D.C., last week to talk with California senators, congressman and lobbyists, regarding funding opportunities for the replenishment project. He said they were well prepared and it was his belief our presentations were very effective. Mr. Israel confirmed the meetings went well. He said that because Title 16 funding through the Bureau of Reclamation has been nearly depleted and takes longer to get, we are exploring another innovative option that looks promising. The concept was well received and everyone seemed to like the replenishment project.

Mr. Bloomer noted the evening's agenda was not posted on the website and asked if any thought had been given to placing staff reports and other documents related to the agenda packet on the website. Mr. Israel advised agendas are typically posted in advance of the meeting date and said he would look into whether there was a technical glitch in this case.

Mr. Wellington referenced Agenda Item 10.A under Staff Reports. He stated there may have been a possible violation of the Brown Act in connection with the election of the Vice Chair last month. As a result, he said re-election of the Vice Chair would be placed on next month's agenda as an item for the Board's consideration to cure and correct any potential violation of the act.

[At 7:30 p.m., Chair Russell adjourned Open Session. At 7:34 p.m., he convened Closed Session.]

13. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

A. Negotiations with Monterey County Water Resources Agency

- i. Property: Water Rights
- ii. Negotiator(s): General Manager, Keith Israel
- iii. Negotiating Party: MCWRA
- iv. Terms: All Terms and Conditions

[Mr. Nishi excused himself from Closed Session Item B.]

B. Negotiations with Marina Coast Water District

- i. Property: Water Rights
- ii. Negotiator(s): Joe Russell, Dave Pendergrass and General Manager, Keith Israel
- iii. Negotiating Party: Marina Coast Water District
- iv. Terms: All Terms and Conditions

[At 8:17 p.m., the Board came back into Open Session and Legal Counsel Wellington announced the Board received information and gave direction to the General Manager and Legal Counsel. No other action was taken.]

14. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Russell adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m. to the next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting on Monday, April 30, 2007 at 7 p.m.

Keith E. Israel, General Manager
Secretary to the Board

Mayor Joseph Russell, Chair
MRWPCA Board of Directors