



**APPROVED**  
**April 28, 2008**

**MINUTES**  
**of the Regular Meeting**  
**Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency**  
**Board of Directors**  
**March 31, 2008**

**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 31, 2008, in the Board Room at 5 Harris Court, Building D, Monterey, California.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Cort led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Joe Russell, Chair	Del Rey Oaks, Mayor
Dave Pendergrass, Vice Chair	Sand City, Mayor
Ramiro Cortez	Boronda County Sanitation District
Ron Stefani	Castroville Water District, President
Kenneth Nishi	Marina Coast Water District, Vice President
Lou Calcagno	Monterey County, Supervisor
Gage Dayton	Moss Landing County Sanitation District
Dan Cort	Pacific Grove, Mayor
Steve Bloomer	Seaside, Mayor Pro Tem
Vacant – Ex-Officio	U.S. Army, Representative

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jeff Haferman	Monterey, Councilmember
Gloria De La Rosa	Salinas, Mayor Pro Tem

**MRWPCA STAFF PRESENT:**

Keith Israel	General Manager
Rob Wellington	Legal Counsel
John Tiernan	Director of Administrative Services
Tom Buell	Director of Finance
Jennifer Gonzalez	Lead Engineer
Bob Holden	Recycled Water Projects Coordinator
Bill Young	Plant Maintenance Supervisor
James Dix	WWTP Operations Supervisor
Karen Harris	Community Relations Specialist
Mark Malanka	Field Maintenance Manager
Silvia Burnett	Laboratory Analyst II
Jess Chacon	Reclamation Distribution/Operator
Jaclyn Dlhos	Laboratory Analyst I
Patrice Friedmann Parsons	Laboratory Supervisor
Kyle Snyder	Maintenance Mechanic in Training
Steve Rodewald	Lead Field Maintenance Mechanic
Leara Ventura	Administrative Support Specialist II
Betty Nebb	Executive Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Carl Niizawa – City of Salinas  
Les Turnbeaugh – City of Monterey  
Tim O'Halloran – City of Seaside  
Ryan Shaw – Communications Planners  
Sophie Snyder

**4. SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Ms. Jennifer Gonzalez, Lead Engineer, presented a rebate check for \$54,984 from PG&E representing money that will be saved through use of our new Biosolids Dewatering Facility. This project was put together by our former Lead Engineer, Ed Oyama, and HDR Consulting. The rebate represents about 10 cents for every kilowatt hour anticipated to be saved annually. Chair Russell accepted the check on behalf of the agency. Mr. Israel acknowledged staff for recognizing the opportunity for this rebate and also noted it demonstrates that this new technology is very reliable and provides a real dollar savings in energy to MRWPCA. He expressed congratulations to everyone who worked on this project

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Tiernan indicated a duplicate page was printed in the check register and requested Board members note that page 34/35 should be deleted.

**ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Mr. Cort, seconded by Mr. Bloomer, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda, Items A through I as follows:**

- A. Approve Minutes – Regular Meetings: January 28 and February 25, 2008**
- B. Receive Financial Statements – January 2008 (revised) and February 2008**
- C. Receive Comparison Percentage of Budget Expended Through February 2008**
- D. Receive Check Register – February 2008**
- E. Receive Plant Flows and Effluent Quality for Connected Agencies, Plus Flow Charts for Salinas, Monterey Peninsula, Marina Plant, Fort Ord, and Castroville for February 2008**
- F. Receive Actual vs. Budgeted Fiscal Year 2007/08 Expenditures for the Capital Improvement Program and Capitalized Equipment Fund**
- G. Receive Actual vs. Anticipated Fiscal Year 2007/08 Revenues from Capacity Charges**
- H. Receive Board Committee Assignments for April 2008 through March 2009**
- I. Approve Purchase of 175 kW Skid-Mounted Diesel Generator for Coral Pump Station**

**7. SPECIAL PRESENTATION TO BOARD**

**A. Sustainable Water Supply Program for Monterey County**

Chair Russell introduced Mr. Steve Kasower of the Center for Integrated Water Research at University of California-Santa Cruz, representing the Division of Ratepayers Advocates (DRA) of California Public Utilities Commission (PUC). Mr. Kasower narrated the presentation regarding the sustainable water supply program for Monterey County.

Mr. Kasower explained the DRA of California PUC is an independent body that looks after the ratepayers of private water/electric/telephone utilities. The Center for Integrated Water Research was asked to assist the DRA in evaluating the Coastal Water Project proposed by Cal Am and during that process there became

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an opportunity to look regionally to consider a more economic solution that would better provide the community with reliable water supplies. During this last year a very diverse group that included elected officials, general managers of agencies, representatives from NGO's, and public members worked to develop an overview for a regional water supply plan. The presentation that followed highlighted the various aspects of that proposed plan.

Mr. Kasower explained the California PUC is conducting an EIR according to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regarding the two Cal Am projects: the Moss Landing site that uses the ocean intakes of the old power plant and a 12,500 acre foot facility in north Marina that would use slant well technology. The Regional Plan has been added to consideration so now the PUC has three alternatives to consider. The challenge is to complete all the detail that is required under the CEQA on each of the components of the regional plan.

Mr. Kasower stated if the local communities/entities commit to regional cooperation to develop this regional plan, the key objective will be to have Project Level documentation for all projects in the regional plan completed and submitted to the PUC for their review by the end of May.

Mr. Pendergrass commented MRWPCA's Replenishment Project should be part of the regional plan and that use of the recycled water must include the process to replenish the Seaside Basin. Mr. Kasower confirmed the project was one of the top priorities for the regional plan, the highest opportunity for using the majority of the recycled water, and that it would be part of the EIR.

Mr. Calcagno expressed concern regarding the pumping of brackish water and the possibility of continued seawater intrusion. He continued with comments about the Salinas River rubber dam and the possibility of utilizing the 10 to 20 thousand acre feet of river water that end up flowing to the ocean. Mr. Calcagno questioned the need for a desalination plant. Mr. Kasower responded the REPOG looks at desal as a back stop. After considering all the other opportunities, if there is still a need for water, that's when we begin to look at desal.

Mr. Dayton asked about the modeling created for pumping the brackish wells and about additional intrusion of salt water by removing some of that fresh water. Mr. Kasower addressed the proposed inverse seawater barrier and discussion followed to clarify how pulling out brackish water would not create additional seawater intrusion. He continued stating wells will not be located inland but would be along the coast and then some 50 yards inland, operating within the intruded area. Discussion followed regarding the wells and location.

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Mr. Calcagno stated the cost of water for the growers and others remains a concern and Mr. Kasower responded the costs are critical to the plan – the economics have to work for everyone.

Mr. Russell expressed support for the Salinas River rubber dam, but stated the unpredictability of how much water would be coming from the river every year depends on the weather. Mr. Calcagno explained some of the history of the river project referring to the changes in river flow over the years.

Mr. Kasower agreed that river water has a greater unreliability through time than desal or conservation or recycling projects which are basically drought resistant. However, he confirmed the regional plan analysis will demonstrate why one approach is more reliable than another.

Mr. Kasower thanked the members for the opportunity to give this presentation and Chair Russell expressed appreciation to him for answering questions to clarify the regional plan.

**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RELATED ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Recycled Water Storage Committee**

- 1. Receive and Approve Committee Minutes/Report of Special RWSC Meeting, Friday, February 22, 2008**
- 2. Receive and Approve Committee Minutes/Report of Special RWSC Meeting, Monday, March 3, 2008**
- 3. Receive and Approve Committee Minutes/Report of RWSC Meeting, Thursday, March 13, 2008**

Mr. Pendergrass explained two meetings of the Recycled Water Storage Committee were Special Meetings called for Closed Session discussions. The Regular Meeting was held on March 13 and the minutes accurately reflect the action taken by the Committee.

**ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Mr. Calcagno, seconded by Mr. Cort, the Board unanimously approved the Recycled Water Storage Committee Minutes for February 22, March 3, and March 13, 2008, with the following recommendations:**

- **That the Board approve a 12-month extension of our agreement with ENS Resources at \$6,000/month plus expenses.**

- That the Board approve \$28,080 to TRG & Associates for continuation of the outreach activities.
- That the Board approve the Joint Regional Water Supply MOU as amended.

**B. Budget/Personnel Committee**

1. **Receive and Approve Committee Minutes/Report, Monday, March 10, 2008**

**ACTION TAKEN:** On a motion by Mr. Pendergrass, seconded by Mr. Bloomer, the Board approved the Budget/Personnel Committee Minutes for Monday, March 10, 2008, with the following recommendations:

- That the Board approve the contract for audit services with Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co. be renewed for an additional year at a cost of \$40,000, the same cost as the previous year.
  - That the Board approve recruiting internally for the Maintenance Supervisor position. This position would cost approximately \$5,000 for remainder of the year.
2. **Review and Approve the Memoranda from General Manager to Consider Deputy General Manager Position with a recommendation as follows:**
    - That the Board re-title the Director of Administrative Services position to include the Deputy General Manager title, as well as a revised Salary Range of 81.

**9. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

**A. Employee Certification of Competence from California Water Environment Association**

Chair Russell presented CWEA certifications to the following employees:

1. Silvia Burnett - Environmental Compliance Inspector, Grade I
2. Jess Chacon – Laboratory Analyst, Grade I
3. Jaclyn Dlhos – Laboratory Analyst, Grade II
4. Patrice Friedmann-Parsons – Laboratory Analyst, Grade III
5. Michael Lamont – Plant Maintenance Technologist, Grade I (not present)
6. Kyle Snyder – Plant Maintenance Technologist, Grade I
7. Steven Rodewald – Mechanical Technologist, Grade III

**10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**A. Fort Ord Update**

No questions or comments.

**B. Reclamation Project Status Summary**

No questions or comments.

**C. Strategic Planning Goals (2005-2008)**

No questions or comments.

**11. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. General Manager/Legal Counsel**

Mr. Israel stated the new Assistant General Manager, Brad Hagemann, would be joining the Agency on April 14<sup>th</sup>, in two weeks. Mr. Israel also explained information had been forwarded to all Board Members referring to recent news articles regarding pharmaceuticals in drinking water. He indicated this is a very important issue and something we monitor very carefully.

He stated bids for the MCWRA Salinas Valley Water Project Rubber Dam came in under the cost estimates, and that is particularly good news for this project.

Mr. Israel announced Jean Premutati, Human Resources Officer, would be leaving our agency; she has accepted a position at Marina Coast Water District.

**B. Department Heads**

No report.

**C. Presentation: Annual Treatment Plant Performance Report**

Mr. James Dix, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Manager, provided a summary of the 2007 Annual Report discussing recycled water production, 100% permit compliance and increased biosolids efficiency. This year 4.31 billion gallons of recycled water (about 13,221 AF) was produced mostly through the months of April and September. He reported that recycled water production since the plant came on line in 1999 to 2007 has resulted in 35.1 billion gallons of water and greatly reduced seawater intrusion as a result of the irrigation that is now possible. He discussed the remaining charts which illustrated the efficiency of the treatment operations in permit compliance, suspended solids and CBOD removal, average SVRP filter turbidity, and operation of the FKC Screw Presses. In all cases operations are performing substantially better than minimum requirements/regulations.

Mr. Nishi asked for clarification on the average effluent flow for 2007 and commented that the old belt press once belonged to MCWD. Mr. Dix explained it had been taken out of service in October 2007 after ten years of use.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Russell commented on the letter from Castroville Community Services District announcing the change of the District name and appointment of Mr. Ron Stefani to the MRWPCA Board.

**13. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

No comments.

[Chair Russell adjourned Open Session at 8:07 pm.]

**14. CLOSED SESSION**

[At 8:15 p.m., Chair Russell called Closed Session to order.]

[Mr. Nishi excused himself from the Closed Session, Item A.]

**A. Negotiations with Marina Coast Water District**

- i. Property: Easements, Rights-of-Way, Pipelines and Appurtenances, Water Rights and Improvements to Real Property**
- ii. Negotiator(s): Joe Russell, Dave Pendergrass and General Manager Keith Israel**
- iii. Negotiating Party: Marina Coast Water District**
- iv. Term: All Terms and Conditions**

[At 8:40 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.]

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Chair Russell adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting in the Board Room at 5 Harris Court, Building D, on Monday, April 28, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

*/s/ Keith Israel*

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Keith E. Israel, General Manager  
Secretary to the Board

*/s/ Joseph Russell*

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Joseph Russell, Chair  
MRWPCA Board of Directors