MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013.

A regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was held Thursday, September 12, 2013, at the Palmdale Water District at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale. Chair Mac Laren called the meeting to order.

1) Pledge of Allegiance.

At the request of Chair Mac Laren, Commissioner Alvarado led the pledge of allegiance.

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:	**Others Present:**
Kathy Mac Laren, Chair	Matt Knudson, General Manager
Barbara Hogan, Vice Chair	Tom Barnes, Controller
Leo Thibault, Treasurer-Auditor	Brad Bones, LCID General Manager
Andy Rutledge, Secretary	George Lane, Alt. Commissioner
Robert Alvarado, Commissioner	Dawn Deans, Executive Assistant
Keith Dyas, Commissioner	4 members of the public

3) Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda.

There were no public comments.

4) Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting Held April 18, 2013.

It was moved by Commissioner Alvarado, seconded by Commissioner Rutledge, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held April 18, 2013, as written.

5) Payment of Bills.

After a brief discussion of the bills, of the funds for payment of the bills, of general staff time versus grant funding staff time, and of clarification of RMC Water and Environment's invoices, it was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Rutledge, and unanimously carried to ratify the bills received from PWD in the total amount of $1,303.94, from AVEK in the total amount of $1,817.84, from The

United States Department of the Interior in the amount of $28,025.00, from IES in the amount of $294.00, from RMC Water and Environment in the total amount of $49,730.17, and from AAD/Lake LA/Rosamond News in the amount of $132.30.

6) Consideration and Possible Action on 2013/2014 Budget. (General Manager Knudson)

General Manager Knudson stated that staff did not have all information available to prepare year-end financials and anticipates this information will be available for consideration at the next meeting.

7) Consideration and Possible Action on Joint Funding Agreement for Continuation of the Cooperative Water Resources Program Between AVSWCA and USGS for the Period November 1, 2013 to October 31, 2014. (General Manager Knudson)

General Manager Knudson provided an overview of the tasks included in the Joint Funding Agreement for groundwater monitoring in the Antelope Valley after which Mr. Robert Blanchard and Mr. Nick Teague, of USGS, reviewed the Joint Funding Agreement tasks in detail and the options available through contour mapping and their interactive website.

After a further discussion of presenting previous Joint Funding Agreement groundwater monitoring results to the Association, selection of the wells for the groundwater monitoring, payment options, and the adjudication process, it was moved by Commissioner Dyas and seconded by Commissioner Alvarado to approve the Joint Funding Agreement for continuation of the Cooperative Water Resources Program between the AVSWCA and USGS for the period November 1, 2013 to October 31, 2014 including Task No.'s 1, 2, 3A, and 3B, with the payment for Task No.'s 3A and 3B spread over a two year period.

After a further discussion of the costs included in the Joint Funding Agreement and of the Association's budget, it was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Rutledge, and unanimously carried to table the motion until the next meeting.

General Manager Bones requested rough costs for each agency to participate in this Agreement, as well as an anticipated cost for the third year, be prepared.

8) Consideration and Possible Action on Regional Control of Water From the State Water Project. (General Manager Knudson)

General Manager Knudson stated that a draft agreement for regional control of water from the State Water Project has been prepared for submittal to the Department of Water Resources and has been discussed among the legal firms for the three member agencies and then requested the Commissioners direct their respective legal counsels to dedicate the time toward this effort.

9) Update on Palmdale Water District's Littlerock Creek Recharge and Recovery Project. (General Manager Knudson)

General Manager Knudson stated that the Association has been discussing conducting a joint recharge project on the east side of the Antelope Valley; that PWD has taken the lead on a Littlerock Creek Recharge and Recovery Project, and a recommendation on a consultant contract for completing the Feasibility Study for this Project will be presented to PWD's Board for consideration in late September; that as the Project progresses, PWD will approach LCID and AVEK to become potential partners, and the RFP outlining the scope of work has been provided to AVEK and LCID agency staff; and that PWD will keep the member agencies and the Association up-to-date on the progress of this Project.

Commissioner Dyas then stated that AVEK would be happy to discuss partnering in this project followed by discussion of recharge options, recovery, and previous recharge efforts in this area.

10) Consideration and Possible Action on Agency Interest in Funding a Feasibility Study for Development of a Joint Recharge/Water Banking Project on the East Side of the Antelope Valley. (General Manager Knudson)

General Manager Knudson stated that this project is towards Big Rock Creek and that he recommends the Littlerock Creek Recharge and Recovery Project progress and potentially be expanded towards Big Rock Creek.

Commissioner Dyas then stated that AVEK is very interested in this project and then announced that AVEK is in the early stages of developing an 80 acre water bank near their eastside water treatment plant; that the purpose of this project is for both storage and water quality; that AVEK would be happy to discuss expansion of this

project with potential partners; and then requested PWD and LCID consider this opportunity.

After a brief discussion of the direction of this item and of tax-defaulted properties, General Manager Knudson stated that he will discuss this item in more detail with legal counsel during discussions on regional control of water from the State Water Project.

11) Report of General Manager.

a) Updated Contact List for Commissioners and Staff.

General Manager Knudson stated that an updated contact list has been included in the agenda packets.

b) Update on Antelope Valley IRWMP.

General Manager Knudson stated that the Association has an agreement with the Department of Water Resources for a $480,000 grant to fund the AVIRWMP update; that the IRWMP Advisory Team reviewed a list of approximately 40 different projects submitted by the various agencies for potential funding under this grant; that these projects will be scored and ranked as an IRWMP requirement and presented at the upcoming stakeholder's meeting for approval; and that PWD submitted three projects for potential funding being the Littlerock Sediment Removal Project, the Littlerock Creek Groundwater and Recharge Recover Project, and expansion of the recycled water distribution system through the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority after which Controller Barnes stated that AVEK submitted four projects for potential funding being the Eastside Banking and Blending Project, the Southern Antelope Valley Intertie Project, the Water Supply Stabilization Program westside expansion, and the Water Resource Strategic Plan for current and future projects and provided an overview and location of each of these projects.

Commissioner Dyas then encouraged partners for AVEK's banking projects.

c) Update on Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Antelope Valley.

General Manager Knudson stated that the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan will be part of the IRWMP; that a policy was set in 2009 for basins to review salt loading within the basin primarily due to the expanding use of recycled water; and that a draft of this Plan has been distributed and work is progressing.

d) Update on Prop. 84 and 1E Grant Applications.

General Manager Knudson stated that the Prop 84 grant was for the Boron Community Services District's arsenic clean-up project and that the scoring results have been postponed until October.

He then reported that the Prop 1E grant was for the Littlerock Dam Sediment Removal Project; that this Project did not score high enough to be included in the funding group as there was not enough downstream flood prevention benefit; but that the information in this grant application may be used in an upcoming Prop 84 grant opportunity.

12) Report of Controller.

Controller Barnes stated that he has no further report.

14) Reports of Commissioners.

Commissioner Thibault stated that he sees great value in the Association's website if information is posted on the website; that he wants to ensure that Controller Barnes has the support needed to ensure the website is continuously updated; that he is disappointed in the current website content as nothing new has been posted since April; and then requested that Controller Barnes inform the Commissioners of the tools needed to ensure the website content is accurate and up-to-date as the website is not needed if current information is not posted; that the Commissioners review the website within the next month and brainstorm content ideas; and that this matter be included on the next agenda for consideration.

Commissioner Alvarado then recommended past, current, and upcoming events be posted on the Association's website.

Commissioner Rutledge reported that he is extremely pleased with the work among the three agencies to secure water supplies for each agency; that this is

accomplished so much better when the agencies are working together to make sure the entire Antelope Valley is taken care of; that he is pleased to hear the items discussed this evening; and that there may be joint projects coming in the future.

Commissioner Dyas stated that he agrees with Commissioner Rutledge's comments; that he is very excited to see specific projects for partnering; that he is looking forward to the development of these projects; and that if not for this Association, AVEK's agreement with PWD to supply water to the community of Acton would not have been possible.

Chair Mac Laren stated that she also agrees with Commissioner Rutledge's comments and that she looks forward to seeing these joint projects move forward so all areas around the agencies are taken care of for water supply.

14) Report of Attorney.

No attorney was present.

15) Commission Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

Commissioner Thibault requested "Consideration and possible action on the Association's website" be included on the next agenda.

There were no further requests for future agenda items.

16) Consideration and Possible Action on Scheduling the Next Association Meeting.

It was determined that the next regular meeting of the Association will be held October 10, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at PWD.

17) Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was adjourned.

Andy Rutledge
Secretary