

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, APRIL 20, 2011.

A regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was held Wednesday, April 20, 2011, at the Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency at 6500 West Avenue N, Palmdale. Vice Chair Dexter called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1) Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chair Dexter led the pledge of allegiance.

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:

Gordon Dexter, Vice Chair
Leo Thibault, Treasurer-Auditor
Andy Rutledge, Secretary
George Lane, Commissioner

Linda Godin, Chair --
Barbara Hogan, Commissioner --

EXCUSED ABSENCE

Others Present:

Matt Knudson, Interim General Manager
Tom Barnes, Controller
Mike Riddell, Attorney
Brad Bones, LCID General Manager
Dan Flory, AVEK General Manager
Dave Rizzo, AVEK Alt. Commissioner
Dawn Deans, Executive Assistant
25 members of the public

3) Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda.

Mr. Gordon Phair, Utility Services Manager for the City of Palmdale, distributed copies of the IRWMP grant application for \$6 million in Prop. 1E funds for the City of Palmdale's Upper Amargosa Creek Recharge Project to the Commissioners for review and then gave a brief overview of the project and its location and stated that he is available to answer any questions about the project or provide information if anyone is interested in recharging.

There were no further public comments.

4) Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting Held March 10, 2011.

It was moved by Commissioner Lane, seconded by Commissioner Rutledge, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 10, 2011, as written.

5) Payment of Bills.

Commissioner Thibault reviewed the bills received for payment and then moved to pay the bills received from The Rogee Company in the amount of \$90.00 for the website subscription; United States Geological Survey in the amount of \$14,262.50 for cooperative water resources investigations in the AVSWCA area; PWD in the amount of \$989.40 for staff services; and AVEK in the amount of \$564.38 for staff services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rutledge and unanimously carried.

Commissioner Thibault then moved to approve payment to RMC Water and Environment in the amount of \$3,715.69 from restricted funds for professional engineering services for work on the City of Palmdale Prop. 1E Upper Amargosa Creek project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rutledge and unanimously carried.

6) Community Outreach Meeting for AVEK's Mitigation and Monitoring Plan WSSP-2 Project. (AVEK Assistant General Manager Flood)

AVEK Assistant General Manager Flood and Controller Barnes stated that providing a forum for public comment and questions on AVEK's WSSP-2 Project is a requirement for this Project; that a detailed monitoring plan must also be developed and expansion of the capacity of the bank will require additional monitoring; and that this is one of many public outreach meetings for this project.

Ms. Kim Fielder, of AECOM, then gave an overview of the biological and cultural resources requirements for the WSSP-2 Project, the environmental and cultural resources training that has taken place, the species that have been evaluated for the area, and the mosquito abatement plan that is in place after which Mr. Chris Martin, of AECOM, gave an overview of the mitigated negative declaration requirement for groundwater monitoring for this project, which includes monitoring the level of the water surface underground, the quality of water, and the vadose zone.

The constituents to be monitored were then questioned after which Mr. Martin distributed a list of constituents to be monitored.

7) 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. (Interim General Manager Knudson)

Interim General Manager Knudson stated that he has discussed the feasibility of a recharge project on the East side of the Antelope Valley with each of the General Managers from the three member agencies; that before a recommendation is brought to the Commissioners, items to consider include PWD's programmatic EIR for their Strategic Water Resources Plan, which includes a Plan to develop a recharge project within the upper and lower Littlerock Creeks, and prior to entering into any type of a joint project for further development of Littlerock, PWD would like this process complete followed by a meeting with AVEK and LCID to discuss a joint project; that it was also recommended that the 2002 Stetson Report that looked at various recharge locations throughout the Antelope Valley, including Big Rock Creek, be revisited, and he will discuss this option with each of the General Managers; and that the USGS proposal submitted to the Commission at the last meeting will also be reconsidered.

Commissioner Thibault then stated that Littlerock and Big Rock Creek are proven recharge areas and requested the location of recovery wells be incorporated in this process after which Interim General Manager Knudson stated that recovery wells and infrastructure for recovery wells can be included in the scope of work if it is determined to expand the Stetson Report.

Commissioner Lane then requested the Stetson Report be reviewed and the Commissioners be advised of the conclusion of this Report.

8) Consideration and Possible Action on Regional Control of Water From the State Water Project. (Commissioner Lane)

Commissioner Lane stated that this involves local control of State Water Project use to allow more flexibility among AVEK, PWD, and LCID as the area State Water Contractors so transfers within the Antelope Valley can be made among the three agencies rather than obtaining state approval and that if the Commissioners felt it appropriate, staff could be directed to look into this option.

The frequency of these transfers, the 2007 AVEK storage of 400 acre feet of water in PWD's area for the benefit of Los Angeles County Waterworks District and the issues with the state on this storage, and the importance of local control as the agencies look at banking projects was then discussed after which Commissioner Lane requested this item remain on the agenda for the next meeting for discussion and possible approval.

The importance of streamlining this process, placing priority on this matter, the increased allocation from the State Water Project, more opportunities for water banking, and resources for helping obtain local control were then discussed.

9) Consideration and Possible Action on Task Order No. 5 for Administrative Services Provided by the Palmdale Water District. (Interim General Manager Knudson)

After a brief discussion of Task Order No. 5, it was moved by Commissioner Rutledge, seconded by Commissioner Thibault, and unanimously carried to approve Task Order No. 5 for Administrative Services provided by the Palmdale Water District.

10) Report of Interim General Manager.

Interim General Manager Knudson stated that a copy of the commitment letter received from the Department of Water Resources for the Prop. 84 Planning Grant Funding for the IRWMP was included with the agenda packets and requested items will be provided.

11) Report of Controller.

Controller Barnes stated that he has no further report.

12) Report of Attorney.

Attorney Riddell stated that he has no report.

He then commented that Department of Water Resources approval is currently needed if AVEK and PWD transfer water back and forth from the State Water Project; that if both agencies put water in the ground in the same location, the water is comingled, there is no way to track who put the water in, and transfers occur out of necessity; that because the water is comingled, these become short term transfers and a bookkeeping function; and that the only area of concern for the Department of Water Resources is that the books balance later, which is an administrative function of the water bank.

13) Reports of Commissioners.

Commissioner Rutledge stated that he was absent from the last meeting and then complimented Interim General Manager Knudson and welcomed him aboard.

There were no further reports of Commissioners.

14) Commission Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

Commissioner Lane questioned whether or not the Association should be involved with monitoring stations on Big Rock and Littlerock Creeks and after discussion of these monitoring stations, requested an item be placed on the next agenda for "Status report on monitoring stations at Littlerock and Big Rock Creeks."

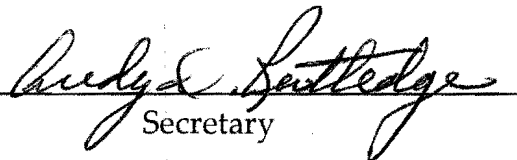
There were no further requests for future agenda items.

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

It was determined that the next regular meeting of the Association will be held May 19, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at PWD.

16) Adjournment.

Commissioner Rutledge thanked the public for attending the meeting, and 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 at 7:10 p.m.


Secretary