A regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was held Thursday, January 8, 2015, at the Palmdale Water District at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale. Chair Hogan called the meeting to order.

1) Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Hogan led the pledge of allegiance.

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:  Barbara Hogan, Chair  
Robert Alvarado, Vice Chair  
Leo Thibault, Treas.-Auditor  
Neal Weisenberger, Secretary  
Keith Dyas, Cmsnr.  
Kathy Mac Laren, Cmsnr.

Others Present:  Matt Knudson, General Manager  
Tom Barnes, Controller  
Travis Berglund, LCID General Mngr.  
Dwayne Chisam, AVEK Asst. General Mngr.  
Dennis Hoffmeyer, Senior Accountant  
Danielle Henry, Administrative Assistant  
1 member of the public

3) Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda.

There were no public comments.

4) Consideration and Possible Action on Minutes of Regular Meeting Held October 9, 2014.

It was moved by Commissioner Weisenberger, seconded by Commissioner Alvarado, and carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held October 9, 2014, as written.

5) Payment of Bills.

Commissioner Thibault reviewed the bills received for payment and then moved to pay the bills received from Palmdale Water District in the amounts of $692.17 and $1,000.27 for staff services and from Interactive Educational Services, Inc. in the amount of $558.00 for monthly website service charges from July, 2014 through June, 2015. The
motion was seconded by Commissioner Mac Laren and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting.

Commissioner Thibault then reviewed and moved to approve the bill received for payment from RMC Water and Environment in the amount of $1,334.00 for the Prop. 84, Round 3 Grant Application Process. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mac Laren and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting.

Commissioner Thibault then requested that the invoice received from AVEK in the amount of $2,679.16 for staff charges be revised to clarify staff time associated with the Landscaping for Water Conservation Expo held November 1, 2014 and resubmitted for consideration with the next agenda.

6) Discussion on Lead Sponsor for a Landscaping for Water Conservation Expo at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds on November 1, 2014. (Controller Barnes/Commissioner Weisenberger)

General Manager Knudson recommended that Agenda Item No. 6 be considered later in the meeting with Agenda Item No. 8 after which President Hogan stated that Agenda Item No. 7 will now be considered.

7) Discussion and Possible Action on Booth at Antelope Valley Board of Trade Business Outlook Conference on February 27, 2015. (General Manager Knudson)

After a brief discussion of the benefits of participating at the Antelope Valley Board of Trade Business Outlook Conference, it was moved by Commissioner Mac Laren and seconded by Commissioner Dyas to approve $400.00 for an Exhibit Booth at the Antelope Valley Board of Trade Business Outlook Conference on February 27, 2015.

Commissioner Thibault then amended the motion to include staff time, the amended motion was seconded by Commissioner Mac Laren, and it was unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting to approve $400.00 for an Exhibit Booth at the Antelope Valley Board of Trade Business Outlook Conference on February 27, 2015 including staff time.
6) Discussion on Lead Sponsor for a Landscaping for Water Conservation Expo at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds on November 1, 2014. (Controller Barnes/Commissioner Weisenberger)

8) Discussion on Regional Water Conservation Efforts. (Commissioner Weisenberger)

Controller Barnes provided a detailed presentation recapping the Landscaping for Water Conservation Expo held November 1, 2014 including the purpose, the partners, future partners, the types and effectiveness of the advertisement, the presenters, the participants, the public attendance and comments, ways to improve for future events, and the total event costs.

After a brief discussion of hosting future Landscaping for Water Conservation Expos and of the community benefits, it was determined that each member agency bring this item to their Board for consideration of participation and financial contribution after which General Manager Knudson stated that this item and a new item to divide the costs of the Landscaping for Water Conservation Expo held November 1, 2014 will be added to the next agenda.

Commissioner Weisenberger then inquired on the interest in participation at the Antelope Valley Home Show on March 27-29, 2015, and after a brief discussion of the minimal costs and planning time, staff was directed to move forward with the application and planning for participation at the Antelope Valley Home Show to be held March 27-29, 2015 and that an item be placed on the next agenda to ratify the expenses involved.

The “Landscape Plants for the California High Desert” booklet and the outdated GardenSoft CD “Beautiful High Desert Gardening” were then briefly discussed after which staff was directed to work with the General Manager of each member agency to discuss options for developing a new landscaping booklet, CD, and mobile application.

9) 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, 2014 to October 31, 2015. (General Manager Knudson)
Mr. Robert Blanchard, of the United States Geological Survey, provided a presentation on the work performed within the last year under the existing Joint Funding Agreement including the selection of wells for groundwater level and water quality monitoring, their water level contour map, and the interactive website.

After a brief discussion of the adjudication process, of future Water Master responsibilities, and of available grant funding, it was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Mac Laren, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting to approve the Joint Funding Agreement for Continuation of the Cooperative Water Resources Program between AVSWCA and USGS for the period November 1, 2014 to October 31, 2015 in the amount of $90,050.00.

10) Consideration and Possible Action to Authorize the Commission Chair to Execute an Attorney Conflict of Interest Waiver with the Attorney from each Member Agency (General Manager Knudson)

General Manager Knudson reviewed the recommendation provided by Attorney Lemieux after which it was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Mac Laren, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting to authorize the Commission Chair to execute an Attorney Conflict of Interest Waiver with the Attorney from each member agency pending the language drafted by all three Attorneys.


a) Update on Revenue, Expenditures and Change in Net Position.

Senior Accountant Hoffmeyer provided a brief update of the Association’s Revenue, Expenditures and Change in Net Position.

b) Update on Antelope Valley Prop. 84, Round 3 Grant Application.

General Manager Knudson reported that the Los Angeles County Waterworks Well Arsenic Removal Project was approved by the Department of Water Resources and awarded $1.7 million dollars towards the Project’s capital costs.
c) Update on Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Stakeholders Meetings.

General Manager Knudson then reported that the next Antelope Valley Integrated Water Management Planning Stakeholders meeting is scheduled for January 14 at 9 a.m. at the Farm Bureau in Palmdale and extended an invitation for the Commissioners to attend.

He then reported that the California Water Boards accepted the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin on November 12, 2014.

d) Update on California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program.

General Manager Knudson then reported that information provided to the Department of Water Resources satisfied the requirements of the CASGEM Program and that adjustments have been made to coordinate the wells of this Program with the USGS Cooperative Water Resources Program.


Controller Barnes reported that the 60% design drawings for the Upper Amargosa Recharge and Habitat Restoration Project are currently under reviewed by the Project Partners.

He then provided an update on the changes made to the Association’s website including the addition of informational links, Commissioner log-in information, and the agenda location followed by discussion of the preferred method for receiving future meeting agendas.

12) Reports of Commissioners.

Commissioner Weisenberger reported that the Antelope Valley Water Partners first Smart Landscaping Workshop of 2105 will be on Fruit Trees at the Antelope Valley College on January 17 at 9:00 a.m.
Commissioner Mac Laren inquired on potential interest for the ACWA Region 8 Board Member position and stated she is interested in reviewing the application for the position.

Commissioner Thibault reported that he recently attended a presentation on the help CalWARN provided for the Napa Valley earthquake disaster and requested that CalWARN membership information be provided at a future meeting.


There was no attorney present.

14) Commission Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

It was determined that "Consideration and Possible Action on Financial Contribution for the Landscaping for Water Conservation Expo held at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds on November 1, 2014" and "Consideration and Possible Action on Future Landscaping for Water Conservation Expos" and "Presentation on CalWARN Membership" be added to next the agenda.

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 February 19, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at PWD.

16) 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.

Secretary

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