

SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2015
7:00 p.m.

CONVENE MEETING/ROLL CALL:

President Bruce convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Pres. Bruce then read the Mission.

Roll call showed Dirs. Baughman, Ratcliffe and Brown were also present. District Manager Lee, Director of Operations Rogers, Finance Manager Hill, Engineering Manager Menzies, Environmental Programs Manager Michelsen and Legal Counsel Hynes were present as well.

Director Ratcliffe made a motion to excuse Director Hammer, he communicated to the Board President and District Manager that he was ill.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Brown, Bruce, Baughman, Ratcliffe

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent: Hammer

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None

However, President Bruce recommended that we move Item: 11b to the first item of business since we have a guest presenter. The Board agreed.

MINUTES:

Director Brown noted that the minutes of the Special Board Meeting on September stated that President Bruce adjourned the meeting when actually Vice President Brown adjourned the meeting because President Bruce was not present.

Director Ratcliffe made a motion to approve the minutes of both the September 23, 2015 Special Board Meeting and the October 1, 2015 Board Meeting as corrected.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Brown, Bruce, Baughman, Ratcliffe

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hammer

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Charlene DeBert, Boulder Creek, questioned the reference to an Eminent Domain action on Fairview Avenue on the Bill List from the previous Board meeting. She also questioned the preferential treatment of a local contractor for use of the fire hydrant near the post office and the demolition of the Prosser Property.

President Bruce explained that the reference to Fairview Ave. is not for public discussion.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION:

District Manager Lee said that the written communication items were self-evident.

NEW BUSINESS:

11b SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT BASIN BOUNDARIES - LETTER OF INTENT

At this time President Bruce suggested that the Board discuss Item 11 b Sustainable Groundwater Management Act - Basin Boundaries.

District Manager Lee described the item and introduced Derrik Williams with Hydrometrics Water Resources Inc. to present his plan for the project redefine the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin.

The presentation will be available on the website.

Director Ratcliffe questioned the Aptos/Soquel Creek boundary.

Mr. Williams said that the company that he is working for will be working on the Aptos/Soquel Creek boundary. If Scotts Valley service area extends into the Aptos/Soquel boundary, the line will be redrawn to keep all of Scotts Valley within their boundary.

Director Brown questioned the Lompico District in terms of the boundaries.

Mr. Williams said that they are not planning to adjust the boundary in terms of Lompico District's area.

Dir. Brown questioned what would happen to the boundary if Lompico doesn't become part of SLVWD.

Mr. Williams said that that was unlikely but there is another option to apply after 2017.

Pres. Bruce asked what happens if the State discovers this is actually a much larger basin than thought and that it is in overdraft.

Mr. Williams said that will only happen in 2017. Right now they are simply listing each basin as high priority, medium, low or very low. Our basin simply doesn't pump enough

to get the attention of the state. After 2017 we will be given 5 years to make a plan if we are decided to be a large basin.

Dir. Baughman thanked Mr. Williams for coming. He questioned if there is there a possibility that we will not be a medium priority basin?

Mr. Williams said that there is a possibility.

Stephen Petersen, Zayante, questioned what is jurisdictional and what is geological.

Mr. Williams said that the GSA makes the decisions. The County represents small systems and mutuals.

Dist. Mgr. Lee said that we will be conducting workshops with all of the entities involved. Right now he is asking the Board if they are willing to commit to the \$15,000 that will be the portion of the fee for Hydrometrics WRI for SLVWD.

Director Baughman made a motion to commit to \$15,000 to hire Hydrometrics WRI.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Brown, Bruce, Ratcliffe, Baughman

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent: Hammer

CONSENT AGENDA:

9a SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAIN STEWARDSHIP NETWORK

9b QUARTERLY LEAK ADJUSTMENT REPORT

9c QUARTERLY WATER CONSERVATION CREDIT REPORT

Director Ratcliffe made a motion to accept and approve the 3 consent agenda items.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Brown, Bruce, Baughman, Ratcliffe

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent: Hammer

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

10a MONTHLY BILLING

District Manager Lee explained that the District has been doing monthly meter reading and billing for a year and a half now . The Board committed to look at the billing cycle again after the summer months. The State currently requires monthly reports and he believes in the future the State will mandate monthly billing. Staff recommends that the District commit to monthly billing and meter reading.

Director Brown noted that one of the issues that came up in the Finance Committee meeting was the Quantitative vs. Qualitative benefits.

Director Baughman noted that one of the positives that hasn't been mentioned is looking at water rates, for example summer rates specifically. Better feedback for rate studies.

Director Brown also noted that the monthly billing allows the district to communicate with the public 12 times a year rather than just 6 times.

Director Ratcliffe said that she thinks the conservation side of monthly billing is really important. She said that she enjoys to the month to month information.

President Bruce says that it fits with most other payments being made, mortgage, electricity, credit cards, etc.

Director Brown made a motion to direct staff to change to monthly billing indefinitely.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Bruce, Baughman, Ratcliffe, Brown

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hammer

10b PROPOSITION 218 THIRD PARTY ARBITER FOR PROTEST BALLOT

District Manager Lee said that the District has committed to a third party arbiter to oversee and count the protest ballots at the November 19, 2015 Public Hearing for the Prop 218 process.

Director Baughman said that The League of Women Voters are unbiased and experienced.

Pres. Bruce and Dir. Ratcliffe both think that have high school students as arbiters would be a good idea but agree that the experience of the League of Women Voters is preferable. Perhaps they could watch the process.

10c PROSSER PROPERTY DEMOLITION

After putting out an RFP for demolition of 2 buildings and a septic tank, Randazzo Enterprises was the low bid at \$19,724.

President Bruce questioned if a fence would be put up during the demolition.

Dist. Mgr. Lee said yes, there will be a fence. It will be just a matter of days.

Dir. Brown noted that we may need a fence after demolition also.

Dir. Baughman questioned if there was hazardous material testing.

Dist. Mgr. Lee said that traces of asbestos and lead paint were found and those issues are being addressed.

Dir. Ratcliffe noticed the improvements to the adjacent Johnson Building property.

A motion was made by Dir. Brown to proceed with the demolition of the Prosser Property.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Bruce, Baughman, Ratcliffe, Brown

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent: Hammer

NEW BUSINESS:

11a BILL LIST FOR PERIOD ENDING OCTOBER 15, 2015

A motion was made by Director Baughman to accept and approve the Bill List in the amount of \$308,251.08

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Brown, Bruce, Ratcliffe, Baughman

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hammer

11c WATER CONSERVATION CREDIT PROGRAM

Dist. Mgr. Lee described that the Water Conservation Budget has been over drafted in the first quarter of 2015/2016. Staff has rearranged the budget to cover obligated funds.

The Board would like to see more frequent monitoring of this program in the future so that they are not surprised again.

Dir. Baughman would like to see statistical analysis regarding water use and this program.

Director Brown made a motion to approve the redistribution of budgeted funds to cover the Water Conservation Credit Program.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Bruce, Baughman, Ratcliffe, Brown

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hammer

GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS:

District Manager Lee shared information regarding Finance.

Director of Operations Rogers shared highlights from the Operations report.

COMMITTEE/DIRECTOR REPORTS:

Dir. Brown shared information from the Finance Committee.

President Bruce shared information from the ACWA SGMA workshop.

Dir. Ratcliffe shared information from the Environmental Committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Bruce adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.