

July 25, 2018
Regular Meeting
5:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Joe Tonascia, Vice President Sonny Flores and Directors John Tobias, Frank Bettencourt, and Bob Huenemann. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel David E. Pipal, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Supervising Accountant Natalie Sullivan, Water Conservation Program Manager Shawn Novack and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Tonascia at 5:00 p.m.

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
President Tonascia led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. **Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board; rebuttal will be limited to 3 minutes; no new business agenda items will be heard after 8:00 p.m.**
- c. **Approval of Agenda**
With a motion by Director Tobias and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Agenda was unanimously approved.
- d. **Public Input: Members of the Public are Invited to Speak on any Matter not on the Agenda**
There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Approval of Minutes for: June 27, 2018 Regular Meeting**
2. **Allowance of Claims**
3. **Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report, Ending June 30, 2018**
The President asked to remove item #4 of the Consent Agenda for comments and asked for a vote on items #1-3. With a motion by Director Bettencourt and a second by Director Huenemann, items #1-3 of the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved.
4. **Recognizing Jeff Cattaneo for 10 Years of Service, Certificate Issued**
Mrs. Singleton stated she gives the following information about Jeff Cattaneo to new employees: He is a good engineer, a good negotiator and has good people skills. She thanked him for his service and presented him with his certificate.

President Tonascia added it has been a pleasure working with Mr. Cattaneo and he is doing a great job.

Director Tobias further added Mr. Cattaneo has a creative mind and a great approach to issues facing the District. He cited the Expanded Pacheco Reservoir Project as an example of this.

Vice President Flores commended Mr. Cattaneo on the great relationships he has developed with other agencies and he cited the Hollister Urban Area Projects and the Recycled Water Project as examples.

Director Bettencourt added Mr. Cattaneo is doing a fantastic job.

Mrs. Sullivan thanked Mr. Cattaneo for his vision and leadership at the District and Mr. Richard Bettencourt, a member of the audience thanked Mr. Cattaneo for his help with numerous issues over the years.

With a motion by Vice President Flores and a second by Director Tobias, the Board of Directors unanimously approved agenda item #4, recognizing Jeff Cattaneo for 10 years of service.

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. Discuss and Consider Acceptance of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Schedule

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) due to the overlapping areas in each of their basin boundaries in respect to SGMA. Each of the Boards agree to recognize and accept each agencies' GSP schedule.

With a motion by Director Tobias and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously accepted the schedule for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

6. Discuss Rescheduling of Unused/Conserved Water

Mr. Cattaneo stated over the last 9 years, the District has allowed the rescheduling of unused water, until last year when the Bureau of Reclamation limited the District's ability to store water in San Luis Reservoir. He reported the Bureau will again limit the District's storage to 3500 AF. Mr. Cattaneo has directed staff to tell our customers that rescheduling of unused water is unlikely. At the end of the water year, he anticipates 5-6,000 AF of M&I and 4-5,000 AF of Ag will be left in San Justo Reservoir. The 3500 AF stored in San Luis Reservoir is exclusively Ag. Mr. Cattaneo stated we should start the next water year with approximately 8,000 AF of Ag, which should equate to about a 35% allocation.

7. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:

a) San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (Tobias/Tonascia)

Mr. Cattaneo will report on this under his Manager's report.

b) Water Resources Association (Flores/Bettencourt)

At the meeting, Mr. Novack reported that due to the mild weather, customers were still conserving and the urban water use is down.

8. District Manager/Engineer's Report:

a) Reach 1 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported the first week of August will be the quarterly meeting with SCVWD. Currently there is an issue at San Luis Reservoir with blue/green algae. SCVWD is testing it frequently.

b) Zone 3 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported District staff has moved all of the water possible out of Hernandez Reservoir. There isn't any water in the San Benito River and very little water in the Paicines Reservoir. The District is considering a long term lease with a landowner for a 10 acre parcel to use as a settling pond, to remove the sediment from the Paicines Canal. He added the local landowners could have use for the sediment collected in the settling pond.

Director Tobias asked if there would be any environmental work needed. Mr. Cattaneo stated some but it would not be significant.

c) Zone 6 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported District staff continue to percolate in Tres Pinos Creek and off of Union Road, approximately 20 AF per day. Also, percolation into the frog pond, off of Los Viboras, is approximately 4 AF per day. Vice President Flores asked if there are any other areas the District could percolate. Mr. Cattaneo replied he is looking for other locations but has to be careful due to the zebra mussels' issue.

d) San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities

Mr. Cattaneo reported the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), about 2 weeks ago, stated the Delta is in crisis and further cut the water. There are 2 phases; Phase 1 affects the San Joaquin River and Phase 2 would affect the North Delta. He stated the loss due to this reduction could amount to 2 million AF annually. The Authority members acknowledge there is no science to support SWRCB claims and he anticipates legal action will be taken. This action by SWRCB could be as early as August and would be effective as early as next February.

Mr. Cattaneo reported the Authority members are surprised that the SWRCB is taking these actions and yet the Department of Water Resources is committing \$7 billion to help build infrastructure and storage throughout the state.

The Authority members are looking for the next step and everyone was asked to send a letter to the SWRCB on this matter.

e) SGMA Update

Mr. Cattaneo reported SGMA is moving forward and the first meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is set for August 15th from 3-5 p.m. He added for the boundary modification application, he will be attending the Board of Supervisors Meeting on August 7th, so their letter of support can be included. He is hopeful the boundary modification will be considered at the September meeting.

f) Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District has issued a press release that the grant for the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project was awarded in the amount of \$484.55 million. \$24 million was released as early funding for CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) and the draft CEQA will be due by 2021.

Mr. Cattaneo reported this is a huge step for the community to ensure water reliability. He added Pacheco Pass Water District will retain their annual water storage of up to 7250 AF, with no cost to their District as the facilities will be turned over to Santa Clara Valley Water District. Ultimately, Mr. Cattaneo stated this will benefit San Benito County as well as help the steelhead. With additional federal funding being possible, the new expansion project could be 75% paid for, that would not need to be repaid.

9. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

/s/Joe Tonascia

Joe Tonascia, President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro

Barbara L. Mauro, Board Clerk