

August 28, 2019
Regular Meeting
5:02 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at 5:02 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Sonny Flores, Vice President John Tobias and Directors Frank Bettencourt, Joe Tonascia and Doug Williams. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel David E. Pipal, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Deputy District Engineer Garrett and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

CALL TO ORDER

President Flores called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
President Flores 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 Vice President Tobias and a second by Director Tonascia, the Agenda was unanimously approved.
- d. **Public Input: Members of the Public are Invited to Speak on any Matter not on the Agenda**
Peter Lorincz, a member of the public, asked to speak. He discussed a number of topics which included e coli, operations in the San Benito River and District boundaries in regards to Director representation.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Approval of Minutes for:** **July 31, 2019 Regular Meeting**
August 8, 2019 Special Meeting
2. **Allowance of Claims**
3. **Recognizing Shawn Novack for 15 Years of Service, Certificate Issued**
With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Vice President Tobias, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

4. **Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Update given by Todd Groundwater**
Iris Preistaf, of Todd Groundwater, gave the Board a recap of today's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting and an update of the District's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) via PowerPoint. She added the next subject for the TAC will be the water budget.

Director Bettencourt asked about funding. Mr. Cattaneo reported some funding is available for administrative costs, however; the District will likely have to go through a Prop 218 process for implementation. The District is looking into a satellite system to use instead of an actual meter to track the amount of water being pumped.

Richard Bettencourt, a member of public asked about all of the building around town and can the District do anything about it. Mr. Cattaneo stated that is up to the County; the District doesn't manage land use it only deals with water availability.

5. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:

- a) **San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (Tobias/Tonascia)**
As per Mr. Cattaneo, he will cover this under his Manager's report.
- b) **Water Resources Association (Flores/Bettencourt)**
As per Director Flores, general business was discussed.

6. District Manager/Engineer's Report:

- a) **Reach 1 Operations**
Mr. Cattaneo reported Valley Water has a new Deputy Operations Officer, Aaron Baker. Discussion about rebuilding 1 pump a year at the Pacheco Pumping Plant has been an ongoing topic. At the District's request, Valley Water is reviewing the cost to rebuild versus the purchase of a new pump. Alan Zeibrich is assisting the District in the pump issue with Valley Water.
- b) **Zone 3 Operations**
Mr. Cattaneo reported the District continues to release water from Hernandez Reservoir. Dustin Franco has taken measurements in the San Juan Valley and verified well levels are dropping. Mr. Cattaneo suspects the users in that area are pumping in a confined area and causing the pumping depressions that have been reported. Mr. Cattaneo hopes the Hernandez releases will help the situation in San Juan and lowering the level in the reservoir will also be beneficial for the needed spillway repairs. He added staff is also releasing from the Paicines Reservoir into Tres Pinos Creek.
- c) **Zone 6 Operations**
Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is making daily releases to the Tres Pinos Creek of 16 AF, Union Road at 10 AF and at the Frog Pond at 1-2 AF.

Last Thursday, Mr. Cattaneo reported the Regional Water Board agreed that if the District will perform some continued monitoring in regards to the Intertie Project, they are okay with the project. The District will revisit this project at a Special Meeting, likely to be held on September 18th.

Director Tobias asked if the blue valve will need to be shut down during construction on the intertie project. Mr. Cattaneo stated no and explained how the construction will work.

- d) **Water Rescheduling**
Mr. Cattaneo reported the District typically approves a resolution this time of the year for water rescheduling. Staff is recommending to not allow rescheduling and Mr. Cattaneo reported customers are turning back water, he believes in anticipation of the District not allowing rescheduling.

- e) **San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities**
Mr. Cattaneo reported with the 50 % exceedance, anticipation is that San Luis Reservoir could fill as early as March 1st. Also the Authority is moving forward with raising the dam level which may turn into an activity agreement if not all members of the authority wish to participate.
- f) **SGMA Update**
Mr. Cattaneo stated this was covered during the update Ms. Priestaf gave.
- g) **Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project**
Mr. Cattaneo reported he and Mrs. Singleton attended a water supply and storage board meeting at Valley Water. Discussed at the meeting was the status of the project, which is slightly behind schedule and the funding options. Mr. Cattaneo reported a District committee meeting will be needed to discuss these options and then it will need to come before the Board. Mrs. Singleton discussed the terms and what has changed.

7. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the September 25, 2019 Board meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/Sonny Flores
Sonny Flores, President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro
Barbara L. Mauro, Board Clerk