

Omochumne-Hartnell Water District

P. O. Box 211

Wilton, CA 95693

916 682-5958

Board Meeting – Minutes, May 10, 2012 @ 10 AM

7513 Sloughhouse Road

Elk Grove, CA 95624

Call to Order:

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM by Chairman of the Board, Director Ron Lowry. A quorum was present and included Board Members Lowry, Leland Schneider, Robert Mahon, Thomas Young, General Manager Michael Wackman, and Secretary Cindy Luellen. Director Kurt Katz arrived during the financial action/discussion item on the agenda. Also present were Ms Rebecca Anderson, Dr. Satya Gala, and Mr. Jay Schneider.

Public Comments:

1. No public comments.

Action/Discussion Items:

1. The agenda for the May 10th meeting and the minutes from the past meeting, March 8, 2012 were both reviewed and the motion to approve both items was made by Director Mahon, seconded by Director Young and passed. 4/0/0
2. The financial statement was reviewed, the invoices to be paid circulated for inspection, and the motion to approve to pay the outstanding invoices was made by Director Schneider, seconded by Director Mahon and passed 5/0/0.
3. Item #4 on the agenda, discussion with the OHWD's attorney, Mr. Kevin O'Brien regarding legal questions that had been sent to his office prior to the scheduled meeting was postponed when he notified the Directors that he was in transit, so the meeting skipped to item # 5 - the current status of the FEMA/OES appeal. General Manager Wackman informed the Board that FEMA officially rejected the appeals based on their criteria that engineering fees could not be larger than 50% of the construction costs. FEMA has approved only \$72,000 of the original \$352,000 for PW 468 (Rooney Dam). \$177,000 was paid on PW 463 (Mahon, Blodgett & Hop Ranch Dams) and has been closed out by FEMA. However, due to unforeseen issues due to renditions, new permits required, time waiting for permit approvals, the effects from weather, and a new budget was not submitted to CalEMA or FEMA to cover the unexpected changes, including the fact the project was not done with competitive engineering bids, a further appeal may even cause the loss of receiving the \$72,000 FEMA is currently willing to pay. A statement was made to defer whether to accept FEMA's denial or use the last appeal available (it will be OHWD's 3rd appeal) until the OHWD's attorney can review the facts and make a decision to appeal. A special meeting will be held May 21st, Monday, at 10 AM to decide.
4. Arriving during the discussion of the FEMA /OES were both Attorney Kevin O'Brien and Mr. Herb Garms. Both Mr. O'Brien and his associate, Ms Anderson had reviewed the lists of questions OHWD had sent for their opinion. Ms. Anderson discussed the California State statues regarding

landowner voting districts and their establishment in CA law. She stated that by law, the Board of Directors are composed of being a landowner voted board if the area is greater than 50% agriculture use (zoning agriculture or ag/res.). The Board members and all present then discussed both the current ground water plan, the history of the JPA and its current changes that are being suggested, ground water management plans, and the legalities of belonging to a JPA and how the current groundwater management plan (GMP) may be affected newly developed GMP.

5. General Manager Wackman discussed Item # 6, the Rooney Dam. A survey of the levee from the Fish Foundation has not been received by meeting time, but OHWD is responsible only for problems near the abutment or the dam. General Manager Wackman will also look at the Blodgett Dam that has eroded and needs repair when the river drops. The Hop Ranch needs to also be inspected.
6. A preliminary budget proposal was handed out by General Manager Wackman and all items discussed by the Board Members. Discussing the Groundwater recharge plan fees, visitors Jay Schneider, Herb Garms, and Board Member Schneider submitted information from Geoconsultants Inc., who uses oil technology software and sonograms to determine suitable areas for groundwater recharge and the underground flow of the water basin. The Board Members felt the extra information may be beneficial to OHWD's Groundwater Recharge Project. After all discussion of options and possible changes to the preliminary proposed budget, a motion to adopt the preliminary presented budget was made by Director Schneider, seconded by Director Kautz and passed 5/5/0. The final budget will be a discussed item at the Special Meeting on May 21st.
7. The RWA Grant for OHWD's Recharge Project is in progress and preliminary soil tests have just been received, but not yet reviewed. Preliminary tests show sandy/clay loam consistently and the water percolates down, not horizontal. The original test water will be pumped from a well. General Manager Wackman is in talks with the East Bay Mud to possibly use canal water.
8. The Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Authority (SSCAWA) and status of the JPA reorganization was discussed earlier with Mr. Kevin O'Brien and legal questions for OHWD.

Status Reports

1. Secretary Luellen listed all publications and brochures that had been received since the last meeting including JPIA/ACWA Perspective, ACWA News, Western Water, Irrigation Leader and Water Conditions in California.
2. Director Schneider, Water Coordinator, reported the Cosumnes River was running great; the snow level was at 6000 feet and still too early to put the dams in.
3. Director Lowry had no report on ACWA activity.

General Managers Report:

1. General Manager Wackman had no report.

Directors:

1. Director Young talked to Antonio and he is aware that the dams should be

installed in a few weeks. (They were not done last year due to high water).

2. Chairman of the Board, Director Lowry said the ACWA Liability Insurance Representative met him at the office and they discussed current issues but the river water was too high to go out to look at the dams. He also reported that the Central Ground Water Authority's minutes can be found online and that they have adopted their budget.
3. Under Director's attendance report, all Directors listed the number of meetings attended since the last meeting, Jan 12, 2012.

Adjourn Meeting:

1. Under Director's meeting attendance report, Director Kautz – 1 meeting, Director Lowry -3 meetings, Director Mahon – 2 meetings, Director Schneider – 2 meetings, and Director Young – 1 meeting.
2. The motion to adjourn was made by Director Kautz at 12:50 PM, seconded by Director Mahon and passed 5/5/0.

Next regular board meeting to be held July 12, 2012 at 10 AM

Submitted by Cindy Luellen, Secretary

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- May 11, 2012