

REDWOOD VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
2370 Webb Ranch Road
Redwood Valley CA 95470
(707) 485-0679

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Board of Directors
Thursday, January 20, 2011

Directors Present: Donald E. Butow, Jeanette Hallman, Harold Voege, Granville Pool, Merle D. Reuser
Directors Absent: None
Staff Present: Bill Koehler, General Manager
Linda Groth, Secretary to Board of Directors/Office Manager
Others Present: Roy Beck, Will Carson,
Legal Counsel T. Simonson by conference phone during closed session

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL.

Hal Voege, Vice-President
Granville Pool, Director
Merle Reuser, Director
Jeanette Hallman, Director
Donald Butow, President

2. HEARING OF COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM THE ATTENDING PUBLIC (Agenda Item No. 3).

General Manager Koehler reported that a curious programming glitch was discovered in his computer email program. It took quite a chunk of his time to track it down and get it corrected, but it is repaired as of today.

Members of the Public left the Meeting at 7:03 P.M.

3. CLOSED SESSION: 7:04 P.M. (Agenda Item No. 20.a.)

- a. Pending Litigation. Government Code Section 54957.b.1.
Meeting with Legal Counsel.

OPEN SESSION: 7:24 P.M.

Members of the Public returned to the Meeting at 7:24 P.M.

4. REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION, ITEM NO. 3. (Agenda Item No. 21)

Board President Butow reported that Legal Counsel Simonson and General Manager Koehler recommended the District accept and authorize a settlement of legal action.

5. CONSIDER ACTION ON ANY CLOSED SESSION ITEMS. (Agenda Item No. 22)

MOTION: Authorize payment of \$13,750 as recommended by legal counsel and general manager, as the settlement of legal action.

Voegel/Pool Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Voegel, Pool, Reuser, Butow

NOES: Hallman

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

General Manager Koehler will make the phone calls necessary to implement the Motion as Passed.

6. CONDUCT ELECTION OF OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS. (Agenda Item No. 2)

a. Election of President, Board of Directors.

MOTION: Elect Donald E. Butow to continue as President, Board of Directors.

Reuser/Pool Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Reuser, Pool, Hallman, Voegel

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Butow

b. Election of Vice-President, Board of Directors.

MOTION: Elect Granville Pool as Vice-President, Board of Directors.

Voegel/Hallman Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Voegel, Hallman, Reuser, Butow

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Pool

c. Review-Reassign Committee Member List.

M. C. Inland Water & Power Commission:

Commission Representative: Don Butow

Alternate Commission Rep: Hal Voegel

Russian River Flood Control & WCID:

Appointment to attend FCD Meetings: Don Butow and Granville Pool

SCWA Ad Hoc Committee to meet with Grant Davis: Don Butow and Granville Pool

Recovery Operations Specialty Services:

Hal Voegel and GM Bill Koehler

Disband until needed: Planning Department Response Members

Disband: Mendocino County Water Agency

Disband until needed: LAFCO

ACWA/JPIA Delegate:

Delegate: Wm. L. Koehler

Alternate Delegate: Granville Pool

Water Conservation Committee:

Hal Voegel, Don Butow and GM Bill Koehler

Review Committee for Hardship Water Service Applications:
Jeanette Hallman

Committee to clear up records documenting properties owned or leased by District:
Granville Pool and GM Bill Koehler

Real Property Negotiations/Representative Negotiators:
Merle Reuser and GM Bill Koehler

Personnel Committee: (replacing the Update Employee Handbook Committee
& the Employee Benefits Review Committee)
Granville Pool and Merle Reuser

All of the above is effective immediately.

7. CONSIDER HEARING OF URGENT ITEMS RECEIVED SINCE THE AGENDA WAS POSTED.
(Agenda Item No. 4)

Nothing submitted.

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR. (Agenda Item No. 5)

- a. Financial Statement
- b.-1. Bills Paid since those approved at last Meeting.
- b.-2. Bills Paid as approved at previous Meeting.
- c. Bills Payable.
- d. District Activity.

MOTION: Approve the Consent Calendar as presented.
Pool/Reuser Discussion CARRIED
AYES: Pool, Reuser, Hallman, Voege, Butow
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AS PRESENTED. (Agenda Item No. 6)

The Minutes of December 15, 2010 were presented.

MOTION: Approve the Minutes of December 15, 2010 as presented, with addendum that the Meeting Tape is kept with these Minutes.
Pool/Reuser Discussion CARRIED
AYES: Pool, Reuser, Hallman, Voege, Butow
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

10. DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORTS AND DISCUSSION OF NON-ACTION TOPICS. (Agenda Item No. 7)

The Potter Valley tour is planned for April 20th and the 2-day tour is planned for April 28-29. More information will be provided by Devon Jones at the Farm Bureau Office.

11. DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORTS OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED IN GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT. ACTION ITEMS. (Agenda Item No. 8)

- a. Conservation, other than GM Report.
Nothing to report.
- b. SRF Application Certification.
This placeholder is removed. It turns out that a glitch was found at DPH and subsequently corrected.

12. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT AND ACTION ITEMS, JANUARY, 2011. (Agenda Item No. 9)

- a. District Operations.
No problems to report. So far, we have not experienced any freeze damage.
- b. Solar Panels for Tanks.
We are replacing all of the solar panels at the remote tank sites. The original panels were undersized when they were installed 10 years ago, and, throughout the years their output has dropped. This affects all communications between the tanks and the treatment plant. Unfortunately, we have reached a point where they are completely inadequate. All the work will be done in-house and the cost of materials will run about \$4,000 for all four tanks including double systems where there are two radios.
- c. Errors and Omissions Insurance.
The District is covered for E&O insurance through the existing policy with ACWA/JPIA.
- d. School Way Bridge.
The bridge replacement project is slowly plodding ahead. Caltrans will provide much of the funding. The design engineering firm has not yet determined what right-of-ways are present. Director Pool has volunteered to go to the County and look into the As-Builts for the existing bridge, including the approaches. He stated that this project could require temporary plans within the project, followed later with permanent plans.
The District needs as much lead time as possible to design and finance this potential upgrade.
- e. UVAP.
The latest version of Ukiah Valley Area Plan is available in hard copy and on disk. It seems very similar to the original and it still does not mention Redwood Valley. Director Voegel commented that this document is not finished and there are several items that still need to be added.
- f. Water Usage.
Water usage during calendar year 2010 was the lowest it has been since 1984.
- g. SCWA.
GM Koehler has heard from Don Seymour at the SCWA. He wondered if GM Koehler was receiving his emails. It turns out, there was a glitch in GM Koehler's email program (since repaired). Mr. Seymour has scheduled a tentative meeting for January 31st in Santa Rosa.
- h. Conservation.
Joe Scriven has been doing the water audits for the District and he is open to doing more. He told Director Butow that he is experiencing difficulty with finding people who are willing to participate in the audits. Director Pool expressed concern about people not wanting to participate, since water audits are a requirement of our water agreement with SCWA. Director Butow said we have to do more to support Joe's efforts.

- i. MCWA and Well Monitoring.
The Mendocino County Water Agency will probably close down very soon. Its last employee, Dennis Slota, was working on a well-monitoring program to comply with SBX7-6. GM Koehler has made some contacts to obtain additional information. It appears that Redwood Valley is considered a sub-basin of the Ukiah basin so RV would need to combine data with the Ukiah Valley, and the Ukiah Valley will need to coordinate the entire county.
- j. Insurance Payments.
An explanation for the inconsistent amounts reported for monthly insurance payments has been provided by staff. In one particular month, we paid for an Annual insurance billing in addition to two of the monthly billings.
- k. Records.
The engineering firm previously used for much of RV's history has converted all its files to electronic. For just \$500, we were able to receive electronic copies of 64 projects, including the original Tudor Engineering design sheets for the 1978 construction of the District system.
- l. FEMA CalEMA.
A recent letter from CalEMA requested RV's DUNS account number. The Duns number is required for payment of federal grants. We are hoping this is good news and that RV will finally receive the last payment.
- m. Storage/Water Right Project.
The District's 'position paper/newsletter' was received from the print shop and mailed. Thanks to Director Voege as always for his assistance. We will keep track of the responses.
- n. Leak in office.
It's possible that we have made the last repair needed to stop the leak in the office that occurs whenever it rains. We think that each of the repairs and efforts made have stopped several spots where rainwater could seep through, because each repair reduced the leakage but didn't stop it. We'll know more after another storm.

13. FINANCIAL REPORT. (Agenda Item No. 10)

After review of the financial report, GM Koehler stated that despite the worst water sales year in the District's history, we were able to break-even. However since we haven't been billed for water purchases for a couple of years we do have a pending \$130,000 liability. Director Pool commented that although we haven't had any salary increases, we haven't had any reductions either. Director Hallman added that we haven't had any furlough days either, so we've been really lucky.

14. LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY – LAFCO.
(Agenda Item No. 11)

Nothing submitted.

15. INLAND WATER & POWER COMMISSION. (Agenda Item No. 12)

Director Butow reported that he and Director Voege and GM Koehler attended the meeting. He said the "white paper" that has been talked about for the past three years was to have been prepared by Janet Pauli and Roland Sanford, but it has never been presented to the Commissioners. When questioned about it recently, Janet responded that it would be posted on the Potter Valley Irrigation District website, it would cover it all, and that would be it. So then Director Voege suggested that a professional consultant be brought in to do a professional job, and he offered to assist.

Director Voege added, I proposed to do this and I said, but, I won't do it if you're not willing to put some money behind it, because I'm not going to spend the time and I'm not going to tie up a consultant if you're not willing to put some money behind it. He said that Janet and Judy both said they would have to take

it to their Board(s) and bring that decision back to the Commission. So the Commissioners asked them to present it as an Urgent Item so that they can come back with their responses next month.

Director Voege reported that he went online and searched for the PVID website and couldn't find it. After trying many different headings, he finally went to Wikipedia and entered "Eel River" and he found: "The diversion makes a substantial reduction in the fish population." And then he went to Wikipedia and looked at South Fork, and that says, "This is the longest Fork, it's the Fork that carries the most water." And they don't talk about fish at all! This is just an indication that Friends of the Eel has had their finger in all of this stuff and if we do nothing, we're just lost.

Member of the public, Will Carson stated, I think they should be reminded that the purpose of having representatives through all the different Boards is so that they can make decisions.

Both GM Koehler and Director Butow said that that point was specifically stated during the Meeting.

MOTION: Our representative is to tell the Commission at the next IW&PC Meeting, that the Redwood Valley County Water District Board of Directors says, Yes, Please. Spend the money.

Pool/Reuser Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Pool, Reuser, Hallman, Voege, Butow

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

GM Koehler reported, a) Dan Hamburg is now the alternate to the Eel-Russian River Commission. In the past, Hamburg has publicly stated that he thinks the water going to viticulture is the problem in Mendocino County. And b) Janet is finally going to get her website together.

GM Koehler said he also suggested that Janet combine the two tours with a third tour - a tour of the lake but she felt this would draw attendance away from the two-day tour.

GM Koehler continued, Another interesting topic is the Los Vaqueros dam raising project that is being done by Contra Costa Water District. I thought it was interesting to do a bit of research on that and present it to IW&PC in particular because of the physical similarities in the two reservoirs and the fact that CCWD is paying for it in-house. They are going to debt service the dam raising. There are a lot of similarities. They are going to take a 1,000-foot crest dam and they're going to raise it 38-feet, increasing it from 100,000 acre-feet to 160,000 acre-feet. And they're going to do it with less than one-half the money that the Corps of Engineers is projecting for Coyote and they are going to debt-service it. So I did some projections on what that debt service would mean and again, Janet said, We can't pay more for water. GM Koehler responded, But you're not going to get any more water if you're not willing to pay for it.

16. MENDOCINO COUNTY RUSSIAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT. (Agenda Item No. 13)

Director Butow reported: a) Their Regular Meeting began with the appointment of their officers and committee members. Paul Zellman is the new Trustee; he is from Hopland. Judy Hatch is now the Vice-President and Al White is now the Treasurer.

b) They talked about the possibility of Redwood forming an ad hoc committee to meet with their ad hoc committee. This was proposed by Sean White and Lee Howard in regards to wanting to get involved in the Redwood Valley negotiations with Sonoma County Water Agency.

GM Koehler stated, They would like an ad hoc committee to be formed, which we have already done. Director Butow added that our ad hoc committee is already meeting with SCWA and this would extend the same ad hoc committee to RR Flood if we decide to go ahead.

17. REPORT OF ATTENDANCE AT OTHER AGENCY MEETINGS NOT LISTED SEPARATELY HEREIN. (Agenda Item No. 14)

GM Koehler reported that he attended the Farm Bureau Water Committee meeting and has learned that Charlie Hoppin will be replaced as Chair. Sean White and Dave Koball met with Hoppin yesterday to update him on the frost issues for Mendocino County. The good news for our District is that for the tributary monitoring, URSA (the Upper Russian River Stewardship Alliance) is going to monitor McNab extensively, and use that as a model.

Other topics:

Director Voege said he read a publication with an article talking about water agencies recognized for environmental excellence. Some of the projects mentioned were less than \$100,000. He thinks that Redwood Valley County Water District should be recognized for environmental influence because we have an impressive solar array and solar power here.

The Meeting ended at 9:30 p.m.

The next Regular Meeting is at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 17, 2011 at the Water District Office, 2370 Webb Ranch Road, Redwood Valley, California.

APPROVED: _____ Board of Directors

DATE APPROVED: _____ May 19, 2011

SIGNED: _____ Linda Groth
Secretary, Board of Directors