# MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CACHUMA OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BOARD

held at

3301 Laurel Canyon Road Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Monday, August 28, 2023 1:00 PM

## **MINUTES**

# 1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by Vice-President Sneddon at 1:00 PM.

## **Directors Present:**

Case Van Wingerden, Carpinteria Valley Water District (Alternate) Kristen Sneddon, City of Santa Barbara Lauren Hanson, Goleta Water District Cori Hayman, Montecito Water District

## **General Counsel Present:**

William Carter - Musick, Peeler, Garrett, LLP

## **Staff Present:**

Janet Gingras, General Manager Edward Lyons, Administrative Manager/CFO Joel Degner, Engineer/Operations Division Manager Timothy Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager Scott Engblom, Senior Biologist Ursula Santana, Administrative Assistant II Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant II

#### **Others Present:**

Jordan Benshea, Resident Dakota Corey, City of Santa Barbara Dana Hoffenberg, City of Santa Barbara Matthew Scrudato, COSB Water Agency Matt Young, COSB Water Agency

# 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

### 3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of July 24, 2023, Regular Board Meeting
- b. Investment of Funds
  - Financial Reports
  - Investment Reports
- c. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras presented the consent agenda for the Board's consideration. Mr. Carter advised moving approval of Item 3.a., the July 24th board meeting minutes, to the next regular board meeting. Mr. Lyons reviewed the July 2023 revenues and expenditures. He noted payments made to Flowers & Associates, Illumina, Geosyntec Consultant, HDR and FMP.

Director Hayman motioned to approve the Consent Agenda items 3.b. and 3.c., followed by a second from Director Hanson. The motion carried with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hanson, Hayman and Van Wingerden

Nays: Absent: Abstain:

### 4. VERBAL REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

• Operations Committee Meeting – August 22, 2023

Director Sneddon provided a summary report from the Operations Committee meeting, noting that the action item will be presented during this Board meeting with the committee's support. Project updates were also provided to the Committee.

# 5. FINANCIAL REVIEW – 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

Mr. Lyons shared his presentation of the fourth quarter financial review with the Board. He recapped revenues received during the quarter. Noting that revenue and expenditures were actual, as well as in overall alignment to the budget, he provided explanation for variances as compared to the budgets for each division. Mr. Lyons reviewed the status of the Administrative Division's deliverables. He fielded questions and comments from the Board.

# 6. RESOLUTION NO. 792 - LAURO RESERVOIR BYPASS CHANNEL CONSTRUCTION BID AND ENGINEERING DURING CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Mr. Degner provided a presentation illustrating the January 2023 storm damage at the Lauro Reservoir Bypass Channel. Mr. Degner proposed that COMB enter into a contract for engineering services during construction with Flowers & Associates, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$22,400 and execute a construction contract with Tierra Contracting, for an amount not to exceed \$165,470, in accordance with the competitive bid received. He fielded questions from the Board.

Director Hanson motioned, and Director Hayman seconded the motion to approve Resolution 792, to execute contracts for construction and engineering during construction of the Lauro Bypass Channel/Road Repair project related to the January 2023 severe winter storms.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hanson, Hayman and Van Wingerden

Nays: Absent: Abstain:

# 7. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

- Administration
- Personnel
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Ms. Gingras announced that COMB received the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award for the sixth consecutive year. She provided an update on the annual ACWA JPIA risk assessment and recognized COMB's Senior Biologist Scott Engblom for 25 years of service. Ms. Gingras also updated the Board on negotiations with Bureau of Reclamation for the 2nd

Amendatory O&M Contract, noting a revised draft has been sent to member agencies and counsel for review.

### 8. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Climate Conditions
- Earthquake
- County-wide Debris Removal Update
- North Portal Elevator
- Reclamation Inspections
- Lauro Stilling Well Debris Removal
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects

Mr. Degner provided updates on climate forecasts and various projects and maintenance activities, including debris removal work following January storms, and ongoing clearing of sediment from the Lauro Reservoir stilling well. Mr. Degner also discussed required dam inspections after a recent earthquake, upcoming work including the probable delay of the Lateral Isolation Valve. He fielded questions from the Board.

### 9. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. Degner provided the Operations report, reporting on two recent and successful pipeline shut-downs where COMB assisted with repairs. Mr. Degner reported that maintenance activities were ongoing and that other operations activities had been covered in staff reports.

### 10. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT

- LSYR Steelhead Monitoring Elements
- Surcharge Water Accounting
- Reporting/Outreach/Training

Mr. Robinson reported that target flows at the stream gauge measuring sites continue to be exceeded by Reclamation's releases. Spring surveys along the main stem are now complete and a report is in progress. He elaborated on the repairs performed by Reclamation at Bradbury Dam. Mr. Robinson discussed ongoing accounting of surcharge water. He fielded questions from the Board.

### 11. PROGRESS REPORT ON LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE PROGRAM

- Maintenance and Monitoring
- End of Program Plan

Mr. Robinson reported that irrigation of oak trees continues due to the warm weather. He noted that the annual oak tree inventory is nearly complete and in review with the arborist. The annual report will be completed and forwarded to the Oak Tree Program Committee. Finally, Mr. Robinson noted ongoing monitoring of mature trees in the Mohawk area of the park which had been inundated by rising lake levels and may not survive.

# 12. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS

- a. Cachuma Water Reports
- b. Cachuma Reservoir Current Conditions
- c. Lake Cachuma Quagga Survey

Ms. Gingras presented the monthly Cachuma Project reports for the month of July. She noted that operations during July were normal and within typical ranges expected for the month.

# 13. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

# 14. [CLOSED SESSION]: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL: POTENTIAL LITIGATION

a. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]
Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 2:25 PM.

## 15. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

[Government Code Section 54957.7] Disclosure of actions taken in closed session, as applicable [Government Code Section 54957.1]

14a. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 2:52 PM. There was no reportable action.

# 16. MEETING SCHEDULE

- Regular Board Meeting September 25, 2023 at 1:00 PM
- Board Packages available on COMB website www.cachuma-board.org

# 17. COMB ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√ Approved
Unapproved

APPROVED:

Kristen Sneddon, Vice-President of the Board