

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CACHUMA OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BOARD**
held at
**3301 Laurel Canyon Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93105**

**Monday, June 26, 2023
1:00 PM**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Holcombe at 1:04 PM

Directors Present:

Polly Holcombe, Carpinteria Valley Water District
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
Shane King, Ops Supervisor/Chief Distrib. Operator

Elijah Papen, Senior Program Analyst
Timothy Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager
Ursula Santana, Administrative Assistant II
Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant II

Others Present:

Dana Hoffenberg, City of Santa Barbara
Matthew Scrudato, SBCO Water Agency

Matt Young, COSB Water Agency

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of May 12, 2023 Special Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of May 22, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
- c. Investment of Funds
 - Financial Reports
 - Investment Reports
- d. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras presented the consent agenda for the Board's consideration. She requested that Mr. Lyons comment on the Investment of Funds and Paid Claims. Mr. Lyons reviewed several expenditures of note, including payments to Total Compensation, Flowers & Associate, Vidales Electric, Peter Lapidus Construction and Rain for Rent.

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

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

4. VERBAL REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

- Fisheries Committee Meeting – June 2, 2023
- Administrative Committee Meeting – June 8, 2023
- Operations Committee Meeting – June 21, 2023

Director Hanson reviewed the Fisheries Committee topics, noting those items on today's agenda. President Holcombe followed with a summary of the Administrative Committee meeting and its recommendations. Finally, Director Sneddon provided a recap of the Operations Committee meeting and those items being heard during this Board meeting.

5. FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS OF CACHUMA OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BOARD

- a. Election of President
- b. Election of Vice-President
- c. Appointment of ACWA/JPIA Representative and Alternate
- d. Appointment of General Counsel
- e. Appointment of Secretary of the Board
- f. Appointment of Treasurer /Auditor-Controller

President Holcombe opened nominations for the offices of President and Vice President. Director Hayman nominated President Holcombe for another term as President and President Holcombe nominated Vice President Sneddon for another term as Vice President. As there were no further nominations, the slate of nominations was approved unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

The appointments for items 5.c through 5.f were recommended to be as follows:

ACWA/JPIA Representative:	Ms. Sneddon
General Counsel:	Mr. William Carter
Secretary of the Board:	Ms. Janet Gingras
Treasure/Auditor-Controller:	Mr. Edward Lyons

President Holcombe called for a motion provided by Director Hanson and seconded by Director Hayman. The appointments were approved unanimously by a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

6. REVISED CACHUMA PROJECT 2022-23 ANNUAL AND LONG TERM PLAN

Ms. Gingras introduced the revised annual and long term plan for the Cachuma Project resulting from Reclamation's allocation of 100% of Member Unit requests. She noted that Renewal Fund assessments would occur in the new fiscal year after final approval by the Funds committee. As well, she explained that assessments will be categorized under Regulatory Requirements. The Board received and filed the Plan.

Director Hanson motioned to approve the recommended expenditures, pending final approval by the Funds committee. Director Hayman seconded and the motioned carried with a unanimous vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

7. RESOLUTION NO. 780 – FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

Mr. Lyons presented Resolution No. 780 to adopt the annual operating budget for fiscal year 2023-24 and outlined several changes since its last review which resulted in a small increase to the budget. The Board expressed its appreciation for the excellent work which went into the document.

Director Sneddon motioned to adopt the budget as presented and Director Hayman seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

8. LETTER OF INTEREST TO THE U. S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FOR A SECOND AMENDATORY CONTRACT FOR THE TRANSFER OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CACHUMA TRANSFERRED PROJECT WORKS – CACHUMA PROJECT, CALIFORNIA

Ms. Gingras presented the letter of interest, requested by Reclamation, to participate in a second amendatory contract. She noted that a schedule for the renewal contract process had been received.

Director Hanson provided the motion to approve the letter. Director Sneddon seconded and the motion carried with a unanimous vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

9. RESOLUTION NO. 781 – CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR COUNTYWIDE DEBRIS REMOVAL DUE TO JANUARY 2023 STORM DAMAGE (FEMA)

Mr. Degner presented Resolution No. 781 to approve execution of a contract with Peter Lapidus Construction, Inc. for the debris removal project. He noted that COMB received only one bid but that bid included a green method to dispose of the debris. Mr. Degner fielded questions from the Board.

Director Sneddon motioned to approve the execution of the contract followed by a second from Director Hanson. The motion carried unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

10. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

- Administration
- Meetings
- Staff Training
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Ms. Gingras presented the General Manager report with the welcome news that IRWMP had awarded COMB a \$1,000,000 grant for the Secured Pipeline project. She noted the COMB will undergo a roll forward GASB 75 valuation this year. Ms. Gingras reported on topics addressed at the Santa Barbara Count OEM meeting, especially regarding wildfire preparation and response to extreme heat events. As well, she noted that staff had attended the 2023 GFOA Conference, gleaned valuable, pertinent information. Finally, Ms. Gingras provided an update on the O&M Contract renewal upcoming, including an explanation of Reclamation's intent to assess administrative fees in conjunction with the renewal.

11. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Climate Conditions
- Ortega Reservoir Cleaning and Repair
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects Update

Mr. Degner presented the Engineer's Report and provided the most current update on lake elevation and surplus water availability. He reported that the area is officially in an El Nino phase which will strengthen in winter. Mr. Degner provided updates on the cleaning project at Ortega Reservoir and the current IIP projects. He noted that the Board will see an addendum to the Carpinteria Water District cooperative agreement in a future meeting. Mr. Degner fielded questions from the Board.

12. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. King presented the Operations Division report and advised that staff had spent much of its time assisting at Ortega Reservoir as its repairs neared completion and eventual recharge. He advised that COMB had hired Ramsey Asphalt to repave the Lauro yard. Staff had also repaired the log boom and continued to address weed abatement.

13. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT

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

Mr. Robinson presented the Fisheries Division report, stating that target flows are exceeded as the spill from Cachuma continues. As the spill ramps down, staff will survey for fish strandings. He reported that normal Biological Opinion tasks continue with snorkel surveys soon to begin. Mr. Robinson noted that the Annual Monitoring Summary was now posted on the COMB website and the Annual Monitoring Report is currently awaiting Reclamation's comments. He fielded questions from the Board.

14. PROGRESS REPORT ON LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE PROGRAM

- Maintenance and Monitoring
- End of Program Plan

Mr. Robinson reported that irrigation and weeding were the staff's focus. He noted that the annual inventory was complete and that a survey of trees submerged by the full reservoir indicated that some were perishing.

15. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS

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

Ms. Gingras noted that the Cachuma Project reports were routine and advised the Board that surplus water continued to be in effect. Reclamation had indicated it will continue through June 30, 2023.

16. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

Director Sneddon questioned whether Committee Appointments had been made for the upcoming fiscal year. These appointments will appear on the July agenda.

17. [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 2:16 PM.

18. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

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

17a. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 3:22 PM. There was no reportable action.

19. MEETING SCHEDULE

- **Regular Board Meeting – July 24, 2023 at 1:00 PM**
- **Board Packages available on COMB website www.cachuma-board.org**

20. COMB ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	<i>Approved</i>
	<i>Unapproved</i>

APPROVED:



Polly Holcombe, President of the Board