

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
of the  
CACHUMA OPERATION & MAINTENANCE BOARD  
held at the  
Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board Office  
3301 Laurel Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, CA  
Monday, May 18, 2009**

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**1. Call to Order, Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 2:37 p.m. by Director Jan Abel, who was selected by the Directors to chair the meeting in the absence of President Williams and Vice President Lieberknecht. Director Abel would step down as Chair when President Williams joined the meeting. Those in attendance were:

**Directors present:**

Das Williams (2:43)	City of Santa Barbara
Jim Drain	Carpinteria Valley Water District
Jan Abel	Montecito Water District
Lauren Hanson	Goleta Water District

**Others present:**

Kate Rees	William Hair
Brett Gray	Eric Ford
Tom Fayram	Janet Gingras
David Brodsly (via phone)	Gary Kvistad
Charles Hamilton	Tom Mosby
Chip Wullbrandt	Bruce Wales
Bill Ferguson	Dan Hernandez
Antonio Buelna	Ali Shahroody
Bill Fielder	Tim Robinson

**2. Public Comment**

There were no comments from the public.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- a. **Minutes:**  
April 27, 2009 Regular Board Meeting
- b. **Investment Funds**  
Investment Report
- c. **Payment of Claims**

Director Drain moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Director Hanson, passed 4/0/3, Director Williams and Director Loudon were absent.

#### 4. Reports From the Manager

**a. Cachuma Water Reports**

The water reports prepared by Janet Gingras were included in the Board packet.

**b. Operations Report**

Brett Gray reported on the monthly operations activities performed by the COMB staff. The primary activity for the month was the shutdown at Ortega Reservoir and preparation for the reservoir cleaning. Staff also did some work at the insertion meter in the Carpinteria area, installed light poles at the Lauro debris basin, and worked on some remodeling on the welding shop in the upper yard. The Jesusita Fire work and clean up occupied the remaining time during the month.

**c. COMB Operating Committee Meeting April 1, 2009**

The agenda and minutes from the COMB Operating Committee meeting held on April 1, 2009 were included in the board packet. The May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting was cancelled due to the fire, the next meeting will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**d. 2008 Surcharge Accounting**

The 2008 Surcharge Summary was included in the board packet. In addition to surcharge water available, 4,388 acre feet have been used from Project yield to meet downstream target flows for steelhead.

*Director Abel stepped down as temporary chair of the meeting at 2:45 p.m.  
President Williams chaired the rest of the meeting.*

**e. COMB Field Trip**

Mr. Gray highlighted the COMB field trip held on April 29<sup>th</sup>. The tour started with an overview of the Cachuma facilities at the COMB office. The group then drove to see the intake tower and north portal at Lake Cachuma, followed by a visit to the south portal, Corona del Mar treatment plant, and the site of the 2<sup>nd</sup> barrel project in Glen Annie Canyon. The group also visited Lauro Reservoir, the new Lauro debris basin, the Mission Creek SCC pipeline project site, and finished the trip at Ortega Reservoir to see the new reservoir cover. There were about 10 people in attendance.

**f. Cachuma Reservoir Current Conditions**

**Date 05/18/2009**

Lake elevation	742.09 feet
Storage	164,157 acre feet
Rain (for the month to date)	.00 inches
Rain YTD (for the season to date)	7.39 inches
Fish Release-Hilton Creek	20 to 24.3 acre feet per day

Month to Date Spill	0 acre feet
Year to Date Spill	0 acre feet

## 5. Lake Cachuma Surcharge Presentations

- a. **Bradbury Dam Surcharge Risk Assessment – Bill Fielder, USBR**  
Bill Fielder from the Bureau of Reclamation, Technical Service Center Denver, gave a presentation on the Bradbury Dam Surcharge Risk Assessment that evaluated the safety of the dam, spillway walls, radial gates, and potential overtopping of the dam under static conditions and a with a 3 ft. surcharge during all times of the year. The study was to evaluate if there was any additional risk involved when storing water at different levels above 750 ft. in Lake Cachuma. The conclusions were that there was no additional incremental risk with a 3 ft surcharge. Therefore, Reclamation has authorized unrestricted surcharge operations for 2009 and 2010 at any time of the year, while they carry out additional seismic studies on certain components of the dam. It is expected that these studies will result in permanent unrestricted surcharge operations.
- b. **New Surcharge Protocols – Ali Shahroody, Stetson Engineers**  
Ali Shahroody of Stetson Engineers gave a presentation on the new surcharge protocols that were developed for Reclamation’s risk assessments. The new protocols addressed the need to capture the full 3 ft surcharge (9200 acre feet) under several scenarios. If the full surcharge cannot be captured, a greater impact to Project yield would occur. The scenario agreed upon by the SYR Hydrology Committee was to begin surcharging the reservoir when hydrologic conditions existed based on meeting certain hydrologic criteria in the upper watershed.
- c. **Modified Winter Storm Operations – Tom Fayram, County Flood Control**  
Tom Fayram, County Flood Control, gave the Board a review of modified winter storm operations. The modified storm operations utilize “real” time information, radar, satellite data, computer modeling and can calculate the inflow of the surrounding area into the lake. All of these elements are used to make the decision on how the gates are operated during a storm, allowing more efficient storage of water. Modified storm operations will continue to be applied under surcharge conditions.

## 6. Jesusita Fire COMB Activities

Mr. Gray reported that on May 5th the Jesusita Fire started about a mile or two from the COMB offices in San Roque Canyon. As the fire severity increased that afternoon, staff ramped up the flows from Lake Cachuma to maximize water storage in Lauro Reservoir and throughout the Cachuma Project SCC facilities. The COMB staff was evacuated that afternoon and removed essential equipment and vehicles off site so that they would be available to respond to emergencies if needed. Staff also manually locked the out flow valve at Lauro in an open position so that water would continue to flow to Cater Treatment Plant in the event the COMB facilities were destroyed. The fire ultimately burned the entire watershed around Lauro Reservoir,

right down to the COMB office and yard facilities. One building in the upper yard had some fire damage but overall, operations went exceptionally well and water was delivered throughout the fire. Water from Lauro Reservoir was utilized by the fire fighting helicopters as they battled the fire.

Ms. Rees reported that Tom Fayram, County Flood Control, had been in contact with her regarding erosion and water quality issues that might affect Lauro Reservoir during the up coming rainy season due to the fire. The new Lauro debris basin will be the primary erosion catchment facility, but depending on the rainy season, may not be able to capture the entire runoff from the burned watershed.

## **7. Proposition 84 Activities**

Ms. Rees reported that under Proposition 84, the State Department of Water Resources must formally accept a region in order for that region to be eligible for grant funding. The funding area is the entire Central Coast with only \$52 million available making a very competitive process for this area. If Santa Barbara County is successful in its application to be accepted as a separate region, the existing IRWM Plan developed for Proposition 50 will be updated to meet Proposition 84 standards. The region acceptance process (RAP) application for Santa Barbara County was submitted at the end of April 2009. CH2M Hill Consultants are doing this work on behalf of the Cooperating Partners for Proposition 84.

## **8. COMB Capital Improvement Program**

### **a. Revised CIP Bond Schedule**

Janet Gingras reviewed the latest schedule for the bond briefings that will be held with each of the Member Unit agencies. David Brodsky, COMB's Financial Advisor, joined the meeting via phone. He indicated that we are on target to finish the bond process as planned.

### **b. CIP Bond Preliminary Budget**

Ms. Gingras included a preliminary budget for the CIP bond in the board packet. She outlined the priority projects and the current estimated cost of these projects. She also included the estimated annual debt service repayment for each of the four South Coast Units. The total amount of the bond issuance is driven by a debt service repayment amount of about \$1.1 million annually. The projected bond proceeds are currently expected to net about \$15,300,000, and the Prop 50 grant for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pipeline Project is \$3,200,000. This will provide a total of about \$18,500,000 to construct the proposed CIP projects.

### **c. 2nd Pipeline Project - Notice for Contractor Prequalification and Proposed Use of Local Labor Language**

Mr. Gray reported that the "Notice Inviting Pre-Qualification" had been advertised. A revised Board memo was distributed with two proposed language options regarding utilization of local labor to be included in the Request for Pre-Qualifications.

After Board discussion, the following provisions will be added to the Request for Pre-Qualifications. "COMB wishes to utilize local business and labor

resources as much as possible for construction of this project. The responding contractor is expected to employ not less than 30% local labor which should be drawn from within a 100 mile radius of the project location. Please provide your intent and approach to engaging local resources for this project.”

**d. Detailed Use of Unexpended Funds for 2<sup>nd</sup> Pipeline and Mission Creek Pipeline Projects**

In February 2009, the Board approved using \$200,000 in unexpended funds from prior fiscal years for pre-project work needed for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pipeline and Mission Creek Pipeline projects. At the request of the Board, a more detailed use of those funds was presented.

Director Abel moved to authorize use of the \$200,000 in unexpended fund from FY 07-08 as outlined in the staff memo, seconded by Director Williams, passed 6/0/1, Director Loudon was absent.

**e. COMB Office Building project – Letter from ID No. 1**

Ms. Rees highlighted the letter from ID No.1 and recommended that a response letter be sent. The Board agreed and asked that it be included in the June board packet.

**9. Measurement of Goals and Objectives for FY 2008-09 and Goals and Objectives for FY 2009-10**

Ms. Rees highlighted both the measurement of the Goals and Objectives for FY 2008-09 and the Goals and Objectives for FY 2009-10.

**10. Preliminary Fiscal Year 2009-2010 COMB Budget**

Ms. Rees reported that the COMB Finance Committee had met prior to the COMB Board meeting and were not recommending any changes. Janet Gingras summarized the General and Administrative portion of the draft budget, and Mr. Gray highlighted the Operation and Maintenance and Special Projects portion of the budget. Overall the proposed FY 09-10 draft budget will decrease by about 3.93% compared to the FY 08/09 Budget. The final COMB Budget will be considered for approval at the June 22, 2009 meeting.

Director Abel requested that the draft budget, with a cover memo addressed to the Member Units, be sent to the managers and business managers for review by the Boards of the Member Unit agencies.

**11. Quagga Mussel Issues**

**a. Status of County Park Department’s Fiscal Plan for Quagga Mussel Inspection/Prevention program**

Ms. Gingras reported that Dan Hernandez requested her to relay to the COMB Board that the County CEO’s office will be meeting next week to review the draft fiscal plan for Quagga Mussel Inspection/Prevention Program, and that the final plan should be available in a few weeks. Ms. Rees reported that the

COMB contribution of \$60,000 to the County will be held until the plan has been completed and is made available to COMB.

**b. Director's Requested Discussion of Alternative Strategies Regarding Quagga Mussel Prevention beyond the County Parks' Program**

Director Hanson remains concerned that the County's quagga mussel inspection program is not sufficient. She reported that she had met with County Supervisor Salud Carbajal regarding the prevention of quagga mussels in Lake Cachuma. She said that he does not want to be out in front of other agencies with regard to the County's quagga program, and that he would be interested in seeing a risk analysis that evaluates the danger of allowing outside boats versus the benefits of allowing them into the lake. She also reported that Supervisor Carbajal would be willing to continue the meetings of the Quagga Mussel ad hoc committee established last year. She felt that COMB should pursue an analysis of the risk to the Lake and present it to the County. She requested that the Board consider a continued outreach to Supervisor Carbajal and the County Board of Supervisors.

President Williams suggested looking at protocols in place at Lake Casitas. Director Abel indicated that an ad hoc committee should be formed to continue this discussion with the County. President Williams agreed and asked that appointments to an ad hoc committee be an agenda item for the June meeting.

**12. Directors' Request for Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

President Williams will make appointments to an ad hoc committee for continued outreach to the County regarding the prevention of quagga mussels.

President Williams requested that there be an informational briefing regarding the cost sharing issues raised by Charles Hamilton, and any additional issues that need to be evaluated after discussion among the General Managers during the June 3<sup>rd</sup> COMB Operating Committee meeting.

**13. Meeting Schedule**

The next regular Board meeting will be held June 22, 2009 following the 2:15 p.m. CCRB regular Board meeting, at the COMB office.

The Agendas and Board Packets are available on the COMB website, [www.cachuma-board.org](http://www.cachuma-board.org)

*The CCRB Board reconvened at 6:02 p.m.*

**14. General Manager's Performance Review**

- a. [CCRB & COMB Joint Closed Session – CCRB Reconvene.] Conference with Boards Regarding General Manager's Performance, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 (a).

The COMB and CCRB Boards went into closed session at 6:03 p.m. and came out of closed session at 6:33 p.m. There was nothing to report out of closed session.

- b. General Manager's Salary and Benefits Review – CCRB Reconvene.** Director Williams moved that the Board approve a \$4000 increase in the General Manager's base salary effective July 1, 2009, and a \$4000 increase effective January 1, 2010 for a total fiscal impact to the FY 09-10 Budget of \$6000. Also that the Board approve a transfer of \$2000 from an agency contribution to the General Manager's 457K to her base salary with no fiscal impact, effective July 1, 2009, seconded by Director Hanson, passed 6/0/1, Director Loudon was absent.

#### **15. CCRB Adjournment**

CCRB adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

#### **16. COMB Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kate Rees, Secretary of the Board

**APPROVED:**

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Das Williams, President