

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
CACHUMA OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BOARD**

**Monday, January 24, 2022
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 1:00 PM.

All attendees participated electronically pursuant to California Government Code sections 54953(b)(1), (b)(2), (e)(1) and (e)(3) (AB 361).

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	Tim Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager
Edward Lyons, Administrative Manager/CFO	Shane King, Operations Supervisor
Joel Degner, Engineer/Operations Division Manager	Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant

Others Present:

Joshua Haggmark, City of Santa Barbara	Nick Turner, Montecito Water District
Cathy Taylor, City of Santa Barbara	Matt Young, Santa Barbara County Water Agency

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of December 13, 2021 Regular Board Meeting
- b. Investment of Funds
 - Financial Reports
 - Investment Reports
- c. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras presented the Consent Agenda items for Board review and asked Mr. Lyons to comment on the financial and paid claims reports. Mr. Lyons drew attention to several paid claims items of note, including the deposit paid to Atlas Performance Industries, Inc. to replace the accounting trailer, the water rights fees paid to the State Board of Equalization and the reimbursement of unexpended fund for fiscal year 2020-21.

Ms. Gingras called for a motion to approve item 3.a. which was put forth by Director Sneddon and seconded by Director Hanson. The motion passed with a vote of five in favor and one abstention.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain: Hayman

Director Hanson motioned to approve the remaining Consent Agenda items. Director Sneddon seconded the motion which carried with a unanimous vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

4. VERBAL REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

- ***Operations Committee Meeting – January 7, 2022*** – Director Sneddon reviewed the committee meeting agenda, noting that two items are included in this agenda for Board approval. She reviewed the remaining items briefly for the Board.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 743 – CONFIRMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY - ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GOVERNOR NEWSOM’S DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY (HEALTH AND SAFETY)

Ms. Gingras presented Resolution No. 743 for approval. As there was no discussion, Director Sneddon motioned to approve the resolution. Director Hanson seconded the motion which carried with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

6. FINANCIAL REVIEW – 2ND QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2021-22

Mr. Lyons provided a recap of COMB’s financial activities for the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2021-22. Directing the Board’s attention to the PowerPoint presentation included in the packet, he reviewed sources of revenues collected, followed by analysis of the divisional results as compared to the budget. Mr. Lyons provided explanation for budget variances where appropriate. He noted that the overall financial results were within budget.

7. STATE OF CALIFORNIA – DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER (DDW) D3 PERMIT

Mr. Degner presented an update on the status of the DDW D3 permit process. He provided explanation for some small increased costs pursuant to DDW-requested system upgrades. Mr. Degner noted several benefits that would attach to COMB, its staff and the water treatment facilities, should the permit be approved. He fielded questions and comments. Following discussion, Director Sneddon made a motion to approve the expenditures and receive and file the permit when issued. Director Hayman seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of six in favor.

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

8. LAKE CACHUMA EMERGENCY PUMPING FACILITY PROJECT - COST ANALYSIS

Mr. Degner presented an in depth cost analysis of the secured pipeline component of the Emergency Pumping Facility as compared to the costs associated with continued reliance upon the existing temporary floating pipeline, which must be deployed when the elevation of the lake drops below the lowest operable gate of the intake tower. He discussed grant funding for the initial installation and the expected cost savings COMB would realize in years subsequent to installation. He noted other benefits, including cost savings to be realized by the treatment plants, due to improved water quality. Mr. Degner floated a possible summer installation date, depending upon the outcome of the rainy season and fielded questions and comments from the Board.

9. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

- Administration

Ms. Gingras summarized the General Manager report, highlighting the ACWA JPIA President's Special Recognition Award that COMB received for its low paid claims ratio and case reserves for 2021, as well as reporting on the activities of the IRWM meeting. She advised that COMB will apply for IRWM Round 2 funding with respect to the secured pipeline project and referred the Board to the table of contracts executed during the previous quarter. Ms. Gingras requested that Mr. Lyons report the results of the annual IT meeting. Ms. Gingras fielded questions and comments from the Board.

10. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Climate Conditions
- Lake Elevation Projections
- 2021 Bathymetric Survey Results
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects

Mr. Degner provided the Board with updated climate conditions, noting that December was a wet month. He reviewed the forecast for installation of the Emergency Pumping Facility based upon the latest rainfall. Mr. Degner reported that he had received the final report of the recent bathymetric survey of Lake Cachuma. He reviewed the status of the Operations projects, emphasizing the La Mirada Isolation Valve project as the primary focus of staff time and efforts. He noted that supply chain delays are of concern and could impact shutdown plans. Mr. Degner fielded questions from the Board.

11. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT

- Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. King presented the Operations Division Report, providing updates on the Division's routine activities. He highlighted staff's work draining and cleaning the Carpinteria reservoir and acknowledged the assistance provided by Carpinteria Water District staff, as integral to the success of the undertaking. Mr. King reported that an insertion meter had been installed. Additionally, Mr. King advised that the dive inspection of Ortega reservoir was complete and necessary maintenance work uncovered during

the inspection had been accomplished. Finally he reported that Operations staff had assisted the Fisheries Division with plantings in the Live Oak area.

12. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT

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

Mr. Robinson presented the Fisheries Division report, noting Reclamation's target flow deliveries to Hilton Creek and the Highway 154 Bridge. He advised that annual surveys are nearly complete and that redds are appearing in Hilton Creek. He anticipated that the annual trapping will begin approximately February 1st. Mr. Robinson reported receipt of the Pit-Tagging equipment and advised that deployment will be a major task and include a learning curve. Staff is busy with the Annual Monitoring Report and Summary, both expected to be completed this week. He fielded comments from the Board.

13. PROGRESS REPORT ON LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE PROGRAM

- Maintenance and Monitoring

Mr. Robinson reported that staff was busy with planting work with 375 trees in the ground at Live Oak Camp Ground. Deer cages and GPS tagging are yet to be completed. Grant funding for 100 trees should be forthcoming due to COMB's collaboration with Mr. Kenneth Knight. He noted that inventory efforts will begin soon. Mr. Robinson fielded questions and responded to Board concerns.

14. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS

- a. Cachuma Reservoir Current Conditions
- b. Lake Cachuma Quagga Survey

Ms. Gingras presented the Cachuma Project reports, noting that two months of reports were included.

15. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

Director Hayman requested an update on any potential impact to COMB operations from the North County cannabis grow recently reported in the media.

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

- a. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]
Name of matter: *Kimball-Griffith L.P. v. Brenda Wren Burman, et al.*, Case No. 2:20-cv-10647
– Request for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief
- b. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board convened the Closed Session at 2:52 PM.

17. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

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

[Government Code Section 54957.1]

- 19a. Name of matter: *Kimball-Griffith L.P. v. Brenda Wren Burman, et al.*, Case No. 2:20-cv-10647 – Request for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief
- 19b. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 3:04 PM. There was no reportable action.

18. MEETING SCHEDULE

- **Regular Board Meeting – February 28, 2022 at 1:00 PM**
- **Board Packages available on COMB website www.cachuma-board.org**

19. COMB ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 PM.


Respectfully submitted,



Janet Gingras (Mar 14, 2022 11:58 PDT)
Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	<i>Approved</i>
	<i>Unapproved</i>

APPROVED:



Polly Holcombe (Mar 14, 2022 12:43 PDT)
Polly Holcombe, President of the Board