

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

**Monday, May 22, 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 1:01 PM

**Directors Present:**

Polly Holcombe, Carpinteria Valley Water District  
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	Elijah Papen, Senior Program Analyst
Joel Degner, Engineer/Operations Division Manager	Timothy Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager
Shane King, Ops Supervisor/Chief Distrib. Operator	Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant II

**Others Present:**

Dakota Corey, City of Santa Barbara	Matthew Scudato, SBCO Water Agency
-------------------------------------	------------------------------------

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

President Holcombe announced that Agenda Items 13, 14 and 15 would be addressed at this point within the meeting.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Ms. Gingras presented the Consent Agenda items. She reviewed revenues collected during the reporting month and reviewed various paid claims of note, including remittances to Cushman Contracting, Geosyntec and zWorld GIS.

Director Hanson provided a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, followed by a second from Director Hayman. The motion carried with a majority vote of four in favor with two absentees.

**Ayes:** Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

**Nays:**

**Absent:** Sneddon

**Abstain:**

**4. VERBAL REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES**

- Oak Tree Committee Meeting – May 17, 2023

Director Hayman summarized the discussions which took place during the Oak Tree Committee Meeting. She noted that the topics would be presented to the full Board in today's reports.

**5. RESOLUTION NO. 779 – 4<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT TO THE 2021-25 INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (IIP)**

Ms. Gingras presented the agenda item, stating that it was being brought before the Board in order to pass the Resolution. She reminded the members that it had been presented and discussed in detail at the prior Special Board Meeting.

Director Hanson proposed the motion to adopt the 4<sup>th</sup> amendment to the FY 2021-25 IIP. Director Hayman seconded the motion which carried with a majority vote of four in favor and two absentees.

**Ayes:** Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

**Nays:**

**Absent:** Sneddon

**Abstain:**

**6. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

- Administration
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Ms. Gingras presented the General Manager report first reviewing the plan for the upcoming fiscal year audit process and then the in-process internal staff work plans. She focused the remainder of her report on the upcoming O&M Contract renewal, advising that it would be another amendment. Ms. Gingras said that she would submit a Letter of Interest to Reclamation. She fielded various questions from the Board regarding the contractual process.

**7. ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Climate Conditions
- January Storm Disaster Recovery
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects Update

Mr. Degner provided the Engineer's Report, reporting that recent inflow into Cachuma Lake has resulted in this year becoming the second largest computed inflow into the reservoir, surpassed only by 1969 flows. He reported that the spill continues and is extending the period of surplus water availability. Mr. Degner detailed the ongoing disaster recovery activity and pursuit of FEMA reimbursement. He advised that notices of intent had been completed for the Toro Canyon Blow-Off and Lauro Reservoir repairs. Mr. Degner also stated that damages had been finalized. Mr. Degner fielded a number of questions from the Board regarding the FEMA process.

**9. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT**

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. King presented the Operations Division Report advising that staff had focused on weed abatement. Ortega Reservoir cleaning and repair project continues with the reservoir due to be re-charged and back online soon. He noted staff had cleared Glen Annie's access road and that trees had been replaced at San Jose Creek to remediate storm damages. Mr. King fielded questions from the Board.

**10. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT**

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

Mr. Robinson presented the Fisheries Division report, noting that flows to the various checkpoints continue to exceed minimums. Staff has been instrumental in assisting Reclamation with data for the upcoming Biological Assessment. Mr. Robinson also advised the Board that the Annual Monitoring Summary is underway and should be completed soon. 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 the Oak trees were doing well due to the rains, inventory was complete and the trees destroyed by the storms had been replaced. He summarized the repairs needed for the water truck which should keep it in good working order through the end of the Oak Tree program. Mr. Robinson reviewed in detail the end-of-program Oak Tree plan, noting that tasks, staff time and costs will taper off incrementally over the next 3 years. He fielded questions from the Board.

**12. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS**

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

Ms. Gingras advised that the Cachuma Project reports indicated a normal April. As well she reiterated that the availability of surplus water continues.

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

There were no requests from Directors.

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

The Closed Session was convened near the beginning of the meeting. The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 1:07 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]

13a. [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

13b. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 1:16 PM. There was no reportable action on items 13.a and 13.b.

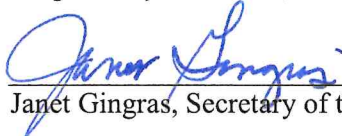
**16. MEETING SCHEDULE**

- Regular Board Meeting – June 26, 2023 at 1:00 PM
- Board Packages available on COMB website [www.cachuma-board.org](http://www.cachuma-board.org)

**17. COMB ADJOURNMENT**

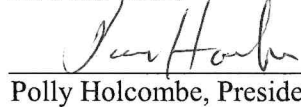
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	<i>Approved</i>
	<i>Unapproved</i>

**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Polly Holcombe, President of the Board