

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

**by Teleconference Call ONLY**

**Monday, February 22, 2021  
1:00 PM**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order by President Holcombe at 1:02 PM.

All attendees participated telephonically pursuant to California Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.

**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

Timothy Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager

Shane King, Operations Supervisor

Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant II

**Others Present:**

Dakota Corey, City of Santa Barbara

Matt Young, County of Santa Barbara

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Minutes of January 25, 2021 Regular Board Meeting
- b. Investment of Funds
  - Financial Reports
  - Investment Reports
- c. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras introduced the Consent Agenda items and asked Mr. Lyons to present the financial reports. Mr. Lyons reviewed various revenues of note, including the receipt of \$90,000 from the Santa Barbara County Water Agency for their contribution into the Cachuma Project Betterment Fund. He also drew

attention to notable expenditures, including the SCADA materials purchase and the quarterly stream gauge assessment from the United States Geological Survey.

Director Hanson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, followed by a second from Director Sneddon. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried with a vote of six in favor.

**Ayes:** Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

**Nays:**

**Absent:**

**Abstain:**

#### **4. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

- Administration

Ms. Gingras presented the General Manager report and highlighted COMB's SCADA security measures. She emphasized the steps COMB has in place to prevent cyber-attacks. Additionally she reported that COMB had received the ACWA JPIA President's Award for low claims. Finally, Ms. Gingras advised that COMB was expecting approximately \$20,000 of Retrospective Premium Adjustment (RPA) funds from ACWA JPIA. She reviewed the calculation method of the RPA.

#### **5. ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Climate Conditions
- Lake Cachuma Water Quality Update
- Watershed Sanitary Survey Update
- Goleta West Conduit Inspection and Repair
- Sheffield Control Station Culvert Repair
- Post-Storm Inspections
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects

Mr. Degner presented the Engineer's report, reviewing recent climate conditions and their impact on lake elevation. He advised the Board that he had reached out to Reclamation upon observing that the evaporation pan netting had been removed. Mr. Degner provided information about the recent Goleta West Conduit CCTV inspection and the Sheffield culvert repair. Staff also revisited the site of the San Jose creek project, which remains stable and unobstructed following a recent rain event. Mr. Degner provided updates on the infrastructure improvement projects, particularly the ongoing SCADA upgrades, COMB's trailer replacements, the secured pipeline project and the South Coast Conduit line valve project. Mr. Degner fielded questions from the Board.

#### **6. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT**

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. King, in presenting the Operations Division report, provided addition information about the Sheffield culvert repair work. In cooperation with COMB Fisheries Division, Mr. King reported that maintenance was completed on the Water Quality Sonde. A partial summary of the tasks undertaken by staff included storm damage inspections, North Portal maintenance and log boom repair. In addition, Mr. King reported that staff had replaced the Toro Canyon Meter and some air vents in the south reach. Staff also oversaw the CCTV inspection of the Goleta West conduit.

**7. 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 had met or exceeded target flows to Hilton Creek and the Highway 154 bridge. He reported that Reclamation had initiated the re-installation of the Emergency Backup System but had not yet completed the work. Mr. Robinson provided updates on RPM6 monitoring, trapping activities and beaver dam and redd inspections. He noted that the Annual Monitoring Report was complete and the Annual Monitoring Summary was in the final stage. Mr. Robinson fielded questions and discussion from the Board.

**8. PROGRESS REPORT ON LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE PROGRAM**

- Maintenance and Monitoring

Mr. Robinson reported the current progress of the Oak Tree remediation program, advising that new trees had been planted with replacement tree plantings yet to come, their timing dependent upon precipitation. He described the in-house repairs and improvements completed on the water trailer and tank, in cooperation with Operations staff. Mr. Robinson also noted that the annual tree inventory was under way.

**9. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS**

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

Ms. Gingras referred the Board's attention to the Cachuma Project reports, noting that she had no points of interest to discuss. There were no comments or questions from the Board.

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

The Board president emphasized the Board's desire to be kept informed regarding the statuses of the evaporation pan netting, the Hilton Creek Emergency Backup System and the Secured Pipeline Project.

**11. [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

The Board entered into Closed Session at 2:13 PM.

**12. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION**

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

11a. *Kimball-Griffith L.P. v. Brenda Wren Burman, et al.*, Case No. 2:20-cv-10647 – Request for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 2:22 PM. There was no reportable action.

**13. MEETING SCHEDULE**

- **March 22, 2021 at 1:00 PM**
- **Board Packages available on COMB website [www.cachuma-board.org](http://www.cachuma-board.org)**

**14. COMB ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janet Gingras*

Janet Gingras (Apr 13, 2021 17:00 PDT)

Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	<i>Approved</i>
	<i>Unapproved</i>

**APPROVED:**

*Polly Holcombe*

Polly Holcombe (Apr 13, 2021 16:42 PDT)

Polly Holcombe, President of the Board