

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

held at

**3301 Laurel Canyon Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93105**

Monday, November 13, 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 1:00 PM.

Directors Present:

Polly Holcombe, Carpinteria Valley Water District

Lauren Hanson, Goleta Water District

Cori Hayman, Montecito Water District

Directors Absent:

Kristen Sneddon, City of Santa Barbara

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

Elijah Papen, Senior Program Analyst

Others Present:

Dakota Corey, City of Santa Barbara

Matthew Scrudato, COSB Water Agency

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of October 23, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
- b. Investment of Funds
 - Financial Reports
 - Investment Reports
- c. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras presented the Consent Agenda items and noted that the October Minutes would be deferred to December for approval. Mr. Lyons reviewed the Financial Statements and Paid Claims reports. He recapped revenues received and highlighted several Paid Claims of note, including remittances to Peter Lapidus Construction, A-1 Truck, Quinn Company and Trenchalk Network Services. He fielded questions from the Board.

Director Hanson provided the motion to approve Consent Agenda items b. and c., followed by a second from Director Hayman. The motion carried with a vote of four in favor.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent: Sneddon

Abstain:

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW – 1ST QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2023-24

Mr. Lyons shared his presentation of the first quarter financial review with the Board. He recapped revenues received during the quarter. Noting that revenue and expenditures were in overall alignment to the budget, he provided explanation for variances as compared to the budgets for each division. Mr. Lyons reminded Board members that some expenses potentially would be offset by FEMA reimbursements. Additionally, he provided forecasted estimates of the expected budgetary position for the end of the current fiscal year. Mr. Lyons reviewed the status of the Administrative Division's deliverables. He fielded questions and comments from the Board.

5. LICENSE AGREEMENT – U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION (RECLAMATION)

Ms. Gingras reported that she had initiated discussions with Reclamation regarding the capitalization of certain assets that COMB has paid for and installed within federal easement. Discussions and legal review resulted in the license agreement currently before the Board for approval. Ms. Gingras noted that the agreement would be effective for a 25 year term, renewable for an additional 25 year term. Board members complimented Ms. Gingras for spearheading the license agreement process.

Director Hanson motioned to approve the License Agreement. Director Hayman seconded the motion which passed with a vote of four in favor.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent: Sneddon

Abstain:

6. RESOLUTION NO. 794 – RATIFICATION OF EXPENDITURES FOR RENTAL EQUIPMENT

Ms. Gingras introduced Resolution No. 794 to approve COMB expenditures and a corresponding budget adjustment associated in support of Reclamation's operation for a cone valve replacement at Bradbury Dam. She recapped the project briefly and asked Mr. Robinson to provide more detail. Mr. Robinson shared slides and described the steps taken to accomplish the valve replacement. He reported that the downstream fishery experienced no negative impacts and the project water preserved in the reservoir was substantial. Mr. Robinson noted the participation of COMB staff in support of the contractor and Reclamation, which was intrinsic both to the success of the project and the control of costs.

Director Hanson moved to approve the Resolution and Director Hayman seconded. The motion passed with a vote of four in favor.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent: Sneddon

Abstain:

7. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

- Administration
- Virtual Meetings

Ms. Gingras presented the General Manager report, acknowledging COMB's receipt of the Distinguished Budget Award from the GFOA for FY 2023-24. This is the fourth consecutive year that COMB has applied for and received this award. She provided an update on the status of COMB's application for round two grant funding through IRWMP. Finally, Ms. Gingras reported that the first draft of the updated Area Emergency Operations Plan should be ready by the end of the year. She fielded questions from the Board.

8. ENGINEER AND OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. Degner and Mr. Papen shared slides illustrating progression of the now completed Lauro Reservoir Bypass Channel and Road Repair project. He reported that termite treatment and wood repairs at Casitas Pass Control Building were also complete and provided a model of forecasted rainfall for this area over the next few days.

9. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT

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

Mr. Robinson provided the Board with a verbal report of Fisheries activities. He was pleased to report the completion of the repairs at Quiota Creek Crossings 5 and 9, illustrated with before and after photos. Mr. Robinson acknowledged again the staff time spent supporting Reclamation with the Bradbury Dam valve replacement. As well, the monitoring work required by the Biological Opinion for the current year is largely completed. Mr. Robinson fielded questions from the Board.

10. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS

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

Ms. Gingras advised that the Water Reports were not yet available for October but would be presented at the next meeting.

11. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

There were no requests from Directors.

12. MEETING SCHEDULE

- **Regular Board Meeting – December 18, 2023 at 1:00 PM**
- **Board Packages available on COMB website www.cachuma-board.org**

13. COMB ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.

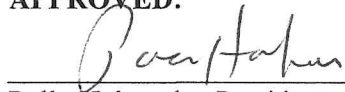
Respectfully submitted,



Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	<i>Approved</i>
	<i>Unapproved</i>

APPROVED:



Polly Holcombe, President of the Board