

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

held at

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

**Monday, September 25, 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 1:04 PM.

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, Ops Supervisor, Chief Distrib
Operator
Elijah Papen, Senior Program Analyst
Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant II

Others Present:

Dakota Corey, City of Santa Barbara
Nicolas Turner, Montecito Water District

Matt Young, COSB Water Agency

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of July 24, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of August 28, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
- c. Investment of Funds
 - Financial Reports
 - Investment Reports
- d. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras presented the Consent Agenda, noting that items 3.a and 3.b. would be divided into two motions. She asked Mr. Lyons to comment on the financial reports. Mr. Lyons reviewed revenues received and provided explanation for various paid claims, including final payments for the Secured Pipeline project and remittances to ACWA JPIA, Flowers & Associate and Measurement Solutions.

Director Hanson motioned to approve item 3.a. followed by a second from Director Sneddon. The motion carried with a vote of five in favor and one abstaining.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain: Hayman

Director Hanson provided a motion to approve item 3.b. which was seconded by Director Sneddon. The motion carried with a vote of five in favor and one abstaining.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain: Holcombe

Director Hanson motioned to approve items 3.c and 3.d., seconded by Director Sneddon. The motion carried unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

4. VERBAL REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

- Administrative Committee Meeting – September 12, 2023
- Lake Cachuma Oak Tree Committee Meeting – September 14, 2023

President Holcombe reported out from the Administrative committee, noting that the items discussed were contained within this agenda and are forwarded with the committee's recommendation to approve or receive and file, as appropriate.

Director Hayman reported that the Oak Tree committee discussed the annual Oak Tree report and now forwards the report to the Board, recommending that it be received and filed.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 793 – 2nd AMENDATORY CONTRACT NO. 14-06-200-5222RB FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CACHUMA TRANSFERRED PROJECT WORKS – CACHUMA PROJECT, CALIFORNIA

Ms. Gingras introduced Resolution No. 793 with a summary of the process undertaken to negotiate the second amendatory contract. Noting that the contract would be extended for three years and be co-terminus with the Master Contract, she fielded questions from the Board.

Following a short discussion, Director Hayman provided a motion to execute the Contract and the Resolution. Director Hanson seconded the motion which carried unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

6. UPDATED PERSONNEL POLICY AND EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Mr. Lyons presented the updated employee handbook, detailing each change being incorporated. He facilitated discussion among the Board members. The Board received and filed the updated handbook.

7. 2023 STORM DAMAGE – COUNTY-WIDE DEBRIS REMOVAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER

Mr. Degner provided an overview of the debris removal project. He highlighted the approved change order and noted that the scope of the change order was beyond that likely allowed by FEMA but supported the need for it, to general consensus from the Board. The change order was received and filed.

8. 2023 STORM DAMAGE - LAURO STILLING WELL DEBRIS REMOVAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER

Mr. Degner presented the change order for the stilling well debris removal. He summarized the project, reporting that it was somewhat more complicated and took longer than anticipated which accounted for the additional costs. He noted that COMB was able to handle the confined space work which helped control costs. COMB expects some credits to be applied to the final accounting. Mr. Degner thanked the Fisheries Division for their assistance and fielded questions from the Board.

Director Hayman motioned to approve the change order, followed by a second from Director Hanson. The motion carried unanimously with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Sneddon, Hayman, Hanson, Holcombe

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

9. LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE RESTORATION PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Robinson presented the annual Oak Tree report. He outlined the history of the entire project and reported the total number of Oak Trees planted and surviving, a survival rate of just under 80%. Currently inventory contains a buffer of 635 trees above the target number so no more plantings are anticipated. Mr. Robinson and staff will maintain and monitor the existing trees as the program winds down to its 2025 conclusion.

10. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

- Administration
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Ms. Gingras presented the General Manager's report. She advised that water rates schedules had been received. She noted that all past deficits are now clear and WY 2024 water rates incorporated a small surplus stemming from 2022. Ms. Gingras reported upcoming medical plan rates for the 2024 calendar year. Finally, Ms. Gingras advised that Reclamation is in process to finalize the Bradbury Safety of Dams contract to reflect final costs.

11. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Climate Conditions
- Lake Elevation Projection

- Winter Storm Preparation
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects

Mr. Degner presented the Engineer's Report, illustrating how wet the year has been by comparing the State's drought monitor, last year over this year. Based upon current data, forecasters are predicting a strong chance of another wet year. Consequently, Mr. Degner and staff are focused on repairing storm damages and preparing facilities and structures to withstand another wet year. Mr. Degner provided lake elevation hydrology scenarios for the next two years and discussed how those scenarios might impact the deployment of the Lake Cachuma and Hilton Creek Water System pumping barges. He provided an update of storm repairs and upcoming projects. Mr. Degner fielded questions from the Board.

12. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. King provided a recap of Operations activities largely focused on mud and debris removal. As well, he reported that Farwest Corrosion Control had performed the annual cathodic protection survey and that Quinn had performed the annual generator load tests. A failed pump at Lauro reservoir is being replaced.

13. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT

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

Mr. Robinson presented the Fisheries Division Report. He commented that Hilton Creek and the Main Stem were unchanged and target flows were met and exceeded at the measuring points. Reclamation is ramping down the release which will trigger stranding surveys. Mr. Robinson reported that the tributary project preparation was progressing while general monitoring activities were under way. Finally, he provided an update on Reclamation's refurbishment of its 30" valves. He fielded discussion and questions from the Board.

14. PROGRESS REPORT ON LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE PROGRAM

- Maintenance and Monitoring
- End of Program Plan

Mr. Robinson summarized the Oak Tree report, noting that staff activities included irrigation, weeding and deer cage repairs, as well as some minor repair work at Live Oak Campground.

15. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS

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

Ms. Gingras presented the Cachuma Project reports for August noting normal operations as the end of the water year approaches.

16. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

There were no requests from Directors for agenda items.

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

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

The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 2:49 PM.

18. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

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

- 17a. Potential Litigation: Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 3:27 PM. There was no reportable action on item 17.a.

19. MEETING SCHEDULE

- **Regular Board Meeting – October 23, 2023 at 1:00 PM**
- **Board Packages available on COMB website www.cachuma-board.org**

20. COMB ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:27 PM.

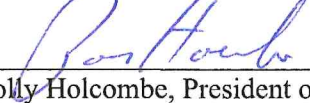
Respectfully submitted,



Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	<i>Approved</i>
	<i>Unapproved</i>

APPROVED:



Polly Holcombe, President of the Board