The inaugural meeting of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster was held at the offices of the Yucaipa Valley Water District, 12770 Second Street, Yucaipa, CA 92399.

WATERMASTER MEMBERS PRESENT

Banning, City of  
Beaumont, City of  
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
South Mesa Mutual Water Company  
Yucaipa Valley Water District

Paul Toor  
Dee Moorjani  
Chuck Butcher  
George Jorritsma  
Joe Zoba

Consultants Present

Joe Aklufi  
J. Andrew Schlang  
Mark Wildermuth  
Traci Stewart

Aklufi & Wysoki  
San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority  
Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.  
Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.

Others Present

Fred Riedman  
Steve Anderson  
Ira Pace  
Ray Wilson  
Stan Riddell  
Arlene Riddell  
Mark Knorrigna

Merlin Properties  
BB&K  
Self  
Sharondale Homeowners Assoc.  
Walt Beckman  
Walt Beckman  
Oak Valley Partners

1. Call to Order

Mr. Joe Aklufi called the meeting to order shortly after 9:00 a.m. He asked Member Zoba of Yucaipa Valley Water District (YVWD), as the hosting entity, to Chair the meeting until officers could be appointed under Item 5. Appointment of Officers later in the agenda.

2. Roll Call

Member Zoba noted all Watermaster members were in attendance and asked everyone to go around the room to introduce themselves.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Member Zoba asked Mr. Schlang to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Oath of Office

Mr. Aklufi asked all Watermaster Members to stand and raise their right hands to pledge their Oath of Office after him.

5. Appointment of Officers (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer)

Member Zoba asked if there were any nominations for the office of Chairman of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.

Motion by Member Butcher, second by Member Zoba, and by unanimous vote:

MOVED TO NOMINATE MR. GEORGE JORRITSMA FOR THE OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN.

Member Zoba turned the meeting over to Chairman Jorritsma immediately following his election.

Chairman Jorritsma asked if there were any nominations for the office of Vice Chairman of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.

Motion by Member Butcher, second by Member Toor, and by unanimous vote:

MOVED TO NOMINATE MR. DEE MOORJANI FOR THE OFFICE OF VICE CHAIRMAN.

Chairman Jorritsma asked if there were any nominations for the office of Secretary of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.

Motion by Member Zoba, second by Member Moorjani, and by unanimous vote:

MOVED TO NOMINATE MR. CHUCK BUTCHER FOR THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY.

Chairman Jorritsma asked if there were any nominations for the office of Treasurer of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.

Motion by Member Butcher, second by Member Moorjani, and by unanimous vote:

MOVED TO NOMINATE MR. JOE ZOB A FOR THE OFFICE OF TREASURER.

6. Discussion regarding staffing and consultants.

Chairman Jorritsma opened the floor for discussion regarding Watermaster staffing and consultants.

Member Butcher made an initial motion that Mr. Sch Lange, Mr. Wildermuth and Mr. Aklufi continue in their current roles to develop Watermaster through the STVMA budget for six months until RFP's could be issued for both legal and engineering services, and a budget for his and other consultant's services could be adopted. Member Zoba indicated he would be more comfortable if a budget could be developed and presented as soon as possible so that all members could participate equally as anticipated by the Judgment. Member Toor indicated his City's fiscal year begins on July 1, and that he would have to include proposed budget participation with his draft budget for consideration by his council when they next consider adopting the City's budget.
Mr. Aklufi suggested that Watermaster should maintain an appropriate audit trail of any of its activities (separate from STWMA). He further suggested that once a budget is approved, members of STWMA could request STWMA to transfer money they had contributed for STWMA activities to fund Watermaster activities as part of their participation. Mr. Schlangue indicated it was his intent to present this concept to the STWMA Commission at their next meeting on February 24, 2004.

Members Butcher and Zoba indicated they would be transferring funds to the extent practical, and Member Zoba said he would have an appropriate form available at the next meeting to facilitate this action for the four members who may wish to do so.

Member Zoba asked if the motion was to have Mr. Schlangue serve as General Manager, Mr. Aklufi serve as legal counsel, and Mr. Wildermuth provide engineering services under the direction of the General Manager for an initial period of six months, and to come back with a proposed budget and the proposed scope of services for the initial six months and for the subsequent year at the next Watermaster meeting? Member Zoba further indicated he would prefer to meet more frequently and asked Mr. Schlangue when draft budgets and proposed scopes of services would be available.

Motion restated by Member Butcher, second by Member Toor, and by unanimous vote:

That Mr. Schlangue and Mr. Aklufi continue at their current rates of pay for a period not to exceed six months and that a proposed budget and scope of services be brought back to the Watermaster at their next scheduled meeting covering both the first six months and the first full year of operations for consideration.

7. Review of draft rules and regulations and Watermaster forms.

Chairman Joritsma asked where Watermaster is with regard to the draft rules and regulations and whether everyone had received a copy. Mr. Schlangue said that the draft was prepared last year and that Watermaster may need special meetings to conform the rules and regulations to the Judgment before they are adopted.

Mr. Aklufi said he would like to provide the Watermaster Members with an overview of the Watermaster. He asked if everyone had received their copy of the Judgment, which was mailed last week. He said if there is ever a question, the Judgment is the Watermaster's bible and it is their duty to administer and enforce the Judgment and the Physical Solution, as well as any subsequent court orders as there may be regarding the Judgment. He checked to see if he had received the nominations of each agency for their Watermaster representatives as required by paragraph VI 4, and indicated he still needs an actual resolution from Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District for Member Butcher, and a resolution from the City of Banning for Member Toor.
He said that the rules and regulations will help them administer the Judgment. Mr. Aklufi asked the Watermaster Members to turn to page 16 where Paragraph VI - Administration [of the Judgment] begins. He briefly reviewed the relationship of the Watermaster and the Court, and reiterated the section headings regarding Watermaster’s powers and duties. He explained that the draft rules and regulations were adapted from Chino Basin’s rules and regulations and that some of them may be appropriate and others might not. It was suggested that the draft rules and regulations should be reviewed as soon as time could be scheduled with the idea of conforming them to the Judgment.

Mr. Aklufi suggested that he would mail a copy of the draft rules and regulations to everyone on the mailing list. Mr. Ira Pace asked if he could make a comment from the audience. Upon approval, he indicated his preference as a producer not to be involved in development of the rules and regulations, but rather to have an opportunity to review the resultant draft that Watermaster would consider prior to its adoption. It appeared there was concurrence from the audience on this matter and a meeting was set for February 24th at 1:30 p.m. at the City of Banning to begin discussing the draft and to consider the proposed budget and scopes of services.

8. Discussion regarding priorities for projects and programs.

It was suggested that this discussion was best left for a future date during discussions regarding the budget.


Discussion on this item will be scheduled for the next meeting, which was set for February 24th at 1:30 p.m. at the City of Banning.

10. Establishing a permanent meeting day, time and place.

It was suggested that meetings be set for one-week intervals. Member Toor indicated he could not make such frequent meetings. He offered the use of the City’s meeting facilities.

Motion by Member Zoba, second by Member Moorjani, and by unanimous vote:

*Moved that regularly scheduled Watermaster meetings occur on the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. at the City of Banning.*

11. Future agenda items:

A. Adoption of Investment Policy and Bank Account(s)
B. Installation of Meters on Wells and Testing Procedure
C. Standards for Well Development
D. Procedures for Well Abandonment
E. Wellhead Protection Zones
F. Groundwater Monitoring Program

Discussion on these items will be scheduled for future meetings.
12. Adjournment

Chairman Jorritsma adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:50 a.m.

C.J. Butcher, Secretary of the Watermaster