

**RECORD OF THE MINUTES  
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BEAUMONT BASIN WATERMASTER**

July 20, 2004

**WATERMASTER MEMBERS PRESENT**

Banning, City of	Paul Toor
Beaumont, City of	Dee Moorjani
Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District	Chuck Butcher (arrived late)
South Mesa Mutual Water Company	George Jorritsma
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Joe Zoba

**Consultants Present**

Joe Aklufi	Aklufi & Wysocki
J. Andrew Schlange	Chief of Watermaster Services
Mark Wildermuth	Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.
Traci Stewart	Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.

**Others Present**

Ira Pace	Self
Steve Stockton	San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
Phil Lamb	San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
Dick Larsen	San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
Ray Lewis	San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
Barbara Voigt	San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
Luwana Ryan	Cherry Valley

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Jorritsma called the meeting to order shortly after 10:00 a.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Chairman Jorritsma noted that Secretary Butcher had not arrived and requested Ms. Stewart to act as recording secretary.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Jorritsma led everyone in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

#### **4. Oral and Written Communication**

General Manager Schlange indicated he had received no written or oral communication for today's meeting.

#### **5. Consent Calendar**

- a. Approve Minutes of June 8, 2004.

There was no discussion.

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

***Moved to approve the Minutes of June 8, 2004.***

#### **6. Continue Discussion of Well Metering and Testing Procedures, Minimum Standards for Well Development, Procedures for Well Abandonment, Wellhead Protection Zones, Groundwater Monitoring Program and Groundwater Recharge Concepts.**

Mr. Schlange reported that, as instructed, he had been meeting with representatives of San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) regarding the letter they had sent to the Watermaster at the June 2004 meeting regarding adoption of Section 8 of the Watermaster Rules and Regulations, and to review groundwater recharge concepts they might have. He further reported that he had asked SGPWA general manager, Mr. Steve Stockton to participate at the Watermaster meeting this day and to discuss some of their concepts relating to their planned recharge programs

Mr. Stockton stated that it is SGPWA's goal to put more water in the Beaumont Basin. He shared with everyone a copy of a 1999 report entitled "Phase 1 – Conceptual Design Beaumont Storage Unit Recharge Project". He said they are currently recharging Little San Gorgonio Creek at the spreading grounds above Orchard Avenue. He further indicated that the USGS and Boyle Engineering modeled the recharge area, and they believe that recharge tends to "pile up" in "compartments".

Mr. Stockton went on to state that the Agency considers other portions of Noble Creek as potential recharge sites. He said tests could be made by discharging state project water into the Mountain View Channel south of Orchard Avenue to other potential sites identified in the 1999 Report. Use of these facilities would require approval from Riverside County Flood Control District and the City of Beaumont. He further said that SGPWA needs input from Watermaster as to whether there are other potential sites, particularly in the west end of the Beaumont Basin or whether they might be able to provide water in-lieu of pumping to users like the golf courses.

Mr. Stockton said the Agency would like to be able to recharge 6,000 to 7,000 af per year within the next few years, indicating that the SGPWA has as much as 17,000 af of Table A water from the State Water Project available.

Additional discussion followed regarding the 1999 Report. Chairman Jorritsma raised questions about overdraft and water levels. Mr. Wildermuth asked Mr. Stockton if the consultants that prepared the report had concluded that it is good to recharge where there are pumping holes? Mr. Schlange asked Mr. Stockton how long the Agency has been putting water in the spreading grounds. Mr. Stockton responded water has been spread since last September at the Little San Gorgonio Spreading Basins (existing site).

Mr. Zoba asked Mr. Stockton what the Agency would like the Watermaster entities to do. He said as retailers, they don't have facilities. Mr. Stockton said if they are aware of available land, the Agency would perhaps be interested in developing it cooperatively, but they would still need financial assistance from cooperating partners. He said they have some reserves that they could use in the early stages, but that the reserves would not last forever.

Mr. Schlange asked if any channel investigations or geophysical work have been done. Mr. Stockton indicated he did not think so. Mr. Schlange asked if Mr. Stockton had outlined from a geotechnical perspective, what needed to be done. Mr. Stockton said they probably needed to do some pilot holes to characterize the areas being considered.

Mr. Wildermuth reported that Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District had done a lot of pilot holes, but that they only obtained mixed information at best. General discussion followed relative to the use of streams, geological conditions and the need for further detailed evaluation or investigation.

Mr. Toor said Mr. Stockton had spoken of a number of possible sites, and asked how he would like to proceed. Mr. Stockton responded that they would like to explore the use of Noble Creek channel and the BCVWD recharge site, but he is concerned about habitat issues. Mr. Zoba said they should get together and come up with a plan so it could be determined whether it is feasible or not. Mr. Wildermuth said part of Noble Creek (in the Noble Creek Vista area) and flood control area is highly disturbed and probably has little to no habitat value because of the amount and frequency of disturbance. Mr. Toor encouraged everyone to determine what their options are and to pursue them as soon as possible.

Mr. Schlange said the next presentation would be made by Mr. Wildermuth relative to monitoring requirements of the Judgment or the Regional Water Quality Control Board's Basin Plan Amendment.

Mr. Wildermuth began by presenting the San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority area Monitoring Plan. He said the Monitoring Plan responds to all management initiatives in the area and then focuses down. He said the Plan now includes a subsidence monitoring component since the Beaumont Judgment established a temporary surplus. He said he does not expect it to be an issue, but the Plan has it as a component to monitor. Mr. Wildermuth then reviewed the monitoring proposal in the agenda package with the Watermaster committee.

Upon conclusion of Mr. Wildermuth's presentation, Mr. Stockton indicated that his agency is already doing water quality and water level monitoring at approximately 75 wells on a semi-annual basis with a rotating 3-year schedule. He said the data is all on the USGS website.

## **7. Adoption of Minimum Standards for Well Construction**

Mr. Schlange reminded the Watermaster members that the Watermaster is required to adopt minimum well construction standards pursuant to the Judgment. He identified several approved standards including those by Riverside County (Ordinance 682.3), the Department of Water Resources (Water Well Standards - Bulletin 74-81), and the ASTM (Standard Test Method for Withdrawal and Injection Well Tests for Determining Hydraulic Properties of Aquifer Systems), and others. He recommended Watermaster adopt the Riverside County Ordinance 682.3 as its minimum standard for well construction. Mr. Stockton recommended that the standard adopted by the Watermaster should include a sounding tube in all wells. Mr. Aklufi suggested this could be added in the Resolution adopting the Ordinance and asked Mr. Stockton to provide language.

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

***Moved to adopt Resolution 2004-04 entitled "A Resolution of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster Adopting Minimum Standards for the Construction, Reconstruction, Abandonment and Destruction of Groundwater Extraction Wells"***

## **8. Statement of Responsibility – Beaumont Basin Watermaster**

Mr. Schlange asked if there were any questions or comments on the draft Watermaster Overview in the meeting package. Mr. Zoba said he thinks the first page ends with coordinating management and jumps to the second page with Watermaster responsibilities. It needs a smoother transition or lead in from the coordination to responsibilities. Chairman Jorritsma continued this item over to the next agenda, possibly to be adopted with a resolution.

## 9. Adjournment

The next meeting of the Watermaster is scheduled for August 10, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Jorritsma thanked all of the members for their attendance and participation.

Chairman Jorritsma adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:20 a.m.

  
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C.J. Butcher, Secretary of the Watermaster