

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

March 27, 2006

WATERMASTER MEMBERS PRESENT

Banning, City of	Paul Toor
Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District	Julie Salinas, Alternate
Beaumont, City of	Dee Moorjani
South Mesa Mutual Water Company	George Jorritsma
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Joe Zoba

WATERMASTER MEMBERS ABSENT

None

Consultants Present

Joe Aklufi	Aklufi & Wysoki
J. Andrew Schlange	San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority (STWMA)/ Beaumont Basin Watermaster (BBWM)
Mark Wildermuth	Wildermuth Environmental, Inc./BBWM
Traci Stewart	Wildermuth Environmental, Inc./BBWM

Others Present

Blair Ball	Self
Betty Beckman	Self
Walt Beckman	CVAN
Tom Harder	Geoscience
Will Lash	BCVWD Vice President
Terry Lynn Prince	Self
Patsy Reeley	CVAN
Luwana M. Ryan	CVAN
Cindy Saks	SGPWA
Barbara Voigt	SGPWA

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jorritsma called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Chairman Jorritsma noted that there were representatives present for all Watermaster entities. He welcomed Dee Moorjani back and noted that Ms. Julie Salinas was in attendance as the alternate for Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

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

4. Oral and Written Communication

Chairman Jorritsma asked if there were any written or oral communications for the meeting. Chief of Watermaster Services Schlange indicated he had not received any.

5. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve Minutes of January 10, 2006 and February 7, 2006
- B. Treasurer Report January and February 2006

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

Moved to approve the consent calendar as presented.

6. Action Items

- A. **Watermaster Resolution 2006-03 entitled "A Resolution of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster Requesting the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency to Proceed with the Implementation and Construction of EBX Phase II."**

Chief Schlange reported that he had reviewed the draft Resolution with Mr. Jeff Davis, General Manager of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency. He said the intent is to move rapidly to get EBX Phase II constructed as it will be needed by 2014 or before. He also said the Resolution indicates Watermaster is supporting the Pass Agency in case there are any challenges.

Motion by Member Zoba, second by Member Toor, and by roll call vote:

Moved to approve Resolution 2006-03 as presented.

Paul Toor	Yes
Julie Salinas	Yes
Dee Moorjani	Yes
George Jorritsma	Yes
Joe Zoba	Yes

- B. **Groundwater Storage Application and Groundwater Storage Agreements – Yucaipa Valley Water District, South Mesa Water Company, Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District, and the City of Banning.**

Chief Schlange indicated storage applications and agreements were in the agenda package for all but the City of Banning and asked Member Toor if he had an application and agreement for the City with him. Member Toor responded that he did and submitted them for consideration in the amount of 40,000 acre-feet. Chief Schlange said BCVWD had requested 70,000 acre-feet, SMWC had requested 20,000 acre-feet,

and YVWD had requested 5,000 acre-feet of storage capacity in the Beaumont Basin. Chief Schlange said staff recommended approval and noted that the amounts could be increased or decreased at any time if they are brought back to the Watermaster Committee.

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

Moved to approve the applications and agreements for storage capacity in the Beaumont Basin as presented, including the City of Banning.

C. Water Supply Condition in the San Gorgonio Region

Chief Schlange indicated the San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority had received a request from LAFCO (around the 15th of March 2005) requesting a determination of the local water supply conditions in the San Gorgonio Pass Region. He said that the *2006 Report on Water Supply Conditions in the San Gorgonio Pass Region* in the meeting package is still subject to minor modification, and that it will be updated annually. He further indicated that the report would not be transmitted to LAFCO until it has been approved by all appropriate local entities. He said the San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority will be considering it on March 28th, and that the other entities are planning to take it to their various boards and councils so that it can be transmitted by the end of April, 2006. He said staff is recommending the Watermaster Committee approve it and authorize the Chairman to execute the transmittal with the knowledge that minor modifications will be made. Ms. Voigt asked what type of changes? Chief Schlange said there will be some minor tweaking by the water agencies, and that Mr. Wildermuth would be getting with Mr. Davis in the near future with the intent to resolve Mr. Davis's minor questions.

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

Moved to approve the 2006 Report on Water Supply Conditions in the San Gorgonio Pass Region with minor modifications, and to authorize the Chairman to execute the transmittal on behalf of the Watermaster.

7. Reports and Updates

A. Urban Runoff, Relative to Stormwater Study (Verbal Presentation)

Chief Schlange advised everyone that the STWMA stormwater investigation had been completed and the Urban Runoff Management Strategy Final Report had been submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board.

B. Subsidence Investigation Update (Verbal Presentation)

Mr. Wildermuth said STWMA applied for and received a \$165,000 grant on behalf of Watermaster from the Department of Water Resources to initiate the subsidence monitoring program in the Beaumont Basin area. He said STWMA, on behalf of the Watermaster, is researching historic subsidence and developing a benchmark network to monitor potential subsidence throughout the STWMA area. This is a proactive approach to basin management because subsidence is usually studied after the fact.

He said the investigation has two parts, analysis of historical synthetic aperture radar (SAR) images and benchmark surveys, and establishment of a new benchmark system with two surveys.

Mr. Wildermuth indicated that historic SAR information is available for the period 1993 through 2000 and that benchmark data is available back to the 1920's. He also said the SAR data is being gathered through a new European satellite effective in 2004 and that there is no SAR data for the period between 2000 and 2003. He said there is a two-year lag time between when the images are obtained and when the data is processed and available, which means the new 2004 information will be available shortly.

Mr. Wildermuth said that based on analysis of the available information; there has not been any significant subsidence over the Beaumont Basin since the 1920's. He said maybe 0.5 cm, at most.

Mr. Wildermuth said the new benchmark system includes 12 class A benchmarks and 64 class B benchmarks. He said Class A benchmarks use pipes or rods placed in the ground down to bedrock and class B benchmarks are the type of monuments you see on curbs or rocks. Surveys are planned to occur around April of each year before pumping begins and after the winter rains when the groundwater basin should have maximum recovery. He said the monitoring frequency may be spaced out in the future if there is no significant change in ground levels.

Member Zoba asked for an example of significant subsidence. Mr. Wildermuth indicated the Chino Basin has had significant subsidence that includes both ground fissuring and more than a 30 cm decrease in ground levels in some areas.

C. Septic Investigation in Beaumont Management Zone (Verbal Presentation)

Mr. Wildermuth indicated that the STWMA Project Committee 1 (PC1) is looking at several things, including potential impacts from on-site waste disposal systems (OSWDS) in the Cherry Valley area. He said the Cherry Valley area could ultimately include up to 8,500 OSWDS that could have very detrimental affects on the Beaumont Basin. He said looking at this now is a proactive approach to addressing it before there is a problem.

Mr. Wildermuth said a draft report has been prepared, but that it is not complete. He said that during the field investigation, there was no wet soil to sample below the OSWDS. As a result, a different approach was designed which includes sampling down-gradient wells for nitrogen and determining whether its source is organic fertilizer or mammalian. He said the samples for this will be collected tomorrow, but the results will not be available for four to five weeks. He said three different laboratories are analyzing the same samples for nitrogen and pharmaceuticals.

Ms. Reeley asked about the historic application of chicken manure in the area and asked why not test the wells at Sunny-Cal? Mr. Wildermuth indicated Sunny-Cal operations could not impact wells above gradient from them.

Ms. Ryan said that it would be sad if the OSWDS were eliminated and it turned out that they were not the problem.

D. Salt Mitigation fee evaluation for the Beaumont Management Zone (Verbal Presentation)

Mr. Wildermuth said that the area must take responsibility to mitigate for salt added to the STWMA area as part of the Basin Plan amendment establishing water quality objectives based on maximum benefit. He said the STWMA PC1 had asked what it would take to fund the mitigation and that as a result, a draft nexus study to determine the cost of removing the salt had been prepared. He said the draft nexus study evaluated two salt removal alternatives, one with a brine connection to the Santa Ana Regional Interceptor brine line, and the other with zero discharge of salt.

Mr. Wildermuth talked about the two alternatives and the triggers for the mitigation requirement. He said that it is more cost effective to treat effluent from the Beaumont treatment plant than to treat source water. He said a decision regarding the purchase of brine line capacity will have to be made before the mitigation requirement will be triggered. He said that without the maximum benefit objectives, mitigation would be required now. He said once a solution is selected, the projected cost can be divided up among the projected new developments.

Mr. Wildermuth indicated he thought YVWD was moving forward with purchasing brine line capacity, but Member Zoba said they are still exploring their options and looking for funding.

8. Status Reports

A. Metering of Unmetered Wells

Chief Schlange reminded Member Zoba that the overlying wells in the Yucaipa Valley Water District area need to be metered as soon as possible. He reported that Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District had installed two and that they are evaluating whether or not they will purchase Sunny-Cal's wells.

B. Watermaster – BCVWD Water Spreading Agreement/Oda Property

Chief Schlange said Watermaster will need an agreement with BCVWD to spread replenishment water at the new BCVWD facilities when members overpump their rights in the basin in the future.

C. Response to letter regarding water use by overlayers

Chief Schlange indicated a letter had been sent to the overlayers whose pumping had been calculated by the Watermaster engineer as requested. He said the 60 day time to respond had passed and no responses were received.

D. Watermaster Committee Member Comments

There were no comments from the Watermaster committee members.

9. Adjournment

There being no other business, Chairman Jorritsma adjourned the Watermaster meeting at approximately 2:30 p.m.



C.J. Butcher, Secretary of the Watermaster

George Jorritsma, Chairman of the Watermaster