

**RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THE  
Beaumont Basin Watermaster  
January 13, 2009**

**Watermaster Members Present:**

City of Banning:	Jim Earhart
Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District:	Anthony Lara (Alternate for BCVWD)
South Mesa Water Company:	George Jorritsma
Yucaipa Valley Water District:	Joe Zoba

**Watermaster Members Absent:**

City of Beaumont:	Dee Moorjani
BCVWD:	C.J. Butcher

**Consultants Present:**

Joseph Aklufi	Aklufi and Wysocki
Andrew Schlange	Chief of Watermaster Services
Mark Wildermuth	Wildermuth Environmental Inc
Samantha Stevens	Wildermuth Environmental Inc

**Others Present:**

Frances Flanders	Self
Barbara Voigt	SGPWA
Jeff Davis	SGPWA
Luwana Ryan	Self
Blanca Marin	BCVWD
George Thacker	City of Banning

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Jorritsma called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Member Butcher was absent.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Jorritsma led everyone into the Pledge of Allegiance

**4. Oral and Written Communication**

Chairman Jorritsma invited Frances Flanders to address the commission on an item not on the agenda. Ms. Flanders commented on the Watermaster's current website indicating that the Watermaster needs to update their website. Lastly, she commented on the temporary surplus and the safe yield of the Basin.

**5. Consent Calendar**

- A. Minutes of the September 9, 2008 meeting
- B. Treasurers Reports
  - June 2008
  - August 2008

- September 2008
- October 2008
- November 2008
- December 2008 – Report was not available

C. Budget Transfers, W-1012 and W-1013

Member Zoba moved to approve the consent calendar. Member Earhart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Action Items**

A. Draft Fifth Annual Beaumont Basin Watermaster Report

**Recommendation:** Comment and Discussion

Chief of Watermaster Services, Andrew Schlange indicated that the same report was provided earlier to all the members of the Watermaster.

Samantha Stevens, with Wildermuth Environmental Inc, indicated that no comments were received to be added to the report. She provided a brief report on this item. She recommended that comments and input be provided to her to be included in the final report.

Member Zoba requested that water level information be added to the report.

Schlange spoke regarding a letter sent to all appropriators in December. He further handed out a table showing appropriator storage account balances estimated for June 30, 2009

Chairman Jorritsma commented that he sent a letter to Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District offering surplus water at a \$25 less than what the Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District currently pays San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency.

Frances Flanders complained to the Commission regarding the current charge of \$25 dollars for copy of the audio for the meeting. She requested that the Commission revisit this cost in the future.

Schlange indicated that any recording devices were welcomed and will be accommodated at no cost. He indicated that the matter will be revisited in the future.

B. Availability of Supplemental Water for Groundwater Replenishment, Watermaster letter dated December 5, 2008

- Yucaipa Valley Water District letter dated December 12, 2008
  1. Role and responsibility of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster (Adjudication document attached)
  2. 2008 Water Supply and Demand Report to LAFCO (Copy attached)
  3. Consultant contracts and task orders

**Recommendation:** General Discussion and Comment

Schlange referred to letter dated December 5, 2008. He addressed his concerns indicating that the Watermaster needs to work with the Pass Agency. He indicated that other sources of water have been found but are not ready to be discussed in public. He mentioned that the additional water in excess of the Pass Agency's current entitlement could cost up to \$10,000/full acre transfer cost plus the cost of pumping. He further indicated that the Beaumont Basin Watermaster needs to work with the Pass Agency on the matter.

Member Zoba spoke regarding his response to the letter dated December 5, 2008. He referred to the adjudication included in the agenda. He indicated that the LAFCO letters state that BCVWD can meet the water demand to 2030 and beyond. He asked what the role of the Watermaster was. He indicated that there is no remedy in the event that there is a lack of water supply. He also spoke regarding EBX II.

Member Zoba further spoke regarding the consultant contracts and task orders. He handed out a chart based on the fifth annual report. He indicated that BCVWD and the City of Beaumont are consuming the biggest portion of the Pass Agency entitlement water. He indicated that he wants to suspend temporary surplus and work out issues in event that things get worse with the State.

Schlange explained that according to the Judgment which states that if there is a shortfall of water by an agency then, the agency needs to take care of itself and if the problem is not resolved then the Watermaster should be the last resource.

Schlange indicated that a workshop is required between the Watermaster and the Pass Agency. He indicated that the Watermaster is not ready to suspend the temporary surplus unless directed by the entire Watermaster to do so.

Member Zoba recommended that a meeting be set in a month's time to meet and discuss and agenda item to suspend the temporary surplus.

Schlange indicated that there are other sources of water locally that should be developed.

Member Zoba requested that three items be discussed at the next meeting.

- 1) Proposed modification to the language on the adjudication as to what happens when the money is collected and there is no water
- 2) Look at the agreement to go beyond the Pass Agency 50% that they were authorized to go to in the EXB 1 Construction
- 3) Discussion on suspension of temporary surplus

Schlange indicated that the next proposed meeting date was February 11, 2009 at 10am.

Schlange stated that he met with the Bureau of Reclamation regarding projects funding. He indicated that a letter will be drafted and presented to the Watermaster for signature and will be mailed to Representatives Lewis and Bono to get some work approved under the stimulus package. He indicated that a meeting will be set with the Bureau of Reclamation and all the Commission is invited.

#### C. Finance Alternatives

- Member Contributions (General Budget)
- Pump Tax (Documents will be available at the meeting)
- Other

#### **Recommendation:** Discussion and Comment

This item was tabled and will be included at the next workshop.

#### D. Methodology to complete New Storm Water Recharge

#### **Recommendation:** Discussion and Comment

Mark Wildermuth with Wildermuth Environmental Inc indicated that the UWMP for Beaumont and the BCVWD have a category of water which is a new yield of storm water. He also indicated that the judgment provides for new yield that could be attributed directly to the appropriator. He stated that the stipulated agreement states that the new yield water should be credited to the party that creates the new yield. He

further indicated that the appropriators have constructed facilities or are planning to construct facilities that will increase the storm water recharge in the Beaumont Basin. He stated that the Watermaster has included a task order with Wildermuth Environmental, Inc to develop a procedure that would provide for a determination of new yield from these new recharges projects.

## **7. Staff Reports**

### **A. Notice - First Transfer of Un-pumped Overlyers Water**

Schlange indicated that this is the first year of transfer of un-pumped overlyers water. He indicated that the transfer was part of a discussion with Best Best & Krieger and it would be effective on or February 4, 2009. He further indicated that appropriators will get their percentage based on Exhibit C of the Judgment

Schlange stated on another item that the County of Riverside had requested an associate membership to join STWMA. Schlange provided a copy of the terms to join STWMA. He further indicated that the STWMA is in the process of finalizing the document.

Schlange lastly informed that a letter from the Regional Board was received and it will be discussed at the next workshop.

## **8. Closed Session**

Chairman Jorritsma adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 11:15am

### **A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Potential Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9c - One Case**

Chairman Jorritsma reconvened the meeting to open session at 12:15 indicating that no reportable action was taken on this item.

## **9. Adjournment**

Chairman Jorritsma adjourned the meeting at 12:16 p.m.

  
George Jorritsma, Chairman to the Watermaster