

**Record of the Minutes of the
Special Project Committee Meeting of the
Beaumont Basin Watermaster
December 3, 2014**

Meeting Location:

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
560 Magnolia Avenue
Beaumont, CA 92223

I. Call to Order

Chairman Duane Burk called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

<i>City of Banning</i>	<i>Duane Burk</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>City of Beaumont</i>	<i>Kyle Warsinski</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District</i>	<i>Eric Fraser</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>South Mesa Water Company</i>	<i>George Jorritsma</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Yucaipa Valley Water District</i>	<i>Joseph Zoba</i>	<i>Present</i>

Keith McCullough was present representing legal counsel for the Watermaster.

Members of the public who registered their attendance were: John Covington, Bill Dickson, Patsy Reeley, Jennifer Myers, John Guldseth, Tom Shalhoub and Jennifer Ares.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Counsel Jorritsma led the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Public Comments

No public comment was received at this time.

V. Consent Calendar

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes for October 1, 2014
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes for October 15, 2014
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes for October 29, 2014

Member Zoba motioned to approve consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Member Jorritsma passed 5-0.

VI. Reports

A. Report from Engineering Consultant – Hannibal Blandon, ALDA Engineering

Engineer Blandon reported the updates to the annual report for the Committee records, including the engineering reports requested and incorporating the comments provided at the last meeting. A PDF copy will be submitted to Member Zoba for online posting.

B. Report from Legal Counsel – Keith McCullough, Alvarado Smith

Legal Counsel McCullough reported on the CV Communities pending change of ownership as well as the pending request for two policies regarding return flows and new water. The policy request will be completed once a new safe yield has been determined and accepted by the committee.

VII. Discussion Items

A. Authorization for ALDA to Prepare a Water Level Monitoring Assessment Plan [Memorandum No. 14-12, Page 13 of 71]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee authorizes ALDA Inc. to conduct an assessment of existing monitoring wells and to develop a cost estimate to repair, maintain, and collect water data during Calendar Year 2015.

Engineer Blandon provided a brief history of the monitoring of the wells. The program for monitoring wells for water levels was established in 2006 and continued until 2011. The proposal includes a field assessment to determine the type of equipment used and their status, to identify additional wells to monitor, and prepare a memorandum with the findings including the cost of any equipment repairs by February 2016.

Public Comment:

John Covington suggested Mr. Blandon generate a list of well facility locations along with established or needed equipment for future monitoring. He also confirmed the information provided by Member Fraser regarding information being available from the United States Geological Survey (USGS).

After discussion, Chairman Burke made a motion to authorize ALDA Inc. to conduct an assessment of existing monitoring wells and develop a cost estimate with the amendment to add monitoring information from 2011 to current from either the individual districts or the USGS as they recently completed their own monitoring assessment of the basin. The motion was seconded by Member Zoba and passed 5-0.

B. Amendment No. 1 to Task Order No. 3 Related to the Groundwater Model Update and Redetermination of Safe Yield [Memorandum No. 14-13, Page 15 of 71]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee approves Amendment No. 1 to Task Order No. 3 with ALDA, Inc. for a sum not to exceed \$26,430.

Member Zoba explained the additional work for the safe yield study that will generate an increase in the cost per the recent Committee requests. After discussion, Chairman Burke motioned to approve the amendment. The motion was seconded by Member Fraser and passed 5-0.

C. Review of Documents Pertaining to the Transfer of Overlying Water Rights from Sunny-Cal Egg & Poultry Company to CV Communities, LLC [Memorandum No. 14-14, Page 22 of 71]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee reviews the attached documentation and provides direction to the Watermaster Legal Counsel.

Legal Counsel McCullough explained the request for recognition of the transfer with the associated overlying water rights as the property transfer is in name only. Several options were discussed in terms of a possible future resolution for global approval of transfers taking into consideration the overlying rights being transferred to the assessor and the information being documented in the annual report once reported to the Committee Engineer. As there were questions as to methods of tracking overlying right

retentions and potential issues with allocating water as projects are subdivided, a motion to table the item to the next meeting failed to receive a second. After continued discussions, Member Warsinski motioned to approve the transfer as documented by Legal Counsel. The motion was seconded by Member Fraser and passed 3-2 with Chairman Burk and Member Zoba dissenting.

- D. Presentation of Recycled Water Recharge Requirements by the California Department of Public Health and the Regional Water Quality Control Board [[Memorandum No. 14-15, Page 64 of 71](#)]

Recommendation: No recommendation.

Member Zoba explained the reason for the presentation being an explanation of the quantification of recycled water recharge after the definitions or discharge versus recharge were previously explained. Engineer Blandon presented the main points of their provided document, covering surface and subsurface applications explaining that recycled water for ground water replenishment will need to receive treatment to meet the definitions of filtered water and tertiary tier recycled water. These distinctions have to do with the clarity for recharge purposes and the disinfection process respectively. Engineer Blandon also explained how intrinsic, or tracers need to be monitored on a set schedule. The schedule measured percentage amount of the tracer received at different monitoring points over a given amount of time would be determined by the tracer type used. Mr. Blandon also explained the well monitoring requirements prior to operating a ground water recharge project. Member Fraser expressed the importance of all contributing entities conforming to the regulations as the recycled water recharge to the basin can have severe implications for boundary conditions, well installations, and overall basin water quality.

Public Comment

Luwanna Ryan questioned what entity would be responsible for scheduling the testing and state notifications. After Member Fraser explained that the project proponent would be responsible for the reporting and monitoring, she also expressed concern regarding a potential lack of oversight by the testing entity and requested a second party be involved with the monitoring and reporting.

As no recommendation was required, Chairman Burke thanked Engineer Blandon for the information and presentation.

- E. Reimbursement to Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District for the Water Meter Installation at Sunny Cal Egg Ranch [[Memorandum No. 14-16, Page 65 of 71](#)]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee approves the water meter installation reimbursement for a sum not to exceed \$2,412.72.

Member Fraser explained the rules provision that allowed reimbursement when major producers are metered and the documents presented reflect those expenses for the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District. Chairman Burk motioned to approve the reimbursement for the water meter installation. The motion was seconded by Member Zoba and passed 5-0.

VIII. Topic for Future Meetings

- A. Other Topics

Legal Counsel McCullough reminded the Committee that they have the two policies pending the approved redetermination of the safe yield.

Member Fraser suggested a draft policy be considered for changes in storage or credit for recycled water recharge.

Member Zoba suggested the global policy of water rights be included with the next meeting and reminded the Committee that reorganization takes place after the 1st of each year and will be on the next agenda.

IX. Comments from the Watermaster Committee Members

No comments were received.

X. Announcements

- A. The next regular meeting of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster is scheduled for Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 10 a.m.

XI. Recess the Meeting to a Beaumont Basin Watermaster Special Project Committee

The Committee recessed at 11:16 a.m.

The Committee reconvened at 11:25 a.m.

XII. Reconvene the Meeting of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster – Special Project Committee of Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District, City of Banning, Yucaipa Valley Water District, and South Mesa Mutual Water Company

- A. Status Report on the Beaumont Basin Groundwater Model and Redetermination of Safe Yield
[Memorandum No. 14-17, Page 71 of 71]

Engineer Tom Harder provided an overview of the safe yield process and the steps taken since the last meeting as well as an analysis of the return flow methodology by appropriator. The draft safe yield analysis included the recommendation to remove all artificial recharge reporting, an initial evaluation of a refined return flow analysis, an evaluation of losses and an assessment of where those losses are occurring in the basin, as well as an analysis of imported water into the basin as requested by the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District based on the information that was provided. Examples were provided separating the high and low density, commercial, landscape irrigation, and urban classifications. The next step would be to approve or provide comments on the methodology, provide the appropriate boundaries for each appropriator, and to approve the safe yield evaluation for a draft final.

Member Fraser gave additional information regarding how the methodology is validated and Member Zoba commented on the assumptions made and the importance of actual data with parcel information for the future. After discussion, the Committee consensus is to allow the Engineers to draft a final report providing budget information as they incorporate additional information.

XIII. Adjournment

Chairman Burk adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

Duane Burk, Member
Beaumont Basin Watermaster