

**Record of the Minutes of the  
Beaumont Basin Committee Meeting of the  
Beaumont Basin Watermaster  
Wednesday, August 5, 2015**

**Meeting Location:**

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

**I. Call to Order**

*Member George Jorritsma called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.*

**II. Roll Call**

<i>City of Banning</i>	<i>Arturo Vela</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>

*Kyle Warsinski was present as the alternate representing the City of Beaumont in the absence of Member Dave Dillon. Arturo Vela was present as the alternative representing the City of Banning in the absence of Chairman Duane Burke. Keith McCullough was present representing legal counsel for the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.*

*Members of the public who registered their attendance were: John Jeter, Bill Dickson, John Covington, Carl Kymla, Bob Wall, Fran Flanders, Tom Shalhoub, Jack Nelson and Scott Sommer.*

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

*Member George Jorritsma led the pledge of allegiance.*

**IV. Public Comments**

*No public comment was received at this time.*

**V. Consent Calendar**

**A. Meeting Minutes**

**1. No Meeting Minutes for June 3, 2015**

*Member Eric Fraser explained that minutes of the June 3, 2015 meeting were not taken due to technical issues with the recording system, but would be reconstructed and available at a later date.*

## VI. Reports

- A. Report from Engineering Consultant - Hannibal Blandon, ALDA Engineering  
*Engineer Hannibal Blandon to present several of the discussion items later in the meeting.*
- B. Report from Legal Counsel – Thierry Montoya, Alvarado Smith  
*Legal Counsel Montoya to provide recommendations to the Committee in regard to the Safe Yield discussion item later in the meeting.*

## VII. Discussion Items

- A. Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16 [Memorandum No. 15-14, Page 4 of 79]  
*Recommendation: No recommendation*  
*Member Joseph Zoba presented the budget, which was truncated in the agenda packet. He noted that the budget was the same as it was in the prior year as well as what was produced and shared at the June meeting, and suggested moving the discussion to the October meeting. No formal action was taken, but there was a general consensus to move the topic as suggested.*
- B. Evaluation of Groundwater Conditions and Operating Safe Yield for 2014 [Memorandum No. 15-15, Page 6 of 79]  
*Recommendation: No recommendation*  
*Engineer Thomas Harder of Thomas Harder & Co. presented a summary of the groundwater conditions and Operating Safe Yield that were presented in the Annual Report. Mr. Harder addressed questions regarding the hydrographs presented, and noted a widening discrepancy over time between groundwater storage levels estimated by a groundwater flow model and measured values in the hydrographs for the Moreno 6 well.*
- C. Presentation of the Consolidated Annual Report and Engineering Report for Calendar Year 2014 [Memorandum No. 15-16, Page 20 of 79]  
*Recommendation: No recommendation*  
*Engineer Blandon presented information from the draft Consolidated Annual Report and Engineering Report for Calendar Year 2014, which included accomplishments of the Committee in 2014, groundwater conditions, groundwater production and recharge, transfers and adjustment of rights, accounting of the storage, and water quality data in the Basin.*  
*Mr. Blandon fielded questions regarding his presentation.*
- D. Proposed Groundwater Storage Agreement for the Morongo Band of Mission Indians [Memorandum No. 15-17, Page 21 of 79]

*Recommendation: No recommendation*

*Engineer Steve Johnson, President of Stetson Engineers, Inc., on behalf of the Morongo Board of Mission Indians (Tribe), presented the Tribe's Proposed Groundwater Storage Agreement, a plan to deliver and recharge imported water from the San Timeteo Basin in the Beaumont Basin. He also provided responses to Committee concerns about the location of the proposed spreading grounds, and accounting for water losses from the spreading. Members Eric Fraser and Joseph Zoba inquired of Mr. Johnson and expressed concerns on behalf of the Committee regarding several aspects of the Tribe's proposal, including historical water quality in Tukwet Canyon Well B (Well B), proposed possible expansion of facilities, and construction specifications of Well B.*

*Tribal Legal Counsel Scott Sommers presented legal and administrative information as it pertains to the Proposed Agreement, providing clarification of several issues and responses to concerns raised by the Committee's engineering consultant, ALDA Engineering.*

*Engineer Harder presented charted information to highlight concerns previously addressed by the Tribe's representatives that the Tribe has not proposed a method of accounting for water losses and the issue of water quality. Additionally, he expressed concerns with the lack of permeability of the bedrock formations occurring in the proposed recharge site and the direction of groundwater flow from that site. Engineer Harder recommended putting monitoring wells in the proposed recharge site, and that the Committee and Tribe work together to determine the number and location of those wells.*

*Several questions were raised by Members of the Committee, including the reason for the proposed location and irrigation methods used at the Tukwet Canyon Golf Course, as well as concerns regarding the water quality and groundwater flow in that location. John Covington, Water Department Manager for the Tribe, provided responses to the inquiries and an explanation of how the Well B was developed and tested for water quality.*

*At this point, Engineer Harder reiterated his concerns and recommended that the Committee seek further information from the Tribe before approving the Agreement. Mr. Covington expressed concern on behalf of the Tribe about spending additional resources before receiving assurances from the Committee that the project can happen. Engineer Blandon stated that until continuous monitoring has taken place to provide information about water levels across the boundary, the Committee cannot proceed.*

*Member Joseph Zoba motioned to continue this discussion item until the October Watermaster meeting, in hopes of getting additional information and a work plan from the Tribe; Member Fraser seconded the motion; motion passed 4-1, with Member Warsinski voting no.*

- E. Overview of Oak Valley Partners Production Wells and Proposed Adjustments to Historical Groundwater Production [[Memorandum No. 15-18, Page 74 of 79](#)]

*Recommendation: No recommendation*

*Engineer Blandon stated that the final Annual Report will be revised to reflect the fact that the production from Oak Valley Partners Production Wells has gone down to two and a half acre feet, whereas it was previously thought to have been significantly more.*

- F. Status Report on the Installation of Water Level Monitoring Equipment at Twelve Sites in the Beaumont Basin [Memorandum No. 15-19, Page 75 of 79]

Recommendation: No recommendation

*Engineer Blandon gave a status report of the water level monitoring equipment in the Beaumont Basin. He noted that while there is potential for maybe up to 18 monitoring wells throughout the Basin, additional sites need to be identified.*

- G. Discussion Regarding Overlying Users Revised Production Rights [Memorandum No. 15-20, Page 79 of 79]

Recommendation: No recommendation

*Legal Counsel Montoya recommended that the Committee lodge the 2014 Safe Yield Study with the Riverside County Superior Court to show that the Committee is meeting its central obligation of performing said Study under the Judgment and to put the Appropriator and Overlying Parties on notice of the Study as the Overlying users might have issues to raise in court in regard to the Study and its findings.*

*Member Joseph Zoba moved to direct legal counsel to file the Redetermination of Safe Yield with the County of Riverside Superior Court; Member Arturo Vela seconded the motion; motion passed 5-0.*

## **VIII. Topics for Future Meetings**

- C. Recycled Water Recharge Policy  
D. Adoption of the 2014 Consolidated Annual Report

## **IX. Comments from the Watermaster Committee Members**

*No comments from the Watermaster Committee Members were made.*

## **X. Announcements**

- E. The next regular meeting of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

*Member George Jorritsma made the announcement above.*

## **XI. Adjournment**

*Member George Jorritsma adjourned the meeting at 12:33 p.m.*

Attest:

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Eric Fraser, Secretary  
Beaumont Basin Watermaster