

**Record of the Minutes of the
Beaumont Basin Committee Meeting of the
Beaumont Basin Watermaster
Wednesday, February 1, 2017**

Meeting Location:

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

I. Call to Order

Chairman Arturo Vela called the meeting to order at 10:01 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. Thierry Montoya was present representing legal counsel for the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.

Members of the public who registered their attendance were: Hannibal Blandon, Patsy Reeley, and Mike Thornton.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Vela led the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Public Comments

Mike Thornton, speaking on behalf of the City of Calimesa (the City), requested that the Watermaster place an item on a future agenda to consider the City intervening in the Watermaster process on behalf of overlying water users, as well as getting a better understanding of why the City is having difficulties in getting its development projects to move forward as it relates to water issues.

After discussion, the consensus of the Committee was to meet with the City and discuss the role of the Watermaster and the Pass Agency and how groundwater and imported water will be provided to the City.

V. Consent Calendar

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting Minutes for December 7, 2016

Member Eric Fraser motioned to approve the consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Member George Jorritsma and passed 5-0.

VI. Reports

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

Engineer Hannibal Blandon stated that he and Tom Harder are providing responses to requests for data related to the SAWPA Triennial Ambient Water Quality report that CDM Smith prepares.

Engineer Blandon reported on water levels that are currently being monitored, and provided an analysis of drastic changes in water levels at various sites.

- B. Report from Legal Counsel - Thierry Montoya, Alvarado Smith

Legal Counsel Thierry Montoya reported on the resolution in the current agenda package related to San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency's (SGPWA) application for a groundwater storage account.

VII. Discussion Items

- A. Reorganization of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster Committee – Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer [Memorandum No. 17-01, Page 11 of 82]

Recommendation: That the members of the Watermaster either reaffirm the existing officers or conduct nominations for the appointment of new officers of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.

Member Fraser motioned to reaffirm the positions as they stand. The motion was seconded by Member Warsinski and passed 5-0.

- B. Independent Accountant's Financial Report of Agreed-Upon Procedures for the Beaumont Basin Watermaster [Memorandum No. 17-02, Page 12 of 82]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee receives and files the Independent Accountant's Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2016.

After Member Joseph Zoba provided a brief explanation of the report and answers to several questions raised, Member Warsinski motioned to receive and file the report. Member Fraser seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0.

- C. Review and Discussion of Conditions Related to the Groundwater Storage Agreement in the Beaumont Basin for the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) [Memorandum No. 17-03, Page 18 of 82]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster schedule a special meeting on Wednesday March 1, 2017 to consider adopting Resolution No. 17-01.

Member Zoba provided an update on the progress being made in discussions with the SGPWA regarding their proposal for a Groundwater Storage Agreement, gave an overview of Resolution 17-01, and brought forth the

suggestion of the Watermaster having a special meeting to potentially adopt the Resolution.

After discussion among the Watermaster Members regarding Resolution 17-01 and some of the language therein, with some insight provided by Legal Counsel Montoya as well as SGPWA General Manager Jeff Davis, a few minor changes to the language were agreed upon and the item was continued to the next meeting.

- D. Review and Discussion of the Conceptual Framework for the Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the San Timoteo Basin 8-2.08 [Memorandum No. 17-04, Page 22 of 82]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee request to be identified as a stakeholder within the San Timoteo Basin Memorandum of Agreement for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Member Zoba provided an overview of the agenda item, the discussions that have occurred with other stakeholder agencies regarding the formation of a GSA, and a draft Memorandum of Agreement for the San Timoteo Basin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

- E. Approval of a Contract Amendment for Engineering Services with ALDA Inc. [Memorandum No. 17-05, Page 33 of 82]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee directs legal counsel to prepare a contract amendment extending the contract with ALDA Inc. through December 31, 2021.

Member Zoba explained that the contract with ALDA Inc. had expired on June 30, 2016 and based on the positive track record with ALDA Inc., recommended that the Watermaster direct legal counsel to prepare a contract amendment through December 31, 2021. After some discussion, Member Zoba motioned to direct legal counsel to prepare a contract amendment extending the contract with ALDA Inc. through December 31, 2021. Member Fraser seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0.

- F. Discussion Regarding Task Order No. 12 with ALDA Inc. for the Preparation of the 2016 Consolidated Annual Report, Estimate of the Basin Safe Yield, Update of the Groundwater Model, and Associated Consulting Services [Memorandum No. 17-06, Page 47 of 82]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee approves Task Order No. 12 for a sum not to exceed \$95,970.

After Engineer Blandon gave an overview of Task Order No. 12, which covers most of the services provided by ALDA Inc. on a year-to-year basis, Member Member Jorritsma motioned to approve Task Order No. 12. Member Zoba seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0.

- G. Discussion Regarding Task Order No. 13 with ALDA Inc. for the Installation, Maintenance and Data Collection of Water Level Monitoring Equipment in 2017 [Memorandum No. 17-07, Page 53 of 82]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee approves Task Order No. 13 for a sum not to exceed \$21,520.

After Engineer Blandon gave an overview of Task Order No. 13, which was followed by discussion, Member Zoba motioned to approve Task Order No. 13 for a sum not to exceed \$21,520. Member Fraser seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0.

- H. Discussion Regarding Task Order No. 14 with ALDA Inc. for the Analysis of Return Flows by Appropriators to the Beaumont Groundwater Basin and incorporation of findings into the 2016 Beaumont Basin Watermaster Annual Report [Memorandum No. 17-08, Page 57 of 82]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee approves Task Order No. 14 for a sum not to exceed \$12,960.

Thomas Harder of Thomas Harder & Co., hydrogeologist for the Watermaster, presented a proposed scope of work to include return flow records in the 2016 Annual Report by Appropriator. He explained the steps that would be involved and that the majority of the one-time cost would result from the time spent working with the City of Banning to reconcile and incorporate its data.

Several Members discussed the allocation of the cost among all five member agencies in light of the benefits that would be derived by the Watermaster as an agency versus the individual member agencies, as several of the agencies may not see a direct individual benefit from the work proposed.

Member Jorritsma made a motion to approve Task Order No. 14, with the City of Banning to work with the consultant to amend the scope and reduce the cost of the Task Order, which will be allocated among four member agencies, excluding South Mesa Water Company. Member Zoba seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0.

- I. Presentation of Methodology for Estimating Groundwater Storage Losses Associated with Supplemental Water Recharge [Memorandum No. 17-09, Page 61 of 82]

Recommendation: No recommendation.

Mr. Harder requested the Committee's input regarding its strategic goals, direction, and desires in terms of groundwater storage losses associated with supplemental water recharge. He explained that the methodology to evaluate Basin losses associated with supplemental water recharge is straightforward, but that there are currently no storage losses being accounted for.

Several Members discussed the need for accounting for estimated groundwater storage losses and developing a methodology that applies losses based on the spatial location of recharge activities for storage account water, with a separate and from a methodology that would apply to pre-storage account water.

Mr. Harder went on to say that he would summarize methodologies used to account for groundwater storage losses by other agencies, and that he would have a proposal for the Committee next meeting, that would include the key elements of the considerations for review.

- J. Discussion Regarding the Methodology for Calculating New Yield [Memorandum No. 17-10, Page 62 of 82]

Recommendation: No recommendation.

Mr. Harder gave an overview of the issues he would face in calculating new yield that would be allowed for under the stipulated judgment. He recommended at least establishing a gauge at the outflow across Beaumont Avenue to get a baseline in order begin tackling those issues.

After discussion and dialogue, several Members voiced their support of continuing the conversation and discussions regarding the development of a methodology for calculating new yield.

- K. Discussion Regarding the Water Level Monitoring Equipment [Memorandum No. 17-11, Page 63 of 82]

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee continues to use the Solinst monitoring equipment.

Engineer Blandon noted the concerns that had been raised in prior Watermaster discussions about poor customer service received from the manufacturer of the water level monitoring equipment currently in use, and as such, the Watermaster Committee had requested that ALDA Inc. look at other manufacturers to evaluate the possibility of installing new equipment.

Engineer Blandon presented a comparison matrix of four providers of water level monitoring equipment, including Solinst, the current provider of equipment, and discussed aspects of each such as features, costs, and reliability. He recommended that the Watermaster continue with Solinst.

VIII. Topics for Future Meetings

- A. Groundwater Storage Agreement in the Beaumont Basin for the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
- B. Development of a methodology and policy to account for new yield from capturing local storm water in the basin
- C. Development of a methodology and policy to account for groundwater storage losses in the basin resulting from the spreading of additional water sources
- D. Development of a methodology and policy to account for recycled water recharge
- E. Develop a protocol to increase the accuracy and consistency of data reported to the Watermaster

- F. Develop a policy to account for transfers of water that may result when an Appropriator provides water service to an Overlying Party

IX. Comments from the Watermaster Committee Members

There were no comments from the Watermaster Committee Members.

X. Announcements

- A. The next regular meeting of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

XI. Adjournment

Chairman Vela adjourned the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

Attest:

Eric Fraser, Secretary
Beaumont Basin Watermaster