

DRAFT

**Record of the Minutes of the
Beaumont Basin Committee Meeting of the
Beaumont Basin Watermaster
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 7, 2019**

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 10:00 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>Daniel Jagers</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>South Mesa Water Company</i>	<i>George Jorritsma</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Yucaipa Valley Water District</i>	<i>Jennifer Ares</i>	<i>Present</i>

Thierry Montoya was present representing legal counsel for the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.

Staff present were: Mark Swanson, James Bean, Josh McCue and Erica Gonzales from BCVWD and Joseph Zoba from YVWD

Members of the public who registered and / or attended were: John Ohanian of Oak Valley Partners; Fran Flanders; Libi Uremovic; and Jeff Davis; Dave Castaldo; and David Fenn from the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Vela led the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Public Comments:

None.

V. Consent Calendar

It was moved by Member Ares and seconded by Member Warsinski to approve the Meeting Minutes of the following dates as amended:

1. Meeting Minutes for June 25, 2019

AYES: Jagers, Vela, Warsinski, Zoba
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: Jorritsma.
ABSENT: None.
STATUS: Motion Approved

VI. Reports

- A. Report from Engineering Consultant – Hannibal Blandon, ALDA Engineering
Mr. Blandon reported that since the issue of water rights perfection has been resolved, the 2018 report is ready for acceptance.
- B. Report from Hydrogeological Consultant – Thomas Harder, Thomas Harder & Co.
Mr. Harder reported receipt of a data request from Geoscience.
- C. Report from Legal Counsel – Thierry Montoya, Alvarado Smith
No report.

VII. Discussion Items

- A. Status Report on Water Level Monitoring throughout the Beaumont Basin through July 31, 2019
Recommendation: No recommendation.
Mr. Blandon noted that no new wells have been added. Staff continues to monitor the existing 16 wells. In the northwest portion of the area, he is investigating a blip with Well 5. Yucaipa 4 is stable, fluctuating only three feet over the past 40 years, he noted.
The most unstable area, the shallow aquifer, has been fluctuating 4 feet over the last two years, Blandon advised. However, the deep aquifer continues to rise slowly.
The south side of the basin is stable with no changes over the last five years, he reported.
Banning Well 8, which has had a new probe installed, now shows two months of data. It has risen 30 feet over the last four years, Blandon noted. The two most recently added wells show a four-foot decline, he explained.
Staff investigated a decline in Tukwet Canyon Well B, Blandon said, and learned that the drops in water level coincided with the Ridgecrest earthquakes.

Engineer Blandon also noted that the hourly water levels at BCVWD Well 29 drop about 55 feet but recover.

B. A Comparison of Production and Allowable Extractions through June 2019

Recommendation: No recommendation - For informational purposes only.

Mr. Blandon presented a comparison of production rights from the Basin against actual production. BCVWD has imported more than 6,000 acre-feet bringing allowable production close to 8,000 acre-feet. Actual production was about 4,500 a-f, or 55 percent of the total. Production of the City of Banning is about 54 percent of allowable production as of June.

South Mesa and Yucaipa have not added imported water to the basin, but Yucaipa has not produced water from the Basin. Overall, Blandon stated, production is at 50 percent for the 6-month period.

C. Return Flow Accounting Methodology - Draft Report

Recommendation: That the Board reviews the Draft Report and provides comments

Mr. Harder presented an analysis as requested by the Committee. The purpose is to account for the return flow overlying each Appropriator's service area. This was done in 2013 based on land use, and the request was for a more detailed analysis for potential future accounting in the annual reports, Harder explained.

He explained how the analysis was done based on delivery records and explained that parcels overlapping the adjudication boundary were considered using a percentage of area. Harder explained sources and assumptions.

Based on the calculations, Harder said, BCVWD delivers 7,217 acre-feet within the sewered area. Of that, there was inflow to the Beaumont wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) of 3,663, so 51 percent of the water was used indoors, and 49 percent outdoors.

There were issues staff was unable to resolve, said Harder: 1. If there were water losses in the pipeline enroute to the WWTP there could be unaccounted losses, and 2. Some of the water delivered outdoors will become runoff, and there will be evapotranspiration from swimming pools.

For data required for the future, the methodology should be applied to each year's annual report, Harder suggested. New accounts will need to

be incorporated, he noted, and the City of Beaumont wastewater inflow volume.

Mr. Harder detailed lag time for return flow given the varying water depth in the basin, about 15 feet per year.

Member Warsinski asked about methodology for calculating indoor / outdoor water use. Chair Vela pointed out the numbers used from BCWVD do not correlate with other areas due to newer development with required water saving measures. In the City of Banning, the ratio is 31.5 percent indoor, 68.5 percent outdoor, Vela said.

Mr. Jaggars concurred that newer houses under the landscape watering ordinances are more efficient and indicated there is likely an adjustment factor for newer and older.

Member Jorritsma asked about golf courses; Mr. Harder noted that those producing their own water were not included in the analysis. Member Warsinski asked about accounting for commercial and industrial customers. Mr. Harder indicated those were included with the high-density residential category. High water users with little outdoor landscaping may skew the analysis, pointed out Warsinski. Mr. Jaggars agreed that those high users should be separately calculated.

Chair Vela suggested all comments be forwarded to Engineer Harder and a revised version be discussed at the next meeting. The purpose is to roll this into some type of policy, he said.

Harder responded to additional questions and comments.

Engineer Blandon pointed out there are many ways this analysis can be further refined. He asked the Committee members to view the study with thought to how the data will be used in order to come up with the final plan.

VIII. Topics for Future Meetings

- A. Development of a methodology and policy to account for new yield from capturing local stormwater in the basin
- B. Development of a methodology and policy to account for groundwater storage losses in the basin resulting from the spreading of additional water sources
- C. Development of a methodology and policy to account for recycled water recharge
- D. Develop a protocol to increase the accuracy and consistency of data reported to the Watermaster
- E. Discussion of return flow credit and how it might be managed

IX. Comments from the Watermaster Committee Members:

None.

X. Announcements

- A. The next regular meeting of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster is scheduled for Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Libi Uremovic announced that last night, the Beaumont City Council approved 50 water monitoring wells. This is the second time in the last few years, she said, that Beaumont has run a water monitoring well contract scam. She asked why the City of Beaumont, which has no water rights, is monitoring water and putting in 50 monitoring wells.

XI. Adjournment

Chairman Vela adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Attest:

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

Daniel Jagers, Secretary
Beaumont Basin Watermaster