

**REVISED MINUTES OF THE
SANTA MARGARITA GROUNDWATER BASIN
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 25, 2007**

**SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD ROOM, 2 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE
SCOTTS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA**

1. CONVENE MEETING

Scotts Valley Water District (SVWD) Director Chris Perri called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Self-introductions followed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING: Cliff Barrett, City of Scotts Valley; Jim Rapoza, San Lorenzo Valley Water District (SLVWD); Margo Hober, David Hodgins, Ken Kannegaard, Bill Kassis, and Chris Perri, SVWD.

OTHERS ATTENDING: John Ricker and Mike Cloud, Santa Cruz County; Rick Rogers and Betsy Herbert, SLVWD; Charles McNish and Bill O'Brien, SVWD; John Fasolas, Felton Flow; Joe Miller; Sachiko Itagaki and Mike Maley, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF ~~MAY 24, 2007~~ ~~OCTOBER 26, 2006~~, MEETING

Jim Rapoza moved approval of minutes, seconded by Ken Kannegaard. Motion carried by voice vote without opposition.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.

4. AGENDA ITEMS: Betsy Herbert requested consideration of Item 4.4 prior to other agenda items due to a time constraint.

Item 4.4 Climate Change and Water Resources

Ms. Herbert distributed a handout summarizing SLVWD efforts to evaluate and respond to long-term climate change impacts. Ms. Herbert reported that SLVWD had requested a research proposal from Peter Gleick of the Pacific Institute for assistance in formulating appropriate local actions. Subsequent discussions with other local water agencies led to the concept of jointly sponsoring a public forum on climate change and local water resource impacts. Mr. Rapoza urged other water agencies to participate in planning for this forum.

Satchiko Itagaki noted that 2010 Urban Water Management Plan draft guidelines included a requirement to address climate change impacts. John Ricker reported that climate change would be an element of the 2009 California Water Plan Update.

Item 4.1 Integrated Region Water Management Proposition 50 Grant Projects; Conjunctive Use Feasibility Project

Mr. Ricker reported that he and other members of the steering committee for the Northern Santa Cruz County Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) cooperative effort were working on a draft grant contract and budget. The grant award would be for \$12.5 million and would fund 15 different projects. The Regional Water Management Foundation (RWMF), a subsidiary of the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County, would be the direct contracting party with the State Water Resources Control Board. There would be sub-agreements between the RWMF and each of the agencies responsible for implementing the individual project elements.

Mr. Ricker added that the County would have the lead role in the San Lorenzo River watershed conjunctive use feasibility study, one of the 15 projects to be funded under the IRWM grant. County staff and Kennedy/Jenks personnel were in the process of revising a scope of work for this project. Other cooperating agencies would be involved in finalizing this scope of work.

Item 4.2 Proposition 50 Water Security Grant for Emergency Inter-ties

Charles McNiesh reported that SVWD had submitted a request to the Department of Public Health (DPH) for a re-evaluation of SVWD's pending application for Proposition 50 grant funding for water security projects. The revised submittal for \$9.46 million in matching grant funds indicated the City of Santa Cruz, SLVWD, Soquel Creek Water District, Lompico County Water District, and Mount Hermon Association as cooperating agencies. The grant funds would be used to construct system interties and a variety of specific security measures within the individual water systems of the cooperating agencies. Mr. McNiesh added that DPH staff in recent telephone calls had been unable to confirm whether or when the next round of water security project grant funds would be awarded.

Mr. Ricker noted that future Santa Cruz County IRWM grant proposals would also likely emphasize the importance of water system interties.

Item 4.3 Recycled Water and Conservation Projects

Mr. McNiesh reported that SVWD would receive approximately \$700,000 in IRWM funding under the grant program discussed by Mr. Ricker at Item 4.1. These funds would be used to construct two or more recycled main extensions to add new recycled water customers within the SVWD service area.

Bill O'Brien reported for SVWD that recycled water use totaled 120 to 130 acre-feet (AF) in each of 2005, 2006, and 2007. Spring Lakes remained the District's largest customer, coming onto the system in 2005. Decline in Spring Lake's recycled water use

since 2005 had been approximately offset by the addition of new users with lesser individual water demand. Three new customers had recently been added. The District was working to convert The Vineyards Home Owners Association, with an expected annual recycled water demand of approximately 20 AF, by the start of the 2008 irrigation season. The District was also continuing to work on providing recycled water service to Pasatiempo Golf Course, with a potential annual recycled water demand of up to 150 AF.

Mr. McNiesh noted that SVWD had hired a part-time water conservation coordinator, who had revamped the District website and was working on a variety of new and expanded water conservation programs for the District. New conservation retrofit rebates were now in effect, including rebates of up to \$200 for high efficiency toilets using 1.28 gallons per flush or less. Rebates would no longer be given for retrofitting to 1.6 gallon-per-flush toilets.

Cliff Barrett reported that the City of Scotts Valley had been working on a green building ordinance that would encourage water conservation savings. The City was also looking into supplementing SVWD's conservation retrofit rebate program. Mr. Barrett also noted his interest in promoting the use of cisterns, rainwater catchment, and on-site groundwater recharge.

Mike Cloud observed that Soquel Creek Water District provided a rebate for cistern installation. Mr. Perri described an Australian catchment system with which he was familiar for use in dual-plumbed homes. John Fasolas noted potential cautions, including slope stability associated with the cistern's weight and the possibility of mosquito breeding. Mr. Cloud added that a 5,000-gallon or larger cistern would require a County permit.

Mr. Rapoza reported on SLVWD conservation efforts. Installation of water meters in the Mañana Woods annexation had resulted in a substantial drop in consumption in that area. Due to the low rainfall year and the related impact on surface supplies, the District had gone from its Phase 1 to its Phase 2 conservation plan. Rationing was possible if drought conditions were to continue. Despite the District's call for additional conservation efforts, overall water consumption was up 12% from the prior year. Newly installed water mains with greater delivery capacity may have unintentionally eliminated a self-regulating factor, thereby indirectly contributing to the increased consumption which had been observed. The District would be looking to initiate drought planning earlier next year if conditions remained dry.

Mr. Fasolas reported that Felton Flow had been pushing hard for water conservation with SLVWD's assistance. There had been a community meeting, email messages had been disseminated, and many yard signs had been installed.

Item 4.5 Basin Management Updates

Mr. Cloud described the County's groundwater monitoring program, which was concentrated in the mid-County area and extended just to the edge of the Santa Margarita groundwater basin. The County was also developing a County-wide GIS

layer based on approximately 6,300 well driller reports submitted to the Department of Water Resources over the years. When complete, this GIS layer would be available to all County agencies.

5. ADJOURNMENT

By mutual agreement, the next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2008, at 7 p.m. at the SVWD Board Room.

The meeting was adjourned by Director Perri at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Charles McNiesh

Charles McNiesh
Acting Committee Secretary