

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE  
SANTA MARGARITA GROUNDWATER  
BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
OCTOBER 23, 2008**

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

1. Convene Meeting

Scotts Valley Water District (SVWD) Board President Chris Perri called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Self-introductions followed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Rapoza and Fred McPherson, San Lorenzo Valley Water District (SLVWD); Jane Wyckoff, Lompico County Water District (LCWD); Chris Perri, William Kassis, and David Hodgins, SVWD.

OTHERS PRESENT: John Ricker and Mike Cloud, Santa Cruz County; Rick Rogers and Betsy Herbert, SLVWD; Bill O'Brien, Colin Smith and Charles McNish, SVWD; Connie Barr, Nick Barr and John Fasolas, FLOW; Mike Maley, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants (K/J); Joe Miller.

2. Approval of Minutes of April 24, 2008 SMGBAC Meeting, and Revised Minutes of October 25, 2007 Meeting

Dave Hodgins moved approval of minutes of April 24, 2008 meeting. Motion was seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave Hodgins moved to approve revised minutes of October 25, 2007 meeting. Motion was seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Oral Communications: None

4. Agenda Items: Item 4.2 was considered first, followed by Items 4.1, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5.

Item 4.2: South San Lorenzo Watershed Conjunctive Use Study

Mike Maley presented project objectives and explained that current effort is focused on data gathering; project team is looking at water rights and full range of conjunctive use opportunities; technical advisory committee meeting is scheduled for November; will start off by reviewing data gathering results.

John Ricker commented on the overall Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) grant project; there are 16 component projects in all; one of these is to locate and properly destroy abandoned wells; another is to promote recharge enhancement, e.g. retrofit parking lots with drainage devices.

Mike Cloud addressed the committee regarding the latter project, which is identified in the IRWM grant as Component 6; purpose is to begin to reverse development impacts due to impervious surfaces and other barriers to recharge; project will review applicable policies and ordinances; also looking to implement three major pilot projects in high recharge areas, likely including Aptos and Scotts Valley/San Lorenzo Valley areas.

John Fasolas asked about the potential for installing percolation ponds. Mike Cloud explained that identifying possibilities was part of the conjunctive use project. Joe Miller asked if the abandoned quarry adjacent to Carbonera Creek was being considered for percolation. Bill O'Brien advised that that area is an old rock quarry, not suitable for percolation. Several attendees commented on percolation possibilities at Hanson Quarry.

#### Item 4.1: Integrated Regional Water Management

John Ricker addressed the committee on a range of IRWM issues: state water plan update is proceeding; Prop 50 water bond is providing \$12.5 million in grant funding for projects discussed in previous item; state's process for rolling out Prop 84 funds is still not settled; \$52 million from Prop 84 is allocated for Central Coast Region; entities within the region have been meeting to establish priorities and coordinate; local IRWM meetings will be scheduled to identify priority projects; importance of inter-ties between local water agencies has already been agreed upon; storm water management to meet new RWQCB requirements is another key issue on horizon.

Fred McPherson mentioned current water bond proposals, noting proposed surface water reservoirs for Central Valley and importance of pushing for coastal needs. Additional discussion ensued regarding current water bond proposals.

#### Item 4.3: Climate Change and Water Resources

Betsy Herbert provided follow-up on the May climate change forum held in Santa Cruz; noted that copies of Community TV's DVD recording have been distributed; discussed SLVWD's climate change resolution regarding AB32 implementation and SLVWD's greenhouse gas inventory, which has been submitted to California Climate Action Registry (CCAR); first step of measurement helps identify "low hanging fruit"; she has been appointed to serve on County Commission on the Environment; her sub-committee is looking at water issues.

Jim Rapoza mentioned there were flyers available on the table by the door for an upcoming climate change event in Long Beach.

Fred McPherson addressed the committee regarding AB2466 introduced by Assemblyman Laird; bill allows electric bill credits under certain circumstances for

businesses, government agencies and special districts for alternative energy installations.

#### Item 4.4: Recycled Water and Conservation Projects

Bill O'Brien addressed the committee recent about expansion of SVWD's recycled water program; Vineyards HOA was recently added; now recycled water represents 13% of SVWD's total supply during peak irrigation months; Scotts Valley Plaza on Mount Hermon Road will be on recycled water next irrigation season.

Charles McNiesh reported that K/J's recycled water planning study for SVWD is nearing recommendation phase; objectives are twofold; one objective is to determine how best to spend \$705,000 of IRWM grant funding dedicated for constructing recycled main extensions in next two years; other objective is to plan for building out system to full capacity over the long term; one finding of study is that SVWD does not have as much recycled water as previously thought; inflow to the treatment plant had been overestimated and customer potable water use has gone down in recent years.

Bill O'Brien observed that SVWD's water conservation efforts are partly responsible for the low treatment plant inflows. Charles McNiesh added that recent declining potable water sales are consistent with increasing water conservation; noted that City of Scotts Valley now matches SVWD's rebate so that customers are eligible for up to \$400 per new high efficiency toilet installed. Chris Perri stressed the need to increase focus on water outdoor use, since this represents such a large fraction of total water use. Charles McNiesh said SVWD recently adopted an ordinance to take effect in December expanding the customer rebate program to include rebates for weather-based irrigation controllers, artificial turf, and cisterns; this is two-year pilot program supported with state grant funding.

Jane Wyckoff reported on her favorable experience with a dual-flush toilet insert being sold locally. Chris Perri said he has an appointment to discuss this product, and he will report back to the SVWD Board.

#### Item 4.5: Basin Management Updates

Jim Rapoza reported that SLVWD budgets annually for toilet refunds; program is fully subscribed and a waiting list is maintained; water sales revenue was down last year; SLVWD is moving ahead with its new administration building. Rick Rogers advised that SLVWD had taken over distribution to 1,300 Felton customers previously served by California American Water Company (Cal Am); water levels in the Mañana Woods well were down; water consumption in Mañana Woods subdivision has dropped with metering in place, as expected.

Charles McNiesh said SVWD is looking to construct another well, not for additional supply but for backup and redundancy; prior groundwater modeling study recommended an additional Butano formation well to relieve current reliance of Lompico formation wells; application for AB303 funding for a test well project has been submitted.

Jane Wyckoff reported that LCWD is still dealing with slide and road closure aftermath; lobbying FEMA for assistance has been challenging.

Jim Fasolas reported on groundwater storage ideas promoted by Bob Curry, former UC Santa Cruz professor.

The next Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee meeting date was scheduled for April 23, 2009.

5. Adjournment

Bill Kassis moved to adjourn. Jim Rapoza seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Chris Perri adjourned the meeting at 8: 30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Deborah L. Hazen

Deborah L. Hazen, SVWD Board Secretary