

*Draft Minutes*  
**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER**  
**AGRICULTURAL POOL MEETING**  
March 16, 2004

The Agricultural Pool Meeting was held at the offices of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, 6075 Kimball Ave, Chino Hills, CA, on March 16, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.

**Agricultural Pool Members Present**

Nathan deBoom, Chair	Milk Producers Council
Glen Durrington	Crops
Jeff Pierson	Crops
John Huitsing	Dairy
Gene Koopman	Dairy
Peter Hettinga	Dairy
Pete Hall	State of California, California Institute for Men
Wayne Davison	State of California Institute for Women

**Watermaster Board Member Present**

Paul Hofer	Crops
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**Watermaster Staff Present**

John Rossi	Chief Executive Officer
Sheri Rojo	Finance Manager
Danielle Maurizio	Senior Engineer
Sheri Lynne Molino	Recording Secretary

**Watermaster Consultants Present**

Michael Fife	Hatch & Parent
Mark Wildermuth	Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.

**Others Present**

Rick Rees	Geomatrix for CIM
Steve Lee	Space Center Mira Loma
Mark Kinsey	Monte Vista Water District
Josephine Johnson	Monte Vista Water District

Chair deBoom called the Agricultural Pool meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

**AGENDA - ADDITIONS/REORDER**

**I. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. MINUTES**

1. Minutes of the Agricultural Pool meeting held February 17, 2004

**B. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

1. Cash Disbursements for the month of February 2004
2. Combining Schedule of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Working Capital for the Period July 1, 2003 through January 31, 2004
3. Treasurer's Report of Financial Affairs for the Period January 1 through January 31, 2004
4. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2003 through January 2004

*Motion by Koopman, second by Pierson, and by unanimous vote*

***Moved to approve Consent Calendar Items A through B, as presented***

**II. BUSINESS ITEMS****A. REQUEST FROM CITY OF CHINO CREDIT AGAINST OBMP ASSESMENTS (FORM 7)**

Mr. Rossi commented that discussions started in the October/November time frame regarding the credit the City of Chino was requesting for facilities they are building. Mr. Rossi referred to the comments gathered from Committee and Board member meetings starting on page 22 of the packet. He continued summarizing Projects, Programs and Activities that Could be Eligible for Credit. A comment was made regarding ION exchange not really being a salt credit and it was noted that changing salt is a debate item and can be discussed at a future meeting. The Theoretical Impacts table was reviewed and discussed. Questions were raised about how the Appropriative Pool reacted to this table and their concern regarding the smaller appropriators and how it might affect them. Mr. Rossi stated that he was continuing the process of gathering written comments and indicated this item will be brought back for review.

No action was taken.

**B. IEUA STORAGE AGREEMENT**

Mr. Rossi confirmed this item was mentioned last month as part of our final approval with the court for Metropolitan Water District (MWD), Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA), Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD), and some of the Appropriators for our Dry Year Yield program. Commenting that a Storage Agreement between IEUA and the Watermaster is necessary in order to implement that Project. Counsel Fife stated that approval of the Agreement and submission to the Court for approval is the final step in the approval process of the Dry Year Yield program which started over a year ago. The Funding Agreement was taken to the court and that portion was approved with the caveat that we clarify the actual Physical Storage component of the program. The second part of the process started with the Article 10 application that was submitted by IEUA which received review and comment and was discussed thoroughly. There was a lengthy analysis of the physical impacts of this program and ultimately that application was approved through the Watermaster process which then authorized Watermaster to complete the Storage Agreement with IEUA and TVMWD. This agreement will lock in the requirements of how this program will be operated in terms of the Peace Agreement and Judgment. The Agreement was summarized by counsel.

*Motion by Koopman, second by Pierson, and by unanimous vote*

***Moved to approve bringing this recommendation for the Storage Agreement to the Advisory Committee, Watermaster Board, and onto the court for final approval and to authorize staff and counsel to make minor edits, as needed***

**C. REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD GROUND WATER MONITORING DATA ISSUES**

Mr. Rossi reminded the Committee that Mr. Thibeault from the Regional Board presented his request for information to the Committee and was bringing back revised data for release of information. A discussion ensued with regard to the Regional Board being satisfied with this revised data. Mr. Wildermuth felt this map should suffice the needs of Mr. Thibeault. Mr. Rossi recommended that the Committee proceed with the presented map and data table. It was decided that Mr. Thibeault could keep the map and data table only if it sufficed and if not, he was not permitted to retain those items.

*Motion by Pierson, second by Koopman, and by unanimous vote*

***Moved to approve to submit to Mr. Thibeault of the Regional Board the proposed map and identification of the wells in a PDF file for approval prior to the release of any specific information as identified by the numbers on the wells and if it is approved, at that time, he will be given a hard copy of the data***

**D. REQUEST FOR DATA CONCERNING TCE PLUME FROM CHINO AIRPORT**

Mr. Rossi informed the Agricultural Pool that a request was submitted approximately two weeks ago from Tetra Tech, which is an engineering firm working for the County at the Chino Airport on the TCE plume and is requesting water quality data from the Watermaster. A reference to the clean up and abatement order that was issued several years prior which has little to no activity regarding pursuing this issue was noted. Mr. Rossi felt the Regional Board has been re-energized with regard to this issue and that Tetra Tech was in the process of monitoring the first set of their samples. This review led Tetra Tech to the possible conclusion that the TCE did not come from the Chino Airport. Watermaster became involved to try and demonstrate to them that they were not looking at the whole picture and furthermore felt Tetra Tech needed to run additional tests and review more well samples. Mr. Rossi noted that based on our comments, and the items that are available from Watermaster's data base, Tetra Tech has asked to review our data and felt we possibly could have more conclusive and current data than they possessed. Mr. Rossi stated that with this information request, we wanted to present to the Committee a recommendation to provide them data. This data could have all references to locations simplified to a point on the map with a numeric sequence.

Discussion ensued with regard to the initial cease and desist order on the airport which was issued over 10 years ago and to the data which was collected at that time, which must have showed where the TCE was originating from. Mr. Wildermuth thinks Tetra Tech received an improper perspective and is reviewing a limited area with well data and they do not have the quality of data that Watermaster can provide on all the wells which show where TCE is at present. Consensus was that we need to release generalized information as to benefit the clean up efforts. Mr. Rossi offered his thoughts for release of generalized information and offered the need to be more proactive in releasing data that will give solutions to problems or possibly show responsibility, stating the goal is to find ways to work with other agencies. Discussion of privacy for the individual well owners was addressed and it was stated that in prior instances it was thought by the Committee that the owners should be personally contacted and asked to give approval for dispersing this information. As a Committee it was stated that the Committee did not want to approve or give up somebody else's private well information and the Watermaster needed to contact those private well owners and get their permission to divulge the VOC. Mr. Rossi offered to the Committee a letter be written to those individual well owners stating the situation and recommending the release of this data. This letter would be signed not only by Watermaster but by the Chairman of the Agricultural Pool. It was felt this would assist in getting a response for release of information. Discussion ensued regarding the length this process might take, the Regional Board's financial responsibility to follow through with this, and lastly some assurance they will hold the responsible party liable.

*Motion by Pierson, second by Koopman, and by unanimous vote*

***Moved to approve to identify which private wells can benefit the VOC identification and that the Watermaster staff along with the Chairman of the Agricultural Pool compose and sign a letter directed to those private property owners of the wells requesting their assistance and release of very specific information on the VOCs***

**III. REPORTS/UPDATES**

**A. WATERMASTER GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT**

1. Chino Land & Water Update

Counsel Fife updated the Committee on the March 3, 2004 appeal by Chino Land & Water. The court, once again, denied that there is any merit whatsoever to Chino Land & Water's claims. Counsel summarized the court hearing and a brief discussion ensued with regard to recouping costs because of unfair business practices.

2. MZ1 Workshop with Special Referee

Counsel Fife stated that this was the Subsidence Interim Plan and that a workshop was to take place in October which was moved because the extensometer and piezometer's had

just begun to collect data when it was time for the workshop. We still need to schedule this and you will be seeing an announcement around May for this workshop.

3. DYY Storage Agreement and Court Approval  
This item was previously covered under Business Items B.
4. Basin Plan Amendment Review  
Counsel Fife reminded the Committee that the Watermaster Board had asked legal counsel to do a review of some of the specific language concerning desalter requirements. Counsel Fife stated that he gave a presentation at the Advisory Committee and Board levels and due the presentation being a very lengthy; he would just give oral comment. Since the presentation only concerns the specific language in the Basin Plan Amendment building the next desalters. This is an item that under the Peace Agreement the Agricultural Pool was taken out of that process and the Agricultural Pool does not have any commitments with regard to the next set of the desalters. The Appropriators however were concerned about the language in the Basin Plan Amendment in whether that added to their requirement for a desalter which is why legal counsel was tasked to review this item. The analysis was looking at two specific parts of the Basin Plan Amendment; one is a requirement of a desalter in the event with certain things happening with IEUA's waste discharges and the other concerns a schedule that the Regional Board wants to see for the next desalter. The outcome was the recommendation was that the Appropriators and Watermaster begin some kind of process to discuss the schedule which needs to be submitted to the Regional Board in 2005 and that entails a discussion about the next set of desalters, costs, and how are we going to allocate the costs and benefits. We recommended that we establish a process to discuss cost benefit allocation issues.
5. SWRCB Water Right Fee  
Counsel Fife commented that this item is a general information item. The SWRCB Board has imposed a fee on water rights which does not affect groundwater rights; it only affects surface water rights, which the Board has jurisdiction over. However Watermaster does hold some water rights to this surface stream and noted Watermaster had received a fairly minimal bill because the surface water in the Chino Basin is fairly minimal, it comes to approximately \$1,200. A brief discussion ensued and the question regarding a new bill was introduced. Counsel Fife commented he had not heard about this new bill and would have to look into it get back with the Committee.
6. Kaiser Information Request  
Counsel Fife commented on Kaiser submitting a Public Record Act Request of Watermaster requesting everything we have concerning Kaiser. Noting they have been in a process with Ontario about the movement of their plume and recently concluded a settlement agreement with Ontario because Ontario has lost a couple wells. Their concern is that Watermaster's analyses of their plume might show it doing something different than previous analysis did. We are presently engaged discussing with them the kind of information they might need. Counsel Fife remarked he will be having discussions with Kaiser and it is not clear where those discussions will lead at this point in time although will keep the Committee apprised of the outcome.

#### Added Item #7

7. Monte Vista Water District vs. Chino Basin Watermaster  
Counsel Fife referenced the hand out on the back table for the submitted motion regarding salt credits by Monte Vista. Monte Vista is requesting that the court order a process to be initiated to discuss allocation of costs and benefits of water quality mitigation measures. Counsel Fife commented since he had only just received this motion, and not had sufficient opportunity to review in detail, therefore does not have a lot to report on at this time. At the Advisory Committee and Board meetings Counsel will have reviewed the case in detail and have a specific recommendation at that time to present.

**B. CEO/STAFF REPORT**

1. Mark Wildermuth Will Make a Presentation Regarding OBMP Progress through December 31, 2003

Mr. Rossi introduced the upcoming presentation by commenting about the past presentations regarding updating the parties on what progress has been made on the OBMP since 1999. And stated that Hydraulic Control, Desalters, and Maximum Benefit were the three topics covered at prior meetings and today's topic would be on the MZ-1 Interim Plan for Subsidence.

Mr. Wildermuth gave his presentation on MZ-1 Interim Monitoring Program Update which started with the Objectives of MZ-1 Interim Plan (from OBMP). He noted three objectives, 1) Minimize subsidence and fissuring in the short term, 2) Collect information necessary to understand the extent, rate, and mechanisms of subsidence and fissuring, and 3) Formulate a long-term management plan. Mr. Wildermuth commented that the Interim Monitoring Program consisted of Ground-Level Surveys, InSAR Mapping, and Aquifer-System Monitoring and noted that he would be going into more detail later in the presentation regarding the Aquifer-System monitoring. He examined mappings of Class-A, Class-B, and proposed Class-B Monuments. Mr. Wildermuth explained in detail the Aquifer-System Monitoring which was followed by maps and pictures of Extensometers. Key findings were discussed concerning several charts on the subject of pumping tests. Lastly, a review of upcoming tasks for 2004/2005 was presented and discussed.

2. Update Regarding AGWA Strategic Planning Session

Mr. Rossi reported that the Association of Groundwater Agencies has embarked on a strategic planning effort. He detailed a meeting recently held to work through various issues in an attempt to redefine the Agency. It was decided that four sub-committees would be formed out of the main group and each sub-committee would have largely one main focal point; such as Regulatory Issues, Legislative Issues, Metropolitan Water District Issues, and Communications. It was decided, as a group, there was value to continue with the AGWA Committee.

3. Update Regarding MWD Perchlorate Task Force

Mr. Rossi with the assistance of Mr. Rich Atwater, Inland Empire Utilities Agency encouraged Metropolitan Water District to allow John Rossi, Robert DeLoach, and Mark Wildermuth to join the Perchlorate Task. No date has been set for the next meeting. Mr. Rossi will keep Committee members apprised of its progress.

**IV. INFORMATION**

1. Response to Monte Vista Water District Letter Dated December 11, 2003 Regarding Assessment Package

Mr. Rossi referred to page 33 of the packet regarding the response letter written to Monte Vista Water District and pointed out the three key points of the letter 1) Reallocation of Agricultural Pool Safe Yield, 2) Desalter Replenishment, and 3) New Yield Allocation. Mr. Rossi noted this item was for information only and made no further comment.

**V. POOL MEMBER COMMENTS**

No comment was made on this item.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

No comment was made on this item.

**VII. FUTURE MEETINGS**

March 10, 2004	9:00 a.m.	MZ1 Technical Group Meeting
March 10, 2004	11:00 a.m.	Injection/Recharge Demonstration Project Proposal Meeting
March 11, 2004	3:00 p.m.	Joint Appropriative & Non-Ag Pool Meeting
March 16, 2004	9:00 a.m.	Agricultural Pool Meeting
March 23, 2004	2:00 p.m.	Water Quality Meeting
March 25, 2004	10:00 a.m.	Advisory Committee Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	Watermaster Board Meeting

The Agricultural Meeting Adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_