

Draft Minutes
CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
AGRICULTURAL POOL MEETING
April 20, 2004

The Agricultural Pool Meeting was held at the offices of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, 6075 Kimball Ave, Chino Hills, CA, on April 20, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.

Agricultural Pool Members Present

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

Watermaster Board Member Present

Paul Hofer	Crops
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Watermaster Staff Present

John Rossi	Chief Executive Officer
Sherri Lynne Molino	Recording Secretary

Watermaster Consultants Present

Michael Fife	Hatch & Parent
Joe LeClaire	Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.

Others Present

Steve Lee	Space Center Mira Loma
Rich Atwater	Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Chair deBoom called the Agricultural Pool meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

AGENDA - ADDITIONS/REORDER

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Agricultural Pool meeting held March 16, 2004

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Cash Disbursements for the month of March 2004
2. Combining Schedule of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Working Capital for the Period July 1, 2003 through February 29, 2004
3. Treasurer's Report of Financial Affairs for the Period January 1 through February 29, 2004
4. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2003 through February 2004

Motion by Feenstra, second by Koopman, and by unanimous vote

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

II. BUSINESS ITEMS**A. POLICY DISCUSSIONS REGARDING CREDITS AGAINST OBMP ASSESSMENTS (FORM 7)**

Mr. Rossi noted this item is being directed to be discussed at the Attorney/Manager meetings and there would be no discussion regarding this item at this meeting.

B. 2004/2005 WATERMASTER BUDGET

Mr. Rossi gave the Watermaster 2004/2005 budget presentation and highlighted the main areas on which Watermaster will be focusing. These areas included, but are not limited to, Monitoring Activities, Implementation of Recharge Improvement and Dry Year Yield Projects, Management of Subsidence and related issues, Optimization of Watermaster and Inland Empire Utilities Agency Ground & Surface Water Informational Databases, Hydraulic Control Monitoring Program, Inactive Well Protection Program, and the Water Quality Committee. Mr. Rossi noted that while the budget was up slightly there was a continuing decrease in administrative and legal counsel costs. He briefly described the new "key well" program which would allow monitoring for key wells instead of all wells, allowing for more availability for sampling. Also, mentioning the need to install hardware for injection testing to offer an enhanced understanding of levels. Mr. Rossi informed the Committee he was anticipating the budget to be finalized and brought back for consideration next month.

Several questions were presented regarding wells. Inquiry to the release of well information to the Regional Board from the March Pool meeting was presented. Mr. Rossi informed the Committee the Regional Board approved the maps and data which were submitted. Mr. Rossi was questioned regarding wells that no longer existed. Mr. Rossi stated all wells were closely evaluated and consideration was paid to wells that will be in place long. The question regarding if there was a strategy on recovering equipment from non operative wells was presented. Mr. Rossi commented he would appreciate any Committee member's assistance on this issue.

A discussion ensued with regard to the court ordered future desalter schedule that is due to be filed with the court in September of 2005. Noting Jurupa has asked Watermaster to review the Kaiser Plume in regards to the future desalters. The question of whether or not the Attorney/Manager meetings included this topic into their discussions was addressed. Counsel Fife made comment regarding the scheduled hearing for Monte Vista Water District's case for April 22, being postponed to the month of June and that he felt the first meeting went well and was encouraged that the meetings will cover numerous areas by way of appointed sub-committees, including desalters.

C. CONSIDER AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF UPLAND AND IEUA FOR RECHARGE PROJECT

Mr. Rossi reviewed the agreement between Chino Basin Watermaster, Inland Empire Utilities Agency and the City of Upland regarding funding and improvements for the Upland Basin along with highlighting the benefits this agreement would provide. Noting the amount of money dedicated to this project was previously budgeted to be a part of the work accomplished under the Recharge Master Plan. Mr. Rossi asked for action to move forward on the funding opportunity and authorize staff and counsel to make minor edits to the agreement as needed.

Motion by Koopman, second by Feenstra, and by unanimous vote

Moved to approve the Agreement with the City of Upland for the recharge project and to allow staff and counsel to make minor edits as necessary

D. DATA REQUEST FOR ONTARIO AIRPORT PLUME

Mr. Rossi reviewed the request from TetraTech regarding the TCE issue and the request for our captured data which would allow TetraTech to present a clearer case on the Ontario Plume. It was asked if Watermaster had sent the release of data forms mailed to private well owners via registered mail or return receipt which would have given Watermaster a "proof of service" record. Mr. Rossi informed the Committee the next time a request of this type is sent out it will be sent registered mail. Mr. Rossi was pleased to inform the Committee approximately 95% of the draft clean-up and abatement orders were completed, commenting we will be facing the same type of request from the Regional Board for release of data and assured the Committee a proof of service would be maintained. A letter of almost the same nature as the TetraTech letter will again be accompanying the release postcards and Chair deBoom requested the letter be forwarded to him prior to its release. Mr. LeClaire stated there were approximately 80 to 100 wells in the path of the plume and these would be the targeted wells for the request of well information release. Discussion ensued with regard to releasing information to the Regional Board when it was felt they already had this type of information at their disposal from their own sampling. Mr. Rossi explained the Regional Board wants to be able to present the "whole picture" and with our combined data, they could accomplish this task. Noting this would give a complete record which is imperative to convince the potential responsible parties from where the plume originated.

Several concerns and comments were received on this subject. Mr. Hofer stated this is a serious state of affairs which is affecting all of us and noting our wells are now being affected; this situation needs to be addressed sooner rather than later and whatever we have to do to move this forward he will support.

Motion by Feenstra, second by Huitsing, and by majority vote with one abstention by Koopman
Moved to approve to mail out a registered letter/request for release of well data to the private well owners after letter approval by Chair deBoom and to release approved well data to the Regional Board

III. REPORTS/UPDATES**A. WATERMASTER GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT****1. Attorney/Manager Meeting – April 7, 2004**

Counsel Fife informed the Committee that Monte Vista Water District's case and several other water quality issues will be addressed at the Attorney/Manager meetings. Commenting the first meeting went well with the outcome of several formed sub-committees to tackle various issues. Coming to an agreement is the goal for the Attorney/Manager meetings stated Counsel Fife.

Mr. Atwater stated that Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) was in the process of approving a 100,000 acre foot agreement with Metropolitan Water District (MET) noting that IEUA has to comply with the Santa Ana Judgment. Mr. Atwater briefly mentioned the Storage & Recovery Program is a huge value to the basin including the desalters. Mr. Atwater spoke on rates and projections for rates in the future while commenting MET's rates have increased almost 75% which might double within the next 10 years Mr. Atwater further stated. This basin is innovative in recycling water, investing in desalters, long-term clean up actions, and finding more cost efficient projects to help. Commenting the Chino Basin has the lowest rates offered. Mr. Atwater felt that MET's rates had increased due to the state water budget, higher electricity costs to get water from one place to another, and water quality spending to retrofit water plants. The comment regarding the quality of water going to Orange County and questioning if Orange County was working with us on Maximum Benefit was presented. Comment received from the Committee thanking Mr. Atwater and the Chino Basin Watermaster was received.

Added Legal Counsel Comments:

1. Counsel Fife commented that the Chino Land & Water case was being submitted to the Supreme Court. Counsel Fife stated the Watermaster was not going to respond to this pleading. A copy of the petition was available on the back table for all interested parties.
2. Counsel Fife addressed the hand out regarding the recently awarded patent for furrows adjacent to ridges within recharge basins. Counsel briefly described the patent and noted this item will be added to the ACWA agenda for discussion. Also commenting this will have state wide interest for all parties who recharge water.
3. Counsel Fife informed the Committee the Dry Year Yield Agreement between Watermaster, Three Valleys Municipal Water District, Metropolitan Water District, and Inland Empire Utilities Agency was approved and the final copy will be available once all signatures have been secured.
4. Counsel Fife described the April 12, 2004 water quality litigation for San Gabriel Watermaster and Metropolitan Water District. Mentioning neither party has responded yet to the claims made by several of the Potentially Responsible Parties Counsel Fife mentioned that Steve Hoch of Hatch & Parent would be giving a presentation regarding this issue at the upcoming Advisory & Watermaster Board meetings.

B. CEO/STAFF REPORT

1. Presentation Regarding OBMP Progress through December 31, 2003
Mr. LeClaire gave a presentation on the Ontario Airport and the Chino Airport Plumes. Reviews of several maps relating to TCE found in wells were assessed and a prolonged discussion ensued. Mr. LeClaire noted the Regional Board could possibly ask for more wells to be installed for monitoring TCE levels. Mr. LeClaire examined in detail the history of both the airport plumes in a time-line formation. Comment was received about notification to the public regarding wells where TCE was found and thoroughly discussed. Counsel Fife made several comments with regard to the Committee's discussion. It was decided that Chair deBoom and Mr. Feenstra would be invited to attend the next Water Quality Committee meeting on June 2, 2004 to address the issues brought up at today's meeting.
2. Update Regarding Water Quality Committee Meeting April 6, 2004
Mr. Rossi commented the Water Quality meeting was cancelled and was rescheduled for June 2, 2004. No further comment was made regarding this item.
3. Update Regarding MZ1 Technical Group Meeting April 7, 2004
No comment was made regarding this item.
4. Update Regarding Data Requests
 - a) Regional Board
 - b) Tetra Tech – Chino AirportNo comment was made regarding the items listed above.

IV. POOL MEMBER COMMENTS

Comment regarding the control of gates and water in the pipelines was received. Mr. Rossi acknowledged this area of concern needs to be addressed and he will be contacting the Flood Control District to schedule a meeting.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

No comment was made regarding this item.

VI. FUTURE MEETINGS

April 6, 2004	2:00 p.m.	Water Quality Meeting
April 7, 2004	9:00 a.m.	MZ1 Technical Group Meeting
April 7, 2004	1:30 p.m.	Attorney/Manager Meeting
April 8, 2004	3:00 p.m.	Joint Appropriative & Non-Agricultural Pool Meeting
April 12, 2004	8:00 a.m.	GRCC Meeting
April 20, 2004	9:00 a.m.	Agricultural Pool Meeting @ IEUA
April 22, 2004	10:00 a.m.	Advisory Committee Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	Watermaster Board Meeting
April 29, 2004	2:00 p.m.	Storage & Recovery Meeting

The Agricultural Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Secretary: _____

Minutes Approved: _____