

Minutes
**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
AGRICULTURAL POOL MEETING**

March 10, 2005

The Agricultural Pool Meeting was held at the offices of Chino Basin Watermaster, 9641 San Bernardino Road, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, on March 10, 2005 at 11:00 a.m.

Agricultural Pool Members Present

Glen Durrington, Chair	Crops
Peter Hettinga	Dairy
Bob Feenstra	Milk Producers Council
John Huitsing	Dairy
Ed Gonsman	State of California, California Institute for Men
Nathan Mackamul	State of California, CIM/CIW

Watermaster Staff Present

Sheri Rojo	Finance Manager
Gordon Treweek	Project Engineer
Danielle Maurizio	Senior Engineer
Sherri Lynne Molino	Recording Secretary

Watermaster Consultants Present

Michael Fife	Hatch & Parent
--------------	----------------

Others Present

Steve Lee	Reid & Hellyer
Rick Rees	Geomatrix for CIM

Mr. Manning called the Agricultural Pool meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. in the absence of Chair deBoom

AGENDA - ADDITIONS/REORDER

Mr. Manning asked the attending committee members of the Agricultural Pool if they would appoint a temporary chair for this meeting since both the chair and vice-chair were absent. Glen Durrington accepted to take over as temporary chair for the March 10, 2005 Agricultural Pool meeting.

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

Moved to approve appointing Glen Durrington as temporary chair for the March 10, 2005 Agricultural Pool meeting, as presented

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Agricultural Pool Meeting held February 15, 2005

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Cash Disbursements for the month of February 2005

2. Combining Schedule of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Working Capital for the Period July 1, 2004 through January 31, 2005
3. Treasurer's Report of Financial Affairs for the Period January 1, 2005 through January 31, 2005
4. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2004 through January 2005

C. STATUS REPORT #13

Consider Authorization to File Status Report 13 with Court and Authorize Staff and Counsel to Make Minor Edits as Necessary

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

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

II. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. MITIGATION OF TEMPORARY LOSS OF HYDRAULIC CONTROL

Mr. Manning stated that in December 2002 Watermaster and Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) submitted a proposal to the Regional Board requesting TDS and Nitrogen objectives be established using the Maximum Benefit concept. The Regional Board accepted the proposal with some slight modifications and those modifications were incorporated into the 2004 Basin Plan Amendment. One condition of the Maximum Benefit based objective was that Watermaster and IEUA submit a mitigation plan for this temporary loss of hydraulic control, which the proposal is being presented today. If approved, this proposal will be presented to the Regional Board. If modifications are requested those changes will come back through the Watermaster process. Mr. Wildermuth stated that in the OBMP the concept of hydraulic control came up. What hydraulic control means is there is very little outflow in the greater part of the Chino Basin, what is called Chino North or Chino Management Zones 1, 2, and 3. Mr. Wildermuth described in detail what occurs when the land transitions in the southern end of the basin from agricultural to other uses. The Regional Board was presented with a proposal stating that we are going to maintain hydraulic control and in turn asked if we can receive some of the benefits from doing this. Mr. Wildermuth discussed TDS and reclamation. As a condition of the Basin Plan being amended triggered a requirement for the Watermaster and IEUA to develop a proposal to mitigate any temporary loss of hydraulic control. In the agenda package starting on page 23 is that proposal. The proposal states if there is a loss, and we can detect it, but there is not imperilment of downstream beneficial uses and the desalters are running and doing their job, then all will be okay. If there is a loss in hydraulic control and we do impair downstream uses, then our mitigation is going to be to stop recharging recycled water until hydraulic control can be regained. The financial impact to Watermaster if Watermaster was using recycled water for replenishment purposes is that it costs less. This proposal was run by the Regional Board and their staff felt it had merit, however, once the final proposal is submitted to the Regional Board they might as for modifications or changes. The question if there was a downside to this proposal was presented and Mr. Wildermuth stated that there was no downside. A discussion ensued with regard to storm flow and wet years.

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

Moved to approve the mitigation of temporary loss of hydraulic control plan, as presented

Added Comment:

Mr. Feenstra thanked Mr. Treweek and the Watermaster staff for providing the very informative sheets on the results from the storms and noted how powerful the information is. Mr. Feenstra asked that each time this report is updated if the Agricultural Pool could receive it in email form.

Mr. Manning stated the storm reports are still being based on by visual data due to the SCADA system is not up and running 100%. The information/data is collected by Watermaster staff physically going to the basins and observing the characteristics of the basins. Staff has learned over the course of the past eight storm events that with a significantly less precipitation the basin could have received the same amount of benefit from our basins. There are still a number of basins that are not fully functional for utilization and once the SCADA system is up and running that will change. The SCADA data that is currently coming in is on water level data and no operational data is being received. Mr. Manning discussed the recent Prado Dam incident and the working relationship with the Flood Control District. A question regarding the release at Seven Oaks was presented and Mr. Manning stated that release does not affect the Chino Basin. A brief discussion ensued with regards to Seven Oaks. A question regarding the recent storms affecting the nitrate levels in the basins was presented. Mr. Wildermuth commented that the rain has not and inquired if the question was that the rain would lower the nitrate concentration in the basins and stated that would not be the case either.

Mr. Feenstra requested that the Sheila Kuehl bill be put back on the agenda for the next Agricultural Pool meeting because there are some real concerns over that bill regarding agricultural uses statewide.

III. REPORTS/UPDATES

A. WATERMASTER GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

1. Attorney-Manager Meetings

Counsel Fife stated that this year there are a number of items under the Peace Agreement which need to be resolved including at the end of the year the reappointment of the nine member board. Counsel Fife noted this meeting is a continuation of the process that was started last March. An agenda was sent out for the attorney-manager meeting which is scheduled for March 15, at noon at IEUA, and if there are any questions regarding that agenda Counsel stated he can be seen directly after the meeting.

2. Santa Ana River Application Process

Counsel Fife stated that the applications processes are starting to move forward again. Mark Wildermuth, Ken Manning, and Counsel Fife met with the State Board staff on Monday and gave them an introduction to the Chino Basin. It was a very cordial meeting and went very well. Since the State Board primarily works with surface water and this application deals with groundwater there was a lot of explaining and questions during the meeting. Staff received good feed back from that meeting and they seemed generally impressed with the project and we will continue to forward with them.

3. Senator Kuehl's Water Bill

Counsel Fife commented since the last Agricultural Pool members met the text for that bill has been released and is provided in full in the agenda packet. Along with the full bill the summary written by Hatch & Parent is also in the packet.

In addition to that bill there are two more bills of interest on the back table. One bill is the Senate bill 773 and assembly bill 1453 these are both bills that could have an impact in the Chino Basin. One bill concerns the recharge of treated water and possibly changing the permit requirements and the other one is to create a system of water courts. The water court issue has been discussed for a number of years and is now coming into a possible play. It raises an issue in Chino Basin because if a system of water courts is created the idea would be that all water cases should be in one of those special water courts. This is something that the Chino Basin needs to think about; whether we would prefer to be in a water court or prefer to be in our local San Bernardino Superior Court. There could

possibly be advantages to both of these scenarios. Advantages and disadvantages to both ideas will need to be discussed as a group and thought will need to go into if there should be any input as this bill moves forward.

B. CEO/STAFF REPORT

1. AGWA Update

Mr. Manning stated that the AGWA (Association of Groundwater Agencies) of which John Rossi is the acting chair, this association was established in 1994 and incorporates all of the groundwater areas within all management zones in California into an agency looking out for groundwater issues. Mr. Manning stated that he has been asked to handle the Public Information Communications Committee and he will be working on newsletters, conferences, and an improvement on the current web page.

2. Budget Schedule

Mr. Manning stated that the Watermaster schedule calls for the draft budget to be available in April; there will be a workshop scheduled slightly after the draft is distributed and if all goes well and on schedule the budget will be in the May package for Pool, Advisory, and Watermaster Board approval. If there are any revisions to be made, the budget will then come back in June through the approval process. No dates for the workshop has been set, however look for it being in the late April time frame.

3. DOGS/CWIS Update

Mr. Manning stated this is a program that Watermaster has been involved with and noted it started with John Rossi and Martha Davis's input in putting together a data collection process. The Pools, Advisory Committee, or Watermaster Board has not been brought up to speed on the progress of this project to date. Watermaster staff has been working with Wildermuth Environmental on the development of this idea and our key staff person is Danni Maurizio. Danni will present a slide show on what has transpired and where staff plans on seeing this process evolve. Ms. Maurizio presented the committee members with the presentation titled "DOGS (Data Organizational Group and Subgroups), CWIS (Chino Watershed Information System) Map-Based Water Resource Data Management System".

Ms. Maurizio reviewed the background of Phase I of the project which started in 2003 and gave an analysis of the project approach. Ms. Maurizio noted the mapping and viewing data will be easy to use and allow users to quickly view data along with being able to annotate and print. The benefits to Watermaster parties were reviewed and the future work to be performed was examined in detail. Mr. Manning stated that this process is going to provide many parties with a great deal of opportunity to provide services to all of Watermaster's member agencies. Because there is a lot of sensitivity to data and release of data this information will be protected and only those people who are allowed to see the data will be allowed access to it. The Board and Watermaster Pools will be kept informed as this project moves forward through this process. A question regarding current wells was presented and discussed briefly.

4. Future Recharge Facility Improvements

Mr. Manning noted there is a handout on the back table regarding this item and is currently available for information purposes. During the course of the expenditure of nearly \$40 million dollars for the improvements to the basins there was an entire wish list created at the start of this project. As the projects began several items needed to be cut out in order to fit the projects financially into the budget. Because there is now additional

monies available from grants through IEUA at this point in time, \$15 million dollars, staff has gone back to that wish list of projects that were deleted and put them back onto this list for consideration. As staff begins to look at each of the items for potential inclusion within the next project, staff will be looking at what their value will be to the basin. There are a number of items on this list which will improve what has already been started and potential expansion of what has already been started. Progress reports will be brought back as things move forward.

IV. INFORMATION

1. Newspaper Articles

V. POOL MEMBER COMMENTS

A question regarding tolerances for Perchlorate was presented. Mr. Manning stated that the current action level in California is .6 ppb and the debate that has been in the papers recently is based upon the National Academy of Sciences report which was released about a month ago. Mr. Manning noted the subsequent adoption of a temporary number that combines both ingestion of food and water for all sources of 24.5 ppb on Perchlorate. The EPA's number and their temporary standard does not affect us in California because we are still bound by .6 ppb standard, however, it could have an affect on California in time as they start to looking at establishing a national standard.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

No comment was made regarding this item.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS

March 10, 2005	9:00 a.m.	Appropriative & Non-Agricultural Pool Meeting
March 10, 2005	11:00 a.m.	Agricultural Pool Meeting @ CBWM
March 15, 2005	12:00 p.m.	Manager's Meeting @ IEUA
March 21, 2005	1:00 p.m.	AGWA Meeting
March 24, 2005	9:00 a.m.	Advisory Committee Meeting
March 24, 2005	11:00 a.m.	Watermaster Board Meeting
March 28, 2005	8:30 a.m.	Water Quality Meeting
March 30, 2005	9:00 a.m.	MZ1 Technical Meeting

The Agricultural Pool Meeting Adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Secretary: _____

Minutes Approved: April 21, 2005

