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MINUTES
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 9 a.m.
UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Boardroom, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030

Committee Members Present:

Director Naumann – arrived 9:18 am
Director Maulhardt

Director Absent

Chair McFadden

Staff Present:

Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager
Dr. Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer
Anthony Emmert, Assistant General Manager
Dr. Zachary Hanson, Hydrogeologist
Eva Ibarra, Administrative Assistant II
Kathleen Kuepper, Hydrogeologist
Tessa Lenz, Associate Environmental Scientist
John Lindquist, Senior Hydrogeologist
Murray McEachron, Principal Hydrologist
Josh Perez, Human Resources Manager
Zachary Plummer, IT Administrator
Robert Richardson, Senior Engineer
Dr. Bram Sercu, Senior Hydrologist
Dr. Jason Sun, Senior Hydrogeologist/Modeler

Public Present:

Burt Handy
Monica Noeng

OPEN SESSION: 9:18am

Director Maulhardt
Director Naumann

Committee Members roll call

Director Maulhardt (serving as Chair in Director McFadden's absence), and Director Naumann were in attendance in the Boardroom. Director Maulhardt called roll and confirmed two Committee members were present (Maulhardt, Naumann), and one was absent (McFadden).



1. Public Comment

Director Maulhardt asked if there were any public comments for the Water Resources Committee; none were offered.

2. Approval of Minutes - Motion

Motion to approve the February 2, 2021 Water Resources Committee meeting minutes, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Naumann. Roll call vote: two ayes (Naumann and Maulhardt); none opposed; one absent (McFadden), Motion carries 2/0/1.

3. Santa Clara River Sanitary Survey

Kathleen Kuepper presented on the recent update to the Sanitary Survey for the potable water systems operated by the District. These updates are required every five years and are intended to identify potential water quality issues within the watershed (see slides).

Director Naumann asked how often the District's water is monitored. Mrs. Kuepper stated surface water samples are taken quarterly.

Director Maulhardt mentioned United Water and Ventura County formed a partnership with Public Works and the Water Protection District regarding the elevated chloride releases from Saugus and Valencia plants. The partners initiated a legal fight that was brought before the State Water Resources Control District and the Sanitation District. He went on to say the collaboration between United and the County initiated the effort, and then other cities joined that fight. Director Maulhardt expressed the need to rebuild these relationships as they benefit so many.

Director Naumann asked what other areas are being sampled quarterly by State Water Control Board, other than United's service area. Mrs. Kuepper stated she did not have that information.

General Manager Mauricio Guardado stated he knows Santa Clarita is required to provide sampling because of their water issues.

Dr. Maryam Bral stated she believes Santa Clarita is looking into treatment and Kennedy Jenks consultants are helping them to determine a treatment.

Director Maulhardt, Director Naumann, Dr. Bral and Mrs. Kuepper shared what information they had regarding water sampling.

Director Maulhardt asked if anyone had any further questions, none were offered.

4. Basin Hydrologic Conditions

John Lindquist presented to the committee summarizing hydrologic conditions in the basins within the District boundaries for the month of January 2021 (see slides).

Director Naumann stated the graphs presented illustrate the importance of the State Water Project, and that if the District can continue along this path, it will be a good success story. Mr. Lindquist agreed and stated this water is significant during drought years and really improves the water quality in the forebay.

Director Maulhardt asked if anyone had any further questions, none were offered.



5. Water Resources Department Update

John Lindquist provided updates with a presentation to the Committee on recent Water Resources Department activities and projects (see slides).

Director Maulhardt asked if anyone had any questions, none were offered.

6. Groundwater Sustainability Agencies Update

Mr. John Lindquist provided an update with a presentation (see slides) on the various activities of the GSAs.

Mr. Lindquist mentioned on behalf of Mr. Dan Detmer that the Fillmore Piru Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency has used the District's model results for information and discussions related to shallow wells that are expected to become dry during periods of extended droughts and how historical observations and simulations of future conditions have been used to inform discussions as to whether drying and reduced surface flows in basin boundary areas for groundwater dependent ecosystems should be considered significant and unreasonable. The agency is also starting to look at land subsidence, and United is supporting the agency in looking for new locations for monitoring wells.

Director Naumann asked about the connection between the District and the GSAs and water supply outlook, specifically, how do they all fit together. Mr. Lindquist explained that it was important to develop an understanding of the sustainable yield of the "upstream basins," including Piru, Fillmore, and Mound, in order to understand the scale of projects needed for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley basins, where existing GSPs indicated that demand was greater than supply. Director Naumann asked if it was fair to say that water from beyond United's service area was also important; specifically, surface and groundwater entering Piru basin from Los Angeles County and Conejo Creek water being diverted for use in Pleasant Valley and eastern Oxnard basin. Mr. Lindquist agreed that it was important.

Director Maulhardt summarized Lindquist's response as "Actions in one basin affect groundwater conditions and sustainability in other basins." Mr. Lindquist agreed.

Mr. Guardado concluded that the courts are now realizing that groundwater basins in United's service area and beyond, are indeed interconnected and the regional approach makes more sense.

Director Maulhardt asked if there were any additional comments or questions. None were offered.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None were mentioned

ADJOURNMENT

Director Maulhardt adjourned the meeting at 10:12 am.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the UWCD Water Resources Committee Meeting of February 2, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Maulhardt", written over a horizontal line.

Director Lynn Maulhardt