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MINUTES
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Boardroom, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030

Committee Members Present:

Daniel Naumann, chair (arrived at 9:06 a.m.)
Lynn E. Maulhardt, director
Gordon Kimball, director

Staff Present:

Mauricio Guardado, general manager
Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager
Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer
Dan Detmer, water resources manager
Eric Elliott, associate hydrogeologist
Hanna Garcia-Wickstrum, associate environmental scientist
Dr. Zachary Hanson, hydrogeologist
Eva Ibarra, clerk of the Board
Tessa Lenz, environmental scientist/regulatory affairs
John Lindquist, supervising hydrogeologist
Murray McEachron, principal hydrologist
Zachary Plummer, technology systems manager
Dr. Jason Sun, principal hydrogeologist/modeler

Public Present:

Sam Collie
Burt Handy
Joseph Marcinko, assistant public works director, City of Oxnard
Tony Morgan, DBS&A
Jennifer Tribo, management analyst II, Ventura Water

OPEN SESSION: 9:04 a.m.

Acting Chair Maulhardt called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Two Committee members were in attendance (Maulhardt, Kimball). Director Naumann was absent.

1. Public Comment

Chair Maulhardt asked if there were any public comments. None were offered.



2. Approval of Minutes - Motion

Motion to approve the Minutes from the Water Resources Committee meeting of November 1, 2022, Director Kimball; second, Director Maulhardt. Voice vote: two ayes (Kimball, Maulhardt). Motion carries unanimously 2/0/1. Director Naumann was absent.

3. Hydrologic Conditions Update for the Santa Clara River Watershed, January 2023

Staff delivered a presentation detailing observed precipitation and stream flow conditions within the watershed of the Santa Clara River following the significant storms of January 2023, including an update on surface water storage in Lake Piru, conditions at the Freeman Diversion, and measured changes in groundwater elevations in certain key wells.

[Director Naumann arrived at the meeting at 9:06a.m.]

Director Maulhardt asked if staff could add a bar to the bottom of the slide showing averages and actuals, and both Director Maulhardt and Naumann asked if the District was ahead in our water levels. Principal Hydrologist Murray McEachron said the District is well ahead compared to other years. Mr. McEachron explained the levels and stated it was likely the highest flow for Sespe since gauging started and discussed the consequences of the storm.

Director Naumann asked if the District has ever had an opportunity for an exchange with Piru and Castaic? Mr. McEachron said no, and it would take time to make that happen.

The committee requested the entire presentation be presented at the next Board meeting.

4. Development of Groundwater Flow and Solute Transport Modeling of the Semi-perched Aquifer, Southern Oxnard Basin

Staff provided details of work performed to develop the Perched Aquifer Model (PAM) for the Southern Oxnard basin, including model construction and calibration. The presentation summarized progress to date, including simulation of the inland extent of the natural saltwater density wedge, and ways to represent aquifer flow and water quality conditions both historically and with the future operation of the EBB Water Project.

Director Maulhardt asked if it is fair to say the density wedge shown in the slide is a problem for the brackish water project? Dr. Jason Sun, principal hydrogeologist – modeler, said the wedge occurs naturally and that some mixing does take place. Dan Detmer, water resources manager, also joined the discussion and offered additional explanations.

Director Maulhardt said he did not fully understand what he was seeing. Dr. Sun explained that lateral groundwater flow is dominant in the project area and there is vertical migration simulated only in the upper layers of the semi-perched aquifer. He also clarified that he is presenting a hypothetical chemical release and provided a better explanation. Director Maulhardt said the presentation was very informative.

Directors Maulhardt, Kimball, and Naumann requested the entire presentation be presented at the Board meeting for a better understanding.



5. Water Resources Department and GSA Activities Update

Staff provided an update to the Committee on recent Water Resources Department activities and provided an update on GSA activities and meeting schedules for the Fillmore and Piru Basins, Mound Basin and Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (Oxnard, Pleasant Valley and Las Posas Valley basins).

Director Maulhardt and Director Naumann both requested that a slide from a previous presentation, which illustrates groundwater levels for recovery to date, be included in the staff presentation to the Board, so the full Board can see where the District is now.

Director Naumann requested the schedule for EBB Water project phases be shown to the Board.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT 10:46 a.m.

Chair Maulhardt adjourned the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Water Resources Committee Meeting of January 31, 2023.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Daniel Naumann", is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Naumann, Chair