

REDWOOD VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
2370 Webb Ranch Road
Redwood Valley CA 95470
(707) 485-0679

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 20, 2014

Directors Present: Jeanette Hallman, Granville Pool, Ken Todd, Jeff Basili
Directors Absent: Pamela Ricetti
Staff Present: General Manager Bill Koehler
Recording Secretary: Linda Groth
Others Present: Several members of the public.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:03 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL.

Jeanette Hallman, Board Vice-President
Jeff Basili, Director
Ken Todd, Director
Granville Pool, Board President

2. HEARING OF COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM THE ATTENDING PUBLIC.

No comments.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA. (Agenda Item No. 4)

MOTION: Accept the Agenda as presented.
Basili/Todd Discussion CARRIED
AYES: Unanimous
ABSENT: Ricetti

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR. (Agenda Item No. 5)

- a. Financial Statement.
- b.-1. Bills Paid since those approved at last Meeting.
- b.-2. Bills Paid as approved at previous Meeting.
- c. Bills Payable.

d. District Activity.

The Consent Calendar for February 2014 was reviewed.

MOTION: Approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Hallman/Basili Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Unanimous

ABSENT: Ricetti

5. CONSIDER HEARING OF URGENT ITEMS RECEIVED SINCE THE AGENDA WAS POSTED.
(Agenda Item No. 3)

Additional items regarding the issue of interties and/or drought were received after the Agenda was posted. They will be discussed at Agenda Item No. 8, during the General Manager's Report of those topics.

GM Koehler did not have the draft Minutes of the Special Meeting available in this Board Packet. He will include them in the next Board Packet.

President Pool announced a State Level Meeting with local agency representatives will be held on Monday, February 24th in Ukiah; it is not open to the public. GM Koehler will attend as will President Pool if he is excused from Jury Duty.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

The Draft Minutes of January 16, 2014 were reviewed.

Director Hallman referred to Agenda Item 5, Well Policy. She said, There were some Directors and GM Koehler who said 'we have no dog in this fight' and we don't have anything to do with the development of wells.

Director Hallman would like the Mendocino County Division of Environmental Health Policy, which is basically our County's policy for the Well Permit for drilling within a water district, to be added to our Minutes for two reasons: first, to show why she disagrees with that statement and, second, to show why she feels this is a valid discussion for the District.

GM Koehler offered that those Minutes reflect what was said. He suggested that discussion of the DEH Well Permit can be added as an Agenda item next month.

Director Hallman agreed to the Agenda item in addition to having a copy of the Permit added to the Minutes 'For the Record'.

Director Hallman also referred to GM Koehler's statement that the mini-subdivisions are never heard at Board Meetings, but she is now providing Minutes that reflect those very discussions and she would like those added to the Minutes as well.

GM Koehler offered the Agenda Item for next month to be a discussion of well policy for RV and the County.

On a different topic, Director Hallman referred to Page 14 of the Minutes saying that Supervisor Pinches was reappointed as Chair. The sentence should reflect: Supervisor Pinches was appointed again as the Chair. (not reappointed).

Director Hallman concluded, With those changes, I would like to make a Motion:

MOTION: Approve the Minutes with changes and attachment as discussed.

Hallman/Todd Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Unanimous

ABSENT: Ricetti

After a round of discussion as to whether or not the County Environmental Health Policy can be attached to the February Minutes, the Board agreed that it will do no harm to have the document attached to both the January Minutes and the February Minutes.

Director Todd is concerned that the District might be holding up someone in the process for drilling a well. President Pool said the Board will discuss this next month.

Dir. Hallman reiterated, My Motion does have the County Environmental Health Policy attached.

The Motion was CARRIED unanimously. (Note: See Last Page as the CEHP attachment)

7. DIRECTORS AND STAFF REPORTS AND DISCUSSION OF NON-ACTION TOPICS.

a. Personnel Committee Report.

With the resignation of Director Spilman, there is no longer a Personnel Committee. A Personnel Committee will be appointed sometime in the future when needed.

b. Ad Hoc/Consolidation Committee Report.

GM Koehler reported that Tim Bradley, Dave Redding, Sean White and he met for some discussions. The general consensus is that some bridges need to be built between Willow and the FCD in particular. We asked Dave Redding to put this item on their Agenda for their last Board Meeting but he did not. GM Koehler spoke with Dave again today to reinforce that we need to get these communications going. The bulk of the conversation was that the Manager of the FCD needs to meet with the Members of the other Boards in question. Hopefully it will happen.

President Pool reported he had received an email from Paul Zellman, President of the Flood Control District Board of Trustees, asking that just the two of them meet to kind of get to know each other better and also to give him a better sense of what is happening in our parallel but separate efforts at the functional merger with Millview. President Pool said he spoke with GM Koehler regarding this request for just the two of them to meet and get to know each other. GM Koehler saw no problem with that, so President Pool did meet with President Zellman for about 1-1/2 hours. They mostly just got acquainted with each other and then eventually did get to talking about specifics of the consolidation effort between RV and FCD and our efforts to form a functional merger with Willow and Millview for operational purposes, and how that was potentially affected by the rather abrasive comments that Willow submitted to FCD both on the new water supply contracts and also the Willow CWD comments that were ostensibly on the Neg Dec that FCD filed. The Neg Dec was just for some mapping corrections that had to do with its efforts to take its 8000 ac-ft permit to license. The original maps of FCD Place of Use includes Redwood Valley even though RV is not within the Flood Control District boundary. The original mapping that had been done for the FCD was just paper mapping that traced around parcel maps; it wasn't very accurate. In the process of trying to go to license with the State, the State required the FCD to obtain accurate maps, which they did, with Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS). Of course that much more accurate map ended up having some discrepancies with the old paper map. Because the Neg Dec had only to do with that mapping effort, it didn't change anything, it was just a correction. However, Willow took that opportunity to use as a merger bash, that somehow that Neg Dec was saying that there was no significant effect of merging RV with FCD, but, the Neg Dec had absolutely nothing to do with that.

GM Koehler stated, For the record, the original guesstimate of the total acres allowed to be served by irrigation water from FCD, did not change. What did change, was the total amount of acreage within the boundaries. The old methods used before GPS was available were always subject to substantial human error. GM Koehler said the bottom line is that he spoke with GM Dave Redding and Dave has agreed that he will make sure this matter is on the Willow CWD Agenda before their next regular meeting. At that time, GM Sean White and GM Bill Koehler will be in attendance and hopefully we can all work together better.

8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT.

8-a. Brown Act Voting Record.

Per Brown Act amendment effective January 1, 2014:

If a motion is voted unanimously, record it as: Approved: Unanimous

If a motion is not voted unanimously, record it as: the individual Board Member name(s)

If there is a Nay, or an Abstain, or an Absence, record it as: the individual Board Member name(s).

8-b) Drought.

GM Koehler stated, The Sonoma County Water Agency owns 88% of the water in Lake Mendocino and we, Redwood, work fairly closely with those folks. The SCWA is the fallback position for Redwood Valley if, for whatever reason, Redwood cannot get water from the Flood Control District.

The SCWA did some modeling and they concluded that in the 140 years of rainfall reporting, (the rainfall year is October through May) this is the lowest rainfall year in the 140. They also hired the highly experienced University of Arizona people to come here and perform tree-ring dating on blue oaks. Their findings are that this is the driest year in 400, so things are grim.

Lake Mendocino is currently higher than it was in the drought of 1977 however it is lower now than it was on this date in 1977, so again, things are grim.

The District has 200 ag customers. They have been notified of a required 50% reduction. Staff calculated what that would be, based on usage during 2006, 2007, 2008 as discussed with the Directors at a previous meeting. That usage was then cut in half and the resulting 50% reduction was personalized to each customer.

President Pool said he has really been struggling to determine the right thing to do with regard to our ag customers. He asked Director Todd what he thinks would be responsible and appropriate.

Director Todd said that is a tough question to answer. The vines are growing plants that need to be watered. If water is completely shut off, there will be serious consequences, not only to crops but to jobs and everything else for a couple of years. If there is some way to cut ag back from 50% usage, down to 25% of usage, that would at least provide some drip irrigation during the summer to keep the plants alive.

President Pool stated that we don't know what kind of frost season we will have and it would be tragic if the District doesn't allow water for frost protection.

Director Todd said that he has been ranching in this County for 30 years and in that time, there were only two years when frost protection water wasn't needed.

As to domestic customers, the District has 1350 equivalent housing units including mobile home parks and the Rancheria. We are using an average of 66 gallons per person per day. We have many customers that are using far less than that amount per day and we have many customers greatly exceeding that amount per day.

The California Department of Public Health is recommending a 'per household' amount. This is different than the per-person requirements in the past. We know there are households with more than 4 people and we know there are pot growers that are using excessive amounts of water.

Also, we have requested Grant Funding from the CDPH emergency drought money in order to build the Intertie for potable water. This Grant Funding is contingent upon the District being in mandatory conservation mode. They are not giving us details but suggested comparisons are: Willits - 150 gallons per household per day. Brooktrails - 110 gallons per household per day (based on household of 4) and that results in 27 gallons per person per day, which is the World Health Organization equivalent of 100 liters per day per person which is the recommended minimum for an industrialized country. Obviously there are many places in the world where having 100 liters per person per day would be awesome.

After further discussion of concerns, suggestions, legal options and the need for mandatory conservation during this dire drought condition, and in compliance with our Ordinance, GM Koehler was directed to send a letter to all customers with notice of a public meeting at the RV Grange Hall at 6 p.m. on March 12th.

As a recap, GM Koehler stated:

For Ag - All usage available is based on lake levels. Usage is 50% reduction for now. This is subject to a change down to 25% of historical usage and, also, it could be shut off completely.

For Domestic - Currently at 180 gallons per household per day; which reflects 60 gal per person per day. A warning that this could be reduced to 27 gallons per person per day.

The 180 gallons per household per day = 5,400 gallons per month. The 3-Step Overage Penalties will be as follows: The 1st 4,000 gallons overage will pay 200% penalty.

The 2nd 4,000 gallons overage will pay 300% penalty.

The 3rd 4,000 gallons overage will pay 400% penalty.

If you exceed the 5,400 gallons per month for two months in a row, we will demand a right to do an in-home audit at your expense. If you refuse the audit, water will be disconnected.

There will be no water hauling except to RV property owners whose wells have gone dry and they would also be subject to the same usage as RV customers.

A member of the public asked why it would be a greater cutback this time than it was during the last drought.

Director Todd said, Because this drought is lot more severe than the previous one.

Member of public then asked about the newspaper article quoting GM Koehler as saying we have 60 days left before running out of water, but the District is working on something. What is it?

GM Koehler said we are working on three different things. The first source is to lower the intake at Lake Mendocino. We currently have 9 feet of water above the intake but we have 24 feet below it. We will have to hire a confined-space dive team with underwater cutting tools to convert our concrete caisson into a 90,000 gallon 'bucket'. We will pump water that is sitting below the intake and put it into the 'bucket' and then turn on our 500 horsepower pumps to get it to the water treatment plant in order to keep the system going as long as it can. This coming Wednesday the Army COE is bringing a barge from Lake Sonoma to Lake Mendocino to assist RV with this project. There are regulatory reasons this project could be stopped, but we plan to get official approval. The Army COE did originally tell us, You do whatever you've got to do.

The second source to tap is the 67 acre-feet pond here at the treatment plant.

Our third source is to build an intertie and receive water from Millview CWD. The Millview CWD was able to test a well on the old Masonite property. They had the water analyzed chemically and determined it is not underflow, it is not under the confluence of the river, it is coming down out of the West Hills; they pump-tested it for 72 hours at 1,000 gpm. So, Millview has contacted the owners, and if they can get access to that well and buy the water from that well, they would then push it through Calpella CWD, to RV. Although Millview already provides water to Calpella CWD, Redwood would have to upgrade that section because we want more water than it was designed for. We would have to build a pump station to get the water from Calpella CWD into our system, which is 200 feet higher than the Calpella system. The cost of that pump station is \$400,000. President Pool clarified, The \$400,000 is the cost of the pump station and the other upgrades, plus a fairly short length of pipe along Central Avenue to connect the two systems together. Member of public asked if Redwood Valley would have to pay for the intertie and the answer is Yes, because we are receiving the benefit of that water.

President Pool stated that we are also watching the City of Ukiah, because the City has many assorted claims in terms of what it has for water and one of the things we're watching closely in this drought situation is to see if the City's claims of what it has, prove up, or if they don't. If the City has oh-so-much water, then a future possibility is that we might be able to get water from the City. Another possibility regarding the City that could help us is that if the City does prove that it really does have all this water under its own Rights, and just absolutely doesn't need its 800 a-f allocation of RRFC water, that allocation of water may become available.

GM Koehler stated that the City has tentatively agreed to release that contract for this year.

President Pool agreed, but said he was talking about potentially for future use.

GM Koehler added, If they continue to demonstrate that this is not underflow and indeed there is 90,000 acre-feet underneath the City of Ukiah, if it's really there then Millview will probably drill a well. They have a hydrogeologist helping them pick sites and there are high producing wells in that part of the valley. However, there is a potential problem with boron in the water from 800' deep wells.

GM Koehler asked the Board if we are in agreement on paying the \$2400 to the Friends of Lake Mendocino, which is actually the US Army Corps of Engineers, for bringing the barge up to Lake Mendocino for our use?

MOTION: Approve the \$2400 payment to the Corps of Engineers.

Todd/Basili Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Unanimous

ABSENT: Ricetti

8-c) Interties.

Tim Bradley from Millview CWD has made contact with the owners of the Masonite property. They live out of state, but they have responded with: Send us a proposal.

The Masonite well water has been tested and has passed the water quality standards, therefore it would not have to go through our water treatment plant. We might possibly partner with Millview CWD with a combined "super intertie" project which might also include upgrading the Willow to Ukiah intertie.

Today the District received paperwork from the California Department of Public Health requesting that we, as Grantee, fill out this paperwork for our request of \$250,000. The CDPH has also requested that RV formally request a commitment from other local water purveyors to supply water to RV in the event of lack of availability from Lake Mendocino. Specifically, a) we are wheeling water through Millview (just using their pipe) b) Millview will do everything they can to get us water and c) the City of Ukiah will do everything they can to get us water. The fourth piece that they demand is, d) mandatory conservation. Otherwise we are not eligible for grant money.

The Directors were provided with copies of the draft letters for review and approval.

MOTION: Support sending these letters to the other water agencies.

Todd/Basili Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Unanimous

ABSENT: Ricetti

8-d) District Operations.

The field crew is currently working on completely replacing the influent piping at the treatment plant in order to eliminate the underground vault which houses the chemical feed alarms. They fail every winter creating a potential CDPH violation. The new installation will be above ground and this will also result in eliminating the three confined spaces associated with it.

Some of the CDPH recommendations resulting from an annual inspection still remain to be done because of lack of manpower and because of dealing with drought and other urgent issues.

8-e) Website.

The District has received some suggestions for possible improvements to the District Website. The Board heard those suggestions.

No action taken.

8-f) Doorhanger Fee/Late Fee.

Staff recommends a \$5.00 increase of the Doorhanger Fee and a \$5.00 increase of the Late Fee. These tasks are both relatively time consuming and the intent is to reduce the frequency, as most of the people on the list are the same people, month after month.

Any action on this matter is not subject to compliance with Prop 218.

MOTION: Increase the Doorhanger Fee by \$5.00 and increase the Late Fee by \$5.00.

Todd/Basili Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Todd, Basili, Pool

NOES: Hallman

ABSENT: Ricetti

8-g) FORECAST Act.

Congressman Jared Huffman has authored and introduced a bill to modernize the US Army Corps of Engineers reservoir operations, some of which are based on obsolete 60-year-old manuals. The name of the bill is, the Fixing Operations of Reservoirs to Encompass Climatic and Atmospheric Science Trends Act, aka the FORECAST Act. It is important for each water purveyor to send a letter of support. A draft letter of support was presented for Board consideration.

MOTION: Authorize signing the letter of support for the FORECAST Act.

Hallman/Basili Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Unanimous

ABSENT: Ricetti

GM Koehler stated that the Catch 22 in this came out this morning. As part of the IW&PC subcommittee that deals with the US Army COE, GM Koehler attended the teleconference which revealed that for the COE to consider re-operating the dam, they would have to evaluate the dam safety. It is such a tangled mess. Janet Pauli will be contacting Grant Davis, GM of the Sonoma County Water Agency, because they

are basically taking the lead on the request to have the dam re-operated and they are doing all the modeling.

Director Todd feels that this is pretty much a bogus argument.

GM Koehler added, they took it even one step farther and basically said, you're never going to get any money from us. If you want to get this done, you need to go partner with the Bureau of Reclamation.

Director Todd asked about the testing of the integrity of the dam a few years ago when they raised the water level and left it high for quite a long time. He thinks that would be part of the safety check.

GM Koehler said, Yes, they not only did that, but they determined the Coyote Dam has phenomenal records, photographs, plans, as-builts, the whole nine yards and they, themselves, determined that it was an extremely safe dam. According to all the studies, they classified the dam as a category 4; but they downgraded it to a category 3, because even though this is a tremendously safe dam, if it ever does break, it would be devastating to the surrounding communities.

GM Koehler continued, During our conversation this morning, we asked what it would take to get this dam classified as a category 4, since the category 3 dams cannot be raised.

President Pool stated, I thought that had already been discussed and determined.

GM Koehler said it was determined that the primary item would be an audible alarm system with a number of alarms that would reach down to Frog Woman Rock south of Hopland. He added, The Corps is now saying there are other some other things, and we asked what they are, and we were told that this information hasn't been released yet.

The County of Mendocino has one alarm that they can install now and they also need to install a couple more.

In regards to Congressman Huffman's FORECAST Act, the bottom line the Corps of Engineers stated this morning is that until such time as the dam can be reclassified to a category 4, they cannot change the way it is being operated.

9. FINANCIAL REPORT.

After a review of the Financial Report for February, 2014, a Motion was made.

MOTION: Approve the Financial Report as presented.

Hallman/Basili Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Unanimous

ABSENT: Ricetti

10. LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY – LAFCO.

The LAFCO draft application has been completed and it is now being reviewed by both Bruce Baracco at LAFCO and by Supervisor Carre Brown.

11. M. C. INLAND WATER & POWER COMMISSION.

Director Hallman reported the 2-hour Special Meeting was attended by Janet, Candace, Carre, Benj, Hal, Jeanette and Bill. It involved each agency rep sharing strategies related to the drought. Janet Pauli spoke of Lake Pillsbury water levels. Benj Thomas said the City of Ukiah is cutting back on outside watering, and also discussed the revamping of the Ukiah wells. GM Koehler spoke of the Intertie and the Barge.

Supervisor Carre Brown shared that there would be possibly 40 people from the new Drought State Task Force coming here to speak with Agencies from Mendocino County for 3 hours. They were originally planning to tour Willits, Lake Mendocino and perhaps other areas. GM Koehler added that the original plans have changed and presently there will be significantly fewer people from the State and they have

deleted both the Willits tour and the Lake Mendocino tour. This is not an open meeting. They are calling this a 'listening' meeting and each representative will have no more than three minutes to speak. Director Todd said he thinks the hot topic should be 'How they are operating the lake'.

12. MENDOCINO COUNTY RUSSIAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.

At the February 10th meeting, the FCD proposed cutting back its contracts by 50% and will be raising the price by 25%. They will vote on that at a Special Meeting on Monday, February 24th. They anticipate this will drop their revenue by \$100,000. GM Sean White was directed to go to the City of Ukiah with a request that they reduce their consumption and consider giving up their 800 ac-ft from the FCD for this year only.

GM Koehler reported that there is an issue with the FCD permits because they contain a provision that limits diversions from the river when the flow is below 125 cfs per second, which is currently the situation. We don't know how that will impact Redwood Valley. Sean offered to help both Willow and Millview write a Temporary Urgency Change Petition to temporarily vacate that provision.

13. SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY.

GM Koehler reported the SCWA sponsored a meeting in Hopland on February 3rd. It was attended by every water manager on the river from Mendocino County and many Sonoma people. Sonoma's projection based on their modeling is that, if there is no reduction in uses, there will be no water in early September. It will take a 45% reduction in diversions plus 12" of rain, to get to the 1977 level.

Based on tree-ring studies, this is the lowest rainfall in 400 years.

Also, the use of gray water became a part of the code in January 2014, so that will provide a little more freedom with the gray water, with the caveat that it can only be stored for 24 hours; it must be used right away.

The SCWA recommends the new low-flush toilets which take only 0.8 gallons as opposed to 1.7 and higher.

14. REPORT OF ATTENDANCE AT AGENCY MEETINGS OF ANY OTHER ENTITY NOT LISTED SEPARATELY HEREIN.

Nothing to report.

15. STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD.

Nothing to report.

16. STATUS REPORT OF PLACE OF USE ISSUES.

Nothing to report.

17. STATUS REPORT OF 2800 ACRE-FEET STORAGE RIGHT.

Nothing to report.

18. CONSIDER ATTENDANCE AT SEMINARS, TRAINING EVENTS, CONFERENCES AS RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING.

Nothing to report.

The Meeting ended at 10:05 P.M.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 20, 2014 at the Water District Office, 2370 Webb Ranch Road, Redwood Valley, California.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Groth, Recording Secretary

APPROVED: Board of Directors

DATE APPROVED: March 20, 2014

SIGNED: Paula Berezay
Secretary, Board of Directors