

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
CARPINTERIA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

**April 13, 2011**

President Van Wingerden called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Carpinteria Valley Water District at City Hall to order at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 13, 2011, and led the Board and others present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Directors Present: Ducharme, Lieberknecht, Orozco, Roberts, Van Wingerden

Directors Absent: None

Others Present: Charles Hamilton  
Norma Rosales  
Roger Myers  
Alex Keuper  
Frances Wilcox  
Sonia Fernandez  
Joshua Caditz  
Sierra Trees

**SANTA BARBARA  
COUNTY WATER  
AWARENESS HIGH  
SCHOOL VIDEO  
CONTEST**

Following a brief introduction by President Van Wingerden, the Board watched a conservation promoting video entitled "Don't Lego the Water" produced by Cate School students Sierra Trees and Grace Gail for the 2011 Water Awareness High School Video Contest sponsored by the Santa Barbara County Water Agency. Director Ducharme, on behalf of the water purveyors of Santa Barbara County, including Carpinteria Valley Water District, then presented Sierra Trees with a certificate, trophy and check for \$1,000 for winning first place.

**MINUTES**

Following discussion, Director Ducharme moved and Director Orozco seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2011 Board meeting with one typographical correction. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

**MINUTES**

Following discussion, Director Lieberknecht moved and Director Orozco seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2011 Board meeting. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

**GENERAL MANAGER  
REPORTS - WATER  
SUPPLY**

General Manager Hamilton presented the Water Supply Report, noting that Lake Cachuma is expected to continue spilling through the month of April. Following discussion, Director Orozco moved and Director Roberts seconded the motion to approve the Water Supply report.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Frances Wilcox addressed the Board with a number of comments about information contained in the District's audited Financial Statements relative to personnel costs.

**CENTRAL COAST**

Director Van Wingerden presented oral reports about the March 24 and

**WATER AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETINGS**

April 13, 2011 Board meetings of the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA). She commented about the comprehensive salary and benefit agency comparison prepared by Ray Stokes of CCWA, and reported on the action taken by the CCWA Board to reduce health benefit costs by changing health benefit plans from the ones provided by the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority to the ones provided by the California Public Employee Retirement System.

**CACHUMA  
OPERATION &  
MAINTENANCE  
BOARD MEETING**

Director Lieberknecht gave a verbal report about the Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board meeting held on March 28, 2011.

**REPORT OF RATE &  
BUDGET  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

Director Roberts reported that the Rate & Budget Committee met on April 12, 2011 and considered the various items to follow on the Board agenda.

**RISK ASSESMENT  
LETTER FROM THE  
JOINT POWERS  
INSURANCE  
AUTHORITY**

General Manager Hamilton presented and explained the annual Risk Assessment letter from the Joint Powers Insurance Authority dated March 22, 2011, and referred to a response to the various recommendations in the letter prepared by Operations & Maintenance Manager Omar Castro dated March 31, 2011, included in the Board packet. Following questions by Director Lieberknecht, Mr. Hamilton noted that the whole story about the need and rationale for repaving the District maintenance yard parking area would be presented when a proposal for a contract is presented to the Board.

**FY 11-12 BUDGET  
AND RATES  
PROJECTIONS AND  
PROP 218 PROTEST  
HEARING**

Assistant General Manager Norma Rosales presented a brief summary about new Budget information related to State Water charges that now enables the District to lower its projected and proposed water rate increases. She then showed a PowerPoint slide illustrating how the increases would be lowered. Following discussion and questions Mr. Hamilton reported that the required Notices of Public Hearing were mailed on or about April 6, 2011. He commented that they were sent to all identifiable parcels in the District. He also noted that if several customers lived on a single master-metered parcel only one of them would need to submit a protest for that parcel to be counted as a protest parcel. He further indicated that he would make every reasonable effort to validate a protest even if all the required information were not provided on a protest letter. He reported that this year, for a protest to effectively prevent a rate increase, there would have to be protests lodged representing a total of 2,649 parcels. Director Roberts emphasized that the District is carefully following and bound by State law with regard to the counting of protests, one per parcel.

**2011 RATE  
STRUCTURE  
REVIEW SCHEDULE**

Mr. Hamilton reported that the Rate & Budget Committee has selected the months of June through October to hold the 2011 Rate Structure Review workshops for the community. He further indicated that aggressive outreach would be made to encourage community participation.

**DRAFT LETTER TO  
FRANCES WILCOX**

Following a brief introduction by President Van Wingerden and discussion about the District's response to questions raised by Frances Wilcox about

employee benefits at the March 23, 2011 Board meeting, she directed General Manager Hamilton to send the response letter to Mrs. Wilcox as drafted and amended.

**ATTENDANCE AT SEMINARS**

Following discussion, President Van Wingerden appointed Director Ducharme to attend, if available, the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Symposium: "On the Road to Utopia... Ventura County's Journey to Water sustainability," April 21, 2011; and Director Orozco, General Manager Hamilton and General Counsel Roger Myers to attend, if available, the seminar: "Investing in our Water future: A Focus on California, April 28 -29, 2011."

**PROMOTION OF "CARPINTERIA DRINKING WATER: GOOD AND SAFE"**

Directors Ducharme, supported by Director Roberts, presented the idea of a campaign or promotion to encourage customers in the Carpinteria Valley to drink District water, with the general messages that District water is very safe and healthy to drink and much less expensive than bottled water. General Manager Hamilton suggested that this effort go forward in June. President Van Wingerden then directed Mr. Hamilton to prepare a scope of work and a schedule for this effort for further Board consideration.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel- Anticipated Litigation – Initiation of Litigation pursuant to subdivision (c) of Government Code Section 54656.9 (one case).

President Van Wingerden convened the Board in closed session at 6:36 p.m. President Van Wingerden later reconvened the Board in open session at 7:13 p.m. She reported in open session that the Board had authorized the General Manager to spend an amount not to exceed \$32,500 in conjunction with Montecito Water District also spending up to \$32,500, for concrete investigative services at the Ortega Reservoir to assist special legal counsel in evaluating the pending claim against Price Postel & Parma. The services will be performed by James Andrews Company and Concrete Insights Corp. The motion to approve the expenditure was made by Director Roberts and seconded by Director Lieberknecht and approved by a 5-0 vote. President Van Wingerden also reported that Director Orozco moved and Director Ducharme seconded the motion to appoint Directors Lieberknecht and Roberts to represent the District and, subject to Board ratification, authorize them to settle in the mediation "Montecito Water District v. Price Postel & Parma," scheduled for May 24, 2011. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled regular Board meeting will be held on April 27, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. in the Carpinteria City Council Chamber, 5775 Carpinteria Ave., Carpinteria, California.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Van Wingerden declared the meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.



Charles B. Hamilton, General Manager/Secretary