

COASTSIDE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

766 Main Street

Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 20, 2003 – 4:00 p.m.

1) ROLL CALL:

President John Muller called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. Present at roll call were Directors Jim Larimer, Everett Ascher, Ken Coverdell and Chris Mickelsen.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Muller announced that, due to the Special Meeting taking place today, the previously scheduled Special Meeting on June 30th would not be taking place. He then went on to announce that on Thursday, July 10th 2003, a collaborative meeting between the CCWD, members of the University system, the Farm Bureau and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission will be taking place at 800 N. Cabrillo Highway. The purpose of this meeting will be to undertake some pump efficiency system testing in order to demonstrate better pumping efficiency.

Leonard Woren, El Granada, addressed the short public notice of this meeting, citing the harsh criticism that a previous Board of Directors had received in calling a Special Meeting on similar short notice.

President Muller asked Mr. Condotti if legal protocol for calling a meeting of this type on such short notice had been handled correctly. Mr. Condotti answered affirmatively, outlining the specific procedures he had followed. The General Manager then reviewed the procedures he also had followed in public notification of this meeting. President Muller indicated that all appeared to be in order in the way in which this Special Meeting had been called.

4) SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Discussion and possible direction to staff concerning El Granada Transmission Project Appeals pending before the California Coastal Commission, Appeal Nos. A-2-SMC-99-65 and A-1-HMB-99-20

President Muller opened the Board's discussion. He referenced the letter received by the CCWD from Chris Kern of the California Coastal

Commission (CCC) and spoke of his disappointment in the short notice and delay of the pipeline hearing by the CCC, the item having been pulled from their July agenda due to staff shortage.

Director Coverdell spoke next, stating his disappointment and surprise as well, given that the “staff shortage” was the result of the family emergency of one of the CCC staff members. He expressed his belief that this could have been avoided by better staff planning and management by the CCC.

Director Larimer expressed his disappointment as well, stating that this is not new business and once again delays the pipeline project.

Director Mickelsen, also expressing disappointment in the circumstances, stated that he was elected on the platform of getting the pipeline constructed and wants to be able to follow through on the promises he made eighteen months ago.

Director Ascher commented that he was surprised and disappointed to receive the letter from the CCC exactly one day to the month of the scheduled hearing, given that all actions by the CCWD have been done properly and in a timely manner.

President Muller stated that he wants to address the situation in positive ways and draft a response to the letter from the CCC, giving them some options to resolve this situation and asking for a guarantee of being on the CCC agenda for August, 2003.

Leonard Woren, El Granada, stated that he would like to have an opportunity to make comments to the Board on the letter that is to be written to the CCC. President Muller stated Mr. Woren would not have a role in assisting in the writing of the letter to the CCC.

Judy Taylor, Half Moon Bay, commented that she would like to see the Board encourage the CCC to make a decision.

The General Manager stated that District staff has complied with every request from the CCC for information regarding the pipeline project, sometimes on very short notice and at inconvenience to the staff, resulting in the investment of hundreds of staff hours.

Director Larimer expressed his anger at the CCC for this current delay in the project hearing and wants any correspondence to the CCC copied to our state government and all local representatives.

Mr. Condotti addressed the Board regarding the forgiving attitude of the Courts toward the CCC and the numerous coastal development permit applications from other entities that have been pending before the CCC for a long period of time. He suggested that these delays by the CCC could be said to be “deprivation of due process” and that the Board might use that in their correspondence and that they do not consent to the delay and continuance of this issue on their agenda.

Director Coverdell again expressed his disappointment in the delay but suggested that a more measured demeanor be displayed by the Board in order to avoid additional friction with the CCC and hopefully helping to ensure a place on their August agenda.

President Muller suggested that a neutral third party, such as an environmental group, an individual, or a group such as the Estuary Project might assist the Board in resolving this with the CCC. He stated that the Board should definitely send a letter to the CCC, with copies to all local and state government officials, and indicate that the CCWD expects to have a place on the CCC’s August agenda.

Director Larimer addressed the Board again, stating that he believes that real harm has been done to the public by the lack of cooperation by the CCC to handle the pipeline issue. He cited the numerous times that the CCC has asked for superfluous documentation from the CCWD and thus delayed the decision process. He believes that the CCWD Board should not allow itself to be victimized by the CCC.

Director Ascher suggested that the letter from the Board discuss the history of the project; express the concern of the issues being dragged out for too long a period of time, and address additional issues of health and safety.

The General Manger stated that he and Mr. Condotti could prepare a letter by Monday, June 23rd, 2003 to be reviewed by President Muller and Director Larimer and, once finalized, to be mailed out the next day.

President Muller and Director Mickelsen agreed that the letter, drafted in a positive tone and offering several options to resolve the agenda issue, should be sent to the CCC.

Director Ascher remarked that he would also like to move forward in a positive manner and suggested that the language used in the letter to the CCC ask that the hearing be expedited.

Leonard Woren, El Granada, stated his disagreement with the hearings being held so far away, saying that this was not fair to community members who want to participate in the pipeline hearings. He suggested a delay in placing the item on the CCC agenda until there is a larger and more convenient location for community members to attend.

President Muller then addressed Mr. Woren's remarks about members of the public who would like to attend the CCC hearing. He suggested that a lottery of willing community members take place and that two people could be selected to go by using that method. The Board undertook some discussion of this idea.

President Muller expressed appreciation to Mr. Condotti for his assistance and guidance related to today's Special Meeting and directed staff to draft a letter to the CCC by Monday, June 23rd, 2003. A draft will be provided to Director Larimer and President Muller to review and approve for immediate mailing. A copy of the letter will be placed on the agenda for the meeting of the CCWD Board of Directors on July 8th, 2003.

Copies of the signed letter will be sent to:
Mary Nichols, Secretary of Resources
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Gene Mullin, State Assembly
Elected Representatives Jackie Speier and Byron Sher
The Half Moon Bay City Council
The Half Moon Bay Review

ON MOTION by Director Ascher, and seconded by Director Coverdell, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Special Meeting.

- 5) **ADJOURN:**
The Special Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Schmidt, General Manager

APPROVED:

John Muller, President