

***MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2009***

CALL TO ORDER

President Murphy called the Open Session to order at 1:00 PM. Those in attendance included Director Eminger, Director Suhay, Director Smith, Director Fashempour, General Manager Scott Heule, Lake Manager Mike Stephenson, and Board Secretary Vicki Sheppard.

REPORTS

Mr. Heule reported briefly on the Washington DC trip that he, Director Suhay, and President Murphy made last week. He added that his wife Jackie joined him on Wednesday afternoon and they toured Washington DC for a couple of days. Mr. Heule reported on some good PR the District has received recently. He stated that he was interviewed by a network TV station regarding the beginning of the boating season and the opening of the ramps. He explained that staff has been working on the draft budget and the Budget & Finance Committee will be meeting this Friday to review. He explained that the proposed budget would then go to the board on May 7th and after that a public hearing would be held and finally on June 4th it would go to the full board to be adopted. Mr. Heule remarked that 565 acre feet of water was sold to Big Bear Mountain/Snow Summit this year as compared to over 900 acre feet last year.

Lake Operations Supervisor Travis Carroll gave a brief report covering the success of the Quagga Mussel training on March 31st. He commented that there were 75 participants. He gave an Operations update reporting that the ramps opened yesterday, April 1st. He stated that the District has received positive feedback on the new spike strips at the West Ramp. He added that the inspection bands are working well. Mr. Carroll reported that he appeared on Channel 6 last week covering the Quagga Mussel program.

President Murphy asked when the 5 mph buoys were going to be placed. Mr. Stephenson stated they would be placed before the May Trout Classic. Director Eminger inquired about cars driving on lake bottom in the Stanfield Marsh area. Mr. Stephenson stated that new signs had been ordered and would be placed soon. Director Smith commented on the cooperation from everyone who attended the Quagga training. He added that the District is doing everything possible to prevent infestation and he believes a treatment will be found. President Murphy asked if other agencies came to the Quagga training. Mr. Carroll responded that representatives from Lake Arrowhead and the Forest Service were there. Director Suhay asked who issued the certificates. Mr. Carroll stated that the certificates were issued by the 100th Meridian.

Mr. Stephenson reported that he doesn't believe the Lake will definitely get the mussel explaining that other infested lakes are cooperating by checking every boat that leaves their lake making sure that the boats are cleaned, drained, and dried. He also feels that any approved treatment for the mussel will not be seen in our lifetime. He stated that he believes the key to prevention is education and cooperation. Director Fashempour asked if lakes not connected in some way to the Colorado River are mussel free. Mr. Stephenson stated that so far they are. He stated that Fish and Game requires all infested lakes to perform decontamination of all boats leaving infested waters.

Mr. Stephenson reported that the East Ramp office building project began yesterday and is going well. He stated that creeks are still slowly flowing. He remarked that the lake water is clear with no signs of weeds or algae as yet.

Director Suhay reported on the Washington DC trip. He commented that he feels it was successful having met with representatives of Senator Boxer, Senator Feinstein, with Congressmen Jerry Lewis and the ACOE. He commented on the photo opportunity that they all had with Congressman Lewis.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon a motion by Director Suhay, seconded by Director Fashempour, the following consent items were unanimously approved:

- Minutes of a Regular Meeting of March 19, 2009
- Warrant List Dated March 27, 2009 for \$28,699.37

CONSIDER ADOPTING THE SERRAS SEAWALL MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Mr. Heule reported that a new seawall is proposed for construction on the property line at 39583 Lake Drive, Big Bear Lake, APN 307-023-03, in Metcalf Bay. He stated that the wall will include a footing and protective rock trench that will extend onto lake bottom. He explained that the applicant hired Lilburn Corporation to prepare an environmental check list for the project to identify the appropriate CEQA document. He reported that a mitigated negative declaration was prepared and circulated to the appropriate recipients. He stated that Mike Stephenson has met with the ACOE, Fish and Game, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board along with the applicant and mitigation measures have been identified by the involved agencies. He reported that no other comments have been received. Mr. Heule stated that all appears in order based on the work that has been completed explaining that if the Board adopts the mitigated negative declaration the applicant can proceed to secure their permits from the Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, Regional Water Quality Control Board and finally a lake alteration permit from our District and a building permit from the City of Big Bear Lake. He added that mitigation measures include funding for installation of fish habitat that will be purchased and installed by the District. He reported that the Committee is recommending that the Board adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Serras Seawall project. President Murphy asked what the fees will be incurred by the applicant. Mr. Stephenson stated that the fees amount to approximately \$2,050. Director Eminger remarked that the seawall will be an improvement to the owner's property and to the lake.

Director Eminger moved approval of adopting the Serras Seawall Mitigated Negative Declaration. Director Suhay seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION ON THE DAM PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE RAILING - NO ACTION

Mr. Heule made a PowerPoint presentation reviewing railing styles for the proposed pedestrian bridge. He showed concrete slab bridge deck designs and steel truss designs. He also showed the under hung arch design and the pony truss design options. Lighting options were discussed. He reported that the Committee conclusions are that the under hung truss has the largest profile and unlimited railing design options; the pony truss has a smaller profile but limited railing design options; the concrete slab design has the smallest, least intrusive profile and limitless railing design options; and to continue with slab design and solicit railing/lighting design from a select, organized task force. Mr. Heule stated that Paul Bennett of the Forest Service had expressed his concern with lighting on the walking bridge and the affect the lights might have on the spotted owls. He added that he had also spoken to an owl expert, Bill LaHaye, and Mr. LaHaye did not see any problem with the proposed lighting on the walking bridge especially when compared to

the busy highway that exists now. Mr. Heule concluded by stating that the Committee would like to include the community in the design selection process.

Director Smith stated that the Committee felt the concrete slab design was closest to what we have now and gives a multitude of choices in railing designs. He added that soft lighting was discussed also. Director Eminger asked about the option of solar lighting. Director Smith stated that the Committee will look at many options. Director Fashempour asked Gloria Meade, Big Bear Valley Historical Society, what she thought of the options for the pedestrian bridge. Ms. Meade said she was very excited about the options and asked who was going to maintain the pedestrian bridge. Director Smith reported that the District had no control over the bridge before but now would be in charge of building and maintaining the pedestrian bridge. Ms. Meade asked if the bridge would allow bicycles. Director Smith stated that it would be for both pedestrians and bicycles. Ms. Meade asked if the old railings could be donated to the Historical Society. Mr. Heule stated that the old bridge still belongs to Caltrans and there is no finalized agreement from Caltrans to finance the building of the pedestrian bridge as yet, but it was in the works and when it is finalized the District will determine what is to be done with the old railings.

CONSIDER NOMINATION OF PRESIDENT MURPHY FOR ALTERNATE SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER OF THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (LAFCO)

Mr. Heule reported that LAFCO is accepting nominations through end of business April 4, 2009 for an uncompleted term for an alternate position on the LAFCO board. He added that the term will run through May 2010. He explained that LAFCO is suggesting that the individual come from a special district in the mountain communities. He stated that the alternate position only is required to attend meetings that the permanent Board member cannot attend. He added that seven candidates have already been nominated for the position and President Murphy is interested in running. He stated that the Executive Committee recommends that Board President Murphy be nominated to fill the position.

Director Fashempour moved approval of the nomination of President Murphy for Alternate Special District Member of the Local Agency Formation Commission.
Director Suhay seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC FORUM

No comments were made

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Eminger reported that he had toured the ramps on April 1st commenting that boats were launching and both ramps look good. Director Smith asked if Mr. Stephenson felt that construction at the East Ramp would cause any interruption or delays in launching. Mr. Stephenson stated that he did not see the construction as any problem. Director Smith stated that the estimated completion date for the project is June 20th. Mr. Stephenson stated that he feels this is very optimistic but it could happen.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:09 P.M.

NEXT MEETING

Open Session at 1:00 P.M.
Thursday, April 16, 2009
Big Bear Municipal Water District
40524 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA



Vicki Sheppard
Secretary to the Board
Big Bear Municipal Water District

(SEAL)