# MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009

# CALL TO ORDER

President Murphy called the Open Session to order at 1:03 PM. Those in attendance included Director Eminger, Director Suhay, Director Smith, Director Fashempour, General Manager Scott Heule, and Board Secretary Vicki Sheppard.

# REPORTS

Mr. Heule reported that Lake Manager, Mike Stephenson is visiting Lake Tulloch (a lake near Yosemite) to learn more about operations of a recreational lake surrounded by private residences and their lake management practices. He added that Mr. Stephenson will also be sharing our experiences here on weed and algae control. He explained that Mr. Stephenson was invited to visit by their Lake Manager and they will be paying all expenses for his trip. Mr. Heule reported that two weeks ago he attended an Introduction to CEQA short course in Oakland. He stated that it was taught by Richard Grassetti who has been preparing and reviewing CEQA documents for 25 years. He commented that the course was a very good overview of the process. He explained that the instructor noted that most litigation is a challenge to negative declarations or mitigated negative declarations as opposed to EIRs (Environmental Impact Reports) and this is probably due to the more extensive public involvement associated with EIRs. Mr. Heule reported that very little was discussed on categorical exemptions. He commented that the class will help him better understand the process as described in detail in our Administrative Code. He reported that the class also touched on climate change and noted that no guidance documents exist that describe how to incorporate this issue into CEQA documents, adding that recent large projects with EIRs were challenged because they did not include analysis of their impact on climate change. Mr. Heule reported that the last of the paperwork for the Prop. 1A Securitization has been sent off and unless we hear back from them soon about any mistakes in our submittals we should be good to go to meet their submittal deadline of November 6<sup>th</sup> commenting that now we just wait for the reimbursement to come. Mr. Heule reported that the District hosted an AWWA (American Water Works Association) Leadership and Management short course at the Best Western Big Bear Chateau last week. He added that nineteen participated in the training including representatives from DWP, CSD, and BBARWA. He reported that we had very good comments on the program and people appreciated not having to travel to Salt Lake City to take the course. He explained that three of our staff; Mike Stephenson, Travis Carroll, and Eric Turney attended tuition free adding that our hosting of the event saved the District more than \$1,500 on the cost to send just two of our staff out of state for the training.

Director Suhay asked what the altitude of Lake Tulloch is and inquired if they have Quagga Mussels. Mr. Heule responded that Lake Tulloch is approximately 5,000 feet and to date they don't have any Quagga Mussel.

# APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- Minutes of a Regular Meeting of October 15, 2009
- Minutes of a Special Meeting Workshop of October 15, 2009
- Warrant List Dated October 30, 2009 for \$116,188.12

#### PUBLIC FORUM

No comments were made

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Heule announced that the District office will be closed Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veterans Day. He reported that on Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> the employees will be treating themselves to lunch at B's Backyard BBQ for the end of the season lunch using recycling money collected over the summer. He explained that the main office will close from 11:30 AM until approximately 1:00 PM that day. Mr. Heule reported that the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting will be adjourned due to lack of a quorum explaining that he, Director Suhay, and Director Murphy, will be attending the ACWA Conference in San Diego that week. He reported that he will be on vacation Monday and Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, explaining the he will be available via cell phone and email for any questions or observations that come up while he is gone. Director Suhay asked if there had been any response from Steve Pontell regarding the letter the District sent him. Mr. Heule stated that no response to the letter has been received.

# DIRECTOR COMMENTS

No comments were made

# ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 1:13 P.M to: Conference with Legal Counsel Potential Litigation - 2 cases

# RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The meeting was reconvened to Open Session at 3:07 P.M. No reportable action.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:08 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING** 

Open Session at 1:00 P.M. Thursday, November 19, 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)