

***MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2013***

CALL TO ORDER

President Smith called the Open Session to order at 1:00 PM. Those in attendance included Director Murphy, Director Lewis, Director Suhay, Director Eminger, District Counsel Wayne Lemieux (via Skype), General Manager Scott Heule, Lake Manager Mike Stephenson, and Board Secretary Vicki Sheppard.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

President Smith reported that there was no closed session at the meeting of September 19.

REPORTS

General Manager, Scott Heule announced that on Monday October 1, 2003 Vicki Sheppard began working here at the District and has completed 10 years of service. He reported that she also celebrates her birthday today commenting that we have two wonderful milestones to celebrate. He explained that Vicki is an important positive influence for the entire office and is respected for her cooperative and team player attitude. Mr. Heule added that she is respected and appreciated by everyone here and he is so grateful for her commitment and dedication to her job. He stated that she presents a positive and friendly image to those she greets and interacts with on District Business and he wants to congratulate her for this milestone and thank her for all that she has and continues to do for us. President Smith presented Vicki with a Distinguished Service Award plaque reiterating what Mr. Heule said. Mr. Heule reported that there has been no movement on our efforts to confirm additional work in kind credit on the ACOE project explaining that with the Federal offices being mostly closed we will be waiting a bit longer to see any more progress on this front. He reported that the National Weather Service, San Diego office, has asked if the District would host a weather station here at our offices. He explained that it would require the purchase of some electronic equipment and reporting results on their internet site. He added that it would also require measuring and reporting the depth of snow when we are in the office. He reported that Don Evenson has been asking him to arrange for a weather station at the District office because the one at the fire station has become unreliable in the past couple years. He reported that we have poured a concrete slab and will be having a fence installed around it at a site on the north side of the Administration building parking lot in anticipation of moving our rain gauge from the RV Park to a better location. He added that this will be an ideal site for the more sophisticated NWS station if we were to go that route. He explained that the hardware and integrated software would also be capable of directly updating weather on our District web page stating that more on this will be reported as we get additional details. Mr. Heule reported that when the District hosted the Southern California Agriculture Teachers Association last Friday, he and Mr. Stephenson were able to share District history and Lake Management information before and during a 1 ½ hour Lake tour on the Big Bear Queen. He added that the District sponsored ½ hour of the tour at a cost of \$175. He reported that the Lake release to Valley District went well adding that we were able to accurately monitor and record total volumes and rates of the release. He stated that after 18 days and multiple flow rate

changes we were within a couple tenths of acre feet of the 604 AF release target. He added that we are waiting on monitoring results from SCE and Valley to know how much of the water they were able to put to beneficial use. He reported that Staff, including Don Evenson, has some concerns about using the sluice gates for controlling a release like the one we just completed. He explained that the high pressures and water velocity moving through the sluice gate during a release could potentially damage the outlet works. He added that in the future the District should change out the 6-inch valve and meter and replace it with 8-inch equipment so that we don't have to use the sluice gates to control the flows.

Lake Manager, Mike Stephenson reported that the fish for Troutfest arrived today. He explained that they also released fish from the cages, just keeping a couple for tagging. He added that they filled the cage with smaller fish and stocked 3500 pounds of sub-trophy fish. He stated that so far 550 people have signed up for Troutfest. He commented that fishing has been poor this year explaining that Fish & Wildlife didn't stock nearly as many fish as in previous years. Mr. Stephenson reported that Marty Weinberg of Southern California Edison explained that flows in the Santa Ana River were the lowest in 26 years. He reported that work at the boardwalk project phase I will begin as soon as the materials arrive. He added that buoys will come out the day after Troutfest. He stated that the remote camera that used to be on the aeration building has been moved to a place so it can monitor Bay 10 on the dam. Mr. Stephenson reported that the Coast Guard Auxiliary will not be out this weekend due to the federal government shutdown. President Smith asked how much weight we put on the fish we are raising. Mr. Stephenson reported that a 3 lb. fish costs \$7 a lb. making it a \$21 fish explaining that a 1 lb. fish cost \$3.50 and we grow it to 3 lbs so we pay \$3.50 for a \$21 fish. Jim Hart asked if they gain more weight in the summer. Mr. Stephenson explained that they actually grow more in the cold water of winter adding that their growing time is between now and April.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- Minutes of a Regular Meeting of September 19, 2013
- Warrant List dated September 24, 2013 for \$30,366.16

REPORT FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON MEETING WITH INLAND EMPIRE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGARDING THE TROUT POND

Discussion only no action. Director Murphy stated that he thought two of their Board Members seemed very positive and the rest of the members seemed more negative. He added that they are having a committee meeting today and then we may know more of what their plans are. President Smith said he came away with a similar view of the meeting. He added that they seemed to be in awe of the property itself and the opportunities that could be received from the property. He stated that he felt they also saw some hindrances with some aspects of the property commenting that it might be too large of a property for them. Director Murphy explained that when Jim Miller (City of Big Bear Lake) presented the Trails Project, they may not have counted on it and it may have seemed more than they could handle. President Smith reported that they seemed concerned that the Trails Project may infringe on their area but he also thinks that it is the cost and the size of the property that was the largest consideration adding that time will tell.

Mr. Heule reported that they usually don't have to purchase properties but get them donated to them to care for. Director Suhay asked if we should let other public agencies know that it is for sale. Mr. Heule explained that when we declared it surplus property we did notify other public agencies and that is how this contact was made. President Smith stated that he would like to see something set up for the public but it is time to get our funds back. Director Murphy explained that they want to make it a wetland area and don't want to open it up to the public. Director Suhay commented that we don't want to keep it and want our money back.

PUBLIC FORUM

No comments were made

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Heule reported that this Sunday beginning at 5:00 PM is the annual picnic. He explained that we will be eating at 5:30 so don't be late adding and bring your favorite "dip" to share and compete for valuable prizes! He reported that now is the time to register for the Fall ACWA conference so please let Vicki know today that you will be attending. He stated that our next meeting will be on October 17, 2013.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Eminger reported that his grandson is home from Afghanistan.

Director Lewis explained that her husband used to own the real estate office that made the offer on the Trout Pond and wondered if it would be a conflict of interest if she was in the closed session. District Counsel Wayne Lemieux asked several questions and then stated that it was no conflict.

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 1:49 P.M under Government Code Section 54956.8 Conference with Real Property Negotiator, Scott Heule General Manager, concerning 440 Catalina, Big Bear Lake, California, APN #2328-202-15, #2328-202-08, #2328-291-27

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The meeting was reconvened to Open Session at 2:25 P.M.

No reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 P.M.

NEXT MEETING

Open Session at 1:00 P.M.
Thursday, October 17, 2013
Big Bear Municipal Water District
40524 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA



Vicki Sheppard

Secretary to the Board

Big Bear Municipal Water District

(SEAL)