

**MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
RESERVOIR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

David Hart, Chair
Ken Ekelund
Fred Ledesma
Mark Nielsen
David Pozzi

John Baillie
Benny Jefferson
Paavo Ogren
Tom Shepherd
Randy Korsgaard

TIME: 1:30 p.m.
DATE: **Thursday, April 11, 2013**
PLACE: Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Board Room
893 Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-4860

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 1:33 p.m. by Chair David Hart.

Members present: David Hart, Ken Ekelund, Fred Ledesma, Mark Nielsen, John Baillie,
Dean Benedix (alternate for Paavo), Tom Shepherd, Benny Jefferson
Members absent: David Pozzi, Randy Korsgaard

A quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE RESERVOIR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE HELD ON MARCH 7, 2013

Committee Action: On motion and second of Committee members John Baillie and Benny Jefferson the Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

4. REVIEW STATUS OF BOTH RESERVOIRS; AND, REVIEW RELEASES AND RELEASE SCHEDULE / DISCUSS POSSIBLE RELEASE OPTIONS

Howard Franklin, Senior Water Resources Hydrologist/Program Manager, provided a status report. Maintenance is being performed on the Low Level gates at Nacimiento, so they are currently not useable for releases. Releases, therefore are being made from the high level gates at 60 cfs and will continue until the reservoir's water surface elevation reaches 755.00 feet; which is estimated to be reached on or around May 1.

San Antonio releases are 325 cfs.

The SRDF was raised on April 8 and water deliveries began on April 10. There was a question regarding block flow releases and the possibility of having to do a block flow release this season. Staff explained that a block flow release is an engineered release to emulate a natural event that would help stimulate steelhead migration downstream. The parameters of a block flow release requires maintaining approximately 700 cfs at Soledad for five (5) days and 300 cfs at Spreckels for fifteen (15) days – this could equate to (depending on the annual conditions) approximately 30,000 acre-feet of water from the reservoirs.

The Committee reviewed and discussed Reservoir Release Schedule options. After evaluating both options and no consensus was reached, Committee agreed to discuss the Reservoir Release Schedule further at next month's meeting, at which time a motion will be made to the Agency Board of Directors.

NACIMIENTO elevation is 757.40 feet and 177,184 acre-feet of storage, 47% of capacity, and current release is 60 cfs.

SAN ANTONIO elevation is 742.75 feet and 170,438 acre-feet of storage, 51% of capacity, and current release is 325 cfs.

5. RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES AT THE RESERVOIRS

Brent Buche, Assistant General Manager / Chief of Operations and Maintenance, provided a report. San Antonio Dam was inspected last week by the Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD), and passed inspection; DSOD praised the crew for keeping the dam well maintained. Nacimiento Dam was also inspected, and due to the maintenance and repair activities, DSOD had concerns, especially with the Obermeyer Weir. They provided some recommendations for Nacimiento which will be shared with the Committee.

At the Low Level Outlet Works, one rebuilt actuator was reinstalled two weeks ago and the other two are being rebuilt and will be reinstalled the week of April 22, 2013. On the downstream side of the Nacimiento Hydroelectric Powerplant, various components are being repaired or serviced and the target date for reassembly is May 30. The repairs on the Low Level Outlet Works are scheduled to be completed by May 1.

6. RECEIVE REPORTS ON STATUS OF:

A. LAKE RECREATION BY CONCESSIONAIRE & PARKS DEPARTMENT

Tom Shepherd of the Monterey County Parks Department provided a report. Staff is currently preparing for the San Antonio Wildflower Festival scheduled for May 2013 which is expected to draw up to 20,000 visitors/participants. Preparations are also underway for a Mud Run event scheduled for the previous weekend and is expected to draw as many as 500 visitors. The Parks Department recently purchased a new Patrol Boat via a grant from the Department of Boating and Waterways. Other activities include interviews that are being held for the recruitment of seasonal employees, and the resorts making preparations to open for the season.

B. EASEMENTS AND AGENCY LEASES

Chris Keehn, Right-Of-Way Specialist, provided an update to the Committee. The South Nacimiento Road Association will be having the trees trimmed at Lease #3 at South Nacimiento, due to overhanging of the trees intruding on the easement area.

C. QUAGGA / ZEBRA MUSSEL PLAN

Tom Shepherd and Rob Johnson, Assistant General Manager / Chief of Water Resources Management, provided an update on AB 2443 which approves the collection of registration fees by the Department of Boating and Waterways to support the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Plan. Mr. Johnson has been appointed to the State Technical Advisory Group (TAG) that has been formed as part of the prevention planning efforts. The first meeting is being held Monday April 15 in Sacramento. Also, a Mussel Summit is scheduled for May in Folsom, CA and attending will be Elizabeth Krafft from the Agency, and Casey Nielsen from the Parks Department.

Dean Benedix, P.E., SLO County Dept of Public Works also provided an update. SLO will be conducting a re-certification program for vessel inspectors. This will be the third season that staff from SLO has conducted vessel inspections at the lakes.

D. UPDATE ON SLO COUNTY ACTIVITIES

Dean Benedix, P.E., provided an update on the Nacimiento Water Project intake repairs. Due to technical difficulties the repairs are behind schedule and are targeted to be completed in late April or early May 2013. Upon completion of the repairs the pipeline can begin to be filled which will take a couple of days before water deliveries can resume, which is estimated to be around the first week in May.

7. DISCUSS LOGISTICS FOR THE JUNE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee discussed possible options for the June meeting at the reservoirs. Ideas included a boat tour of Nacimiento, and/or inspection of the San Antonio control house and tunnel. The meeting would be held in the Admin Room at Nacimiento. The Agency will provide a car pool from the Agency.

8. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at the Agency. Agenda items will include voting on an option for the reservoirs release schedule, boat dock ordinance update, and finalize the logistics for the June meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT BY CHAIR DAVID HART @ 3:05 P.M.

SUBMITTED BY: TERESA CAMPA

Approved on: May 2, 2013