

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

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

John Baillie
Benny Jefferson
Paavo Ogren
Tom Shepherd
Randy Korsgaard

TIME: 1:30 p.m.
DATE: **Thursday, August 8, 2013**
PLACE: Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Board Room
893 Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-4860

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 1:32 p.m. by Chair David Hart.

Members present: David Hart, Ken Ekelund, Fred Ledesma, David Pozzi, John Baillie,
Benny Jefferson, Tom Shepherd,
Members absent: Mark Nielsen, Mark Gonzales, Paavo Ogren, Randy Korsgaard

A quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE RESERVOIR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JULY 11, 2013

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

4. REVIEW THE 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. The releases have been adjusted to work around the emergency repair work at the Nacimiento Hydroelectric Powerplant. When maintenance is being performed, double containment is required and this does not allow for releases through the penstock or lower outlet works. Therefore, water from Nacimiento must be pumped directly from the reservoir during those periods. When the work is completed at the end of the day the penstock can be filled and the low level outlet works utilized. During extended periods when crews are not working in the powerplant, releases can be increased from Nacimiento and decreased from

San Antonio. The current release from San Antonio is 270 cfs and 410 cfs from Nacimiento. The current SRDF water demand is 680 cfs which is a typical amount during summer months. The penstock will need to be dry next week and the releases will again be adjusted. San Antonio will likely not reach minimum pool as soon as previously reported.

Staff will be looking at various operational scenarios to plan for the next irrigation season. The winter weather outlook will be presented to the Committee in October.

There was a statement by public member, Ray Francscioni about plans for the Interlake Tunnel and that the current situation should provide a positive reception towards the project. Committee members agreed that the current status of the reservoir levels should provide a good example of how the tunnel project would be beneficial. Robert Johnson, Assistant General Manager and Chief of Water Resources Planning and Management, stated the Agency is working with the County Legislative Committee to discuss the possibility of acquiring funds for projects like the Interlake Tunnel.

NACIMIENTO elevation is 748 feet and 144,200 acre-feet of storage, 38% of capacity, and current release is 410 cfs.

SAN ANTONIO elevation is 697.15 feet and 59,283 acre-feet of storage, 18% of capacity, and current release is 226 cfs.

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

Brent Buche, Assistant General Manager and Chief of Operations and Maintenance provided an update. At San Antonio, staff did maintenance on the Howell Bunger valve. With the elevations being very low, the staff gages that are used to visually read the lake elevation levels are scheduled to be repaired or replaced.

The Nacimiento Hydroelectric Powerplant is expected to be back on-line on August 23. Staff has been coordinating with the insurance company, and a report on additional costs is being presented to the Finance Committee and BOD. The Committee expressed concerns and suggested preventative maintenance to avoid bigger issues from occurring in the future.

Brent stated staff is compiling a thorough O&M Maintenance Manual that will include maintenance details for each component and is also working with finance staff to ensure the funds are made available for the work.

6. RECEIVE REPORTS ON STATUS OF:

A. LAKE RECREATION BY CONCESSIONAIRE & PARKS DEPARTMENT

Tom Shepherd, Monterey County Parks Department, provided a status report on lake recreation activities. Randy Korsgaard is currently moving the San Antonio marina to Harris Creek. The North Shore ramps were closed last week and the park area will remain open for approximately one more week, possibly until Labor Day. There are rumors that San Antonio is closed; Parks staff is doing more advertising and promoting of the South Shore opportunities to combat such rumors. Staff previously working at San Antonio North Shore is being reassigned elsewhere.

B. EASEMENTS AND AGENCY LEASES

Chris Keehn, Right-Of-Way Specialist, provided an update on Agency Grazing Leases to the Committee. The Agency received a request from SLO Cal Poly, in conjunction with Cal Fire for investigating Sudden Oak Death (SOD) Syndrome in the area. They would like to collect samples from a selected site on Agency land. The Agency met onsite with the students and test samples were taken. The test results will be provided in the future to the Agency.

Other issues include the discovery of a vineyard located in Rancho del Lago. The Lessee on Nacimiento Lease #3 has mentioned that trespassing has become a problem on Lease #3. He has agreed to design and construct a gate at the entrance of Lease #3 and post the appropriate trespassing notices. There has been a steady increase in traffic through this area to access the lake and launch boats.

The Lessee from Nacimiento Lease #2 will provide the Agency a quote for removal of a concrete boat ramp in exchange for a lease fee reduction. The ramp was built illegally on the Agency's land.

C. QUAGGA / ZEBRA MUSSEL PLAN

Elizabeth Krafft, Senior Hydrologist, reported a plankton tow is scheduled to be conducted by staff in September 2013. The results from the plankton tow conducted in July were negative. Tom Shepherd, Monterey County Parks Department, reported that Heritage Ranch Home Owners Association have placed a boat under quarantine. The boat, which had been at Lake Havasu within five days previously, appeared to be infected with Quagga Mussels and was being held for testing.

D. UPDATE ON SLO COUNTY ACTIVITIES

No report provided.

7. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at the Agency.

8. ADJOURNMENT BY CHAIR DAVID HART @ 2:42 P.M.

SUBMITTED BY: TERESA CAMPA

Approved on: September 12, 2013