

**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 (Parks)
Randy Korsgaard (CalParks)

TIME: 1:30 p.m.
DATE: **Thursday, October 3, 2013**
PLACE: Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Board Room
893 Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-4860

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 1:30 p.m. by Chair David Hart.

Members present: David Hart, Ken Ekelund, Mark Nielsen, David Pozzi, Mark Gonzales, John Baillie, Paavo Ogren, Richard Riddle (*for Tom Shepherd*)

Members absent: Fred Ledesma, Benny Jefferson, Randy Korsgaard

A quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

John D'Ornellas, General Manager, Heritage Ranch Community Services District (HRCSD), inquired about new developments on the operation guidelines for the reservoirs. Howard Franklin, Senior Water Resources Hydrologist/Program Manager, mentioned there have been no updates since a concept memo was distributed last year and stated the guidelines need to be brought to the Committee for review and input.

Rob Johnson, Assistant General Manager and Chief of Water Resources Planning, mentioned that Randy Korsgaard, Managing Park Ranger, has retired from CalParks and will no longer be on the Committee. There was an introduction of Richard Riddle, Senior Park Ranger, Monterey County Parks Department, who was sitting in for Tom Shepherd; and new Committee member Mark Gonzales.

3. **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE RESERVOIR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2013**

Committee Action: On motion and second of Committee members Mark Gonzales and John Baillie, 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 amount being released from both reservoirs is currently 500 cfs and is meeting the Salinas River Diversion Facility (SRDF) demands. To date 6,009 acre feet has been diverted. As the end of the SRDF season nears and demands decrease, the releases from San Antonio will be gradually decreased over several weeks. The diversions last week were approximately 100 acre feet. A full impoundment is required at the end of the SRDF operational season. The Committee reviewed water deliveries from 2010 thru 2013.

Brent Buche, Assistant General Manager and Chief of Operations and Maintenance, reported that there were approximately 3000 dead fish discovered at San Antonio River by staff that was performing a river reconnaissance in support of a shutdown of flows as requested by the state Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). It was necessary to shut down the flows so the inspecting divers could have immediate access to the intake structure to the outlet works. Prior to these actions occurring staff contacted NOAA Fisheries and biologists were present to monitor the activities. Elizabeth Krafft, Senior Hydrologist, discussed water quality test results from the San Antonio River. The Agency and NOAA Fisheries are investigating the situation. The fish, of varying species including eight steelhead, were in water and not stranded and proper procedures were followed. The Committee requested a copy of the water quality results.

Committee Action: On motion and second of Committee members John Baillie and Ken Ekelund, the Committee unanimously approved to continue releases from both reservoirs through the end of the SRDF season, then decrease to fish minimum releases from both reservoirs, Nacimiento minimum releases through the generator, and recommend approval by the BOD.

NACIMIENTO elevation is 736.10 feet and 108,275 acre-feet of storage, 29% of capacity, and current release is 350 cfs.

SAN ANTONIO elevation is 660.85 feet and 19,288 acre-feet of storage, 6% of capacity, and current release is 150 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 on operations and maintenance activities at the reservoirs. The piezometers at San Antonio are currently being flushed out. The inlet structure of the

outlet was inspected and everything was found to be intact. The bulkhead was operated and the pin was replaced. There is erosion on the bulkhead which will be cleaned and coated when the reservoir elevation is lower and the bulkhead is fully exposed. Other planned maintenance includes replacing the staff gages at San Antonio.

At Nacimiento there are numerous items that will be repaired or replaced. An annual inspection of the dam and powerplant was conducted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Monday. Agency staff is coordinating with SLO County for the installation of debris screens at the log boom at Nacimiento.

6. RECEIVE REPORTS ON STATUS OF:

A. LAKE RECREATION BY CONCESSIONAIRE & PARKS DEPARTMENT

Richard Riddle, Senior Park Ranger, Monterey County Parks Department provided a status report on lake recreation activities. A boil-water order was issued at San Antonio South Shore last week due to turbidity levels. The water is obtained from the reservoir near the lake bottom and processed through the treatment plan. It is uncertain if water can continue to be provided to South Shore. Also due to the decreasing lake levels, the last launch ramp at South Shore has recently been closed. A clean-up day was conducted at San Antonio and approximately 18 yards of trash was removed from the bottom of the lake including aluminum boats.

B. EASEMENTS AND AGENCY LEASES

Chris Keehn, Right-Of-Way Specialist, provided an update to the Committee. The lessee of Nacimiento Lease Area #3 has reported ongoing trespassing and property rights violations from the adjacent property owners, Tri County Boat Club. The Lessee has contacted the property owner about these issues. The Oak Shores Community Association will be requesting permission from the Agency's Personnel and Administration Committee to build a trolley at Nacimiento, and an easement for a log boom. The Agency has been contacted by an individual who is interested in leasing 40 acres of Agency land located next to Oak Shores. This area will be put out to bid sometime in the future.

C. QUAGGA / ZEBRA MUSSEL PLAN

Elizabeth Krafft, Senior Hydrologist, provided an update. Agency staff conducted the last plankton tow for this season at Nacimiento yesterday. State Fish & Wildlife Department also conducted mussel plankton tows in June, July and August and all results have been negative.

Mark Nielsen, NRWMAC, reported that the last mussel inspection class this season, for residents, is scheduled for October 5.

D. UPDATE ON SLO COUNTY ACTIVITIES

Paavo Ogren provided a report on San Luis Obispo County activities. SLO County Supervisor Meecham has expressed interest in touring the Agency's Salinas River Diversion Facility. Staff mentioned this should be scheduled soon, within two weeks time, before the diversion season ends. This will be coordinated with Mr. Brent Buche.

On August 27, 2013 the SLO County Board of Supervisors adopted an urgency ordinance that prohibits new development, including new irrigated agriculture, in the unincorporated areas of Paso Robles. Because the initial urgency ordinance is only effective for 45-days it is being presented again for adoption for an extended period.

Also on August 27, the SLO County Board of Supervisors issued a direction to conduct feasibility studies for additional water supply to the Paso Robles groundwater basin.

Rob Johnson was invited to participate in reviewing SLO water fees.

E. WINTER WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR 2013-2014

Rob Johnson, Assistant General Manager and Chief of Water Resources Planning, reported on the Winter Weather Outlook for the 2013-2014 season. There will be less rainfall and normal to above-normal temperatures. The long-range outlook from forecasters is 85% of normal rainfall for October-January, and 90-95% of normal during January-September. The daily mean temperatures will be warmer than normal from November-February and May-September.

7. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at the Agency. The Agenda will include water quality data results for San Antonio River. Howard Franklin will provide an update on reservoir operation protocols.

8. ADJOURNMENT BY CHAIR DAVID HART @ 3:15 P.M.

SUBMITTED BY: TERESA CAMPA

Approved on: November 7, 2013