

Minutes
Water Conservation Commission

July 7, 2016

1. Call to Order/Introduction:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Commission members Grace Silva-Santella, Charlie Eskridge, Jim Felton, Audie Robinson, Bethany Taylor, David Brown, and Jan Shriner were present. JoAnn Cannon had notified staff that she was going to be absent from the meeting. Paul Lord, Jean Premutati, and Paula Riso were present from staff.

2. Public Comments on Any Item Not on the Agenda:

None.

3. Action to Approve the June 2, 2016 Meeting Minutes:

Commissioner Eskridge made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2016 meeting. Vice Chair Robinson seconded the motion. With a vote of 5-Ayes, 0-Noes, 2-Abstained (Brown, Taylor), 1-Absent (Cannon), the motion was passed.

4. Receive Updated GPCD, Water Production, and Water Consumption Data:

Mr. Lord introduced this item and gave an update on the latest data through the end of June 2016. He noted that since June 2015, the cumulative savings has increase to 32.3% and the savings for the month of June was 35% over the June 2013 usage. Mr. Lord stated that the savings was well beyond the 11% State mandated goal and the 30% Stage 3 goal.

5. Discussion and Possible Action to Consider Recommending Adoption of a Resolution to Declare Water Conservation Stage 2 as Allowed by the State of Water Resource Control Board's Emergency Mandatory Water Conservation Regulations:

Mr. Lord stated that this item was brought back from the previous meeting per the Commission's request. He explained that the State has removed the Stage 3 requirement and is allowing water districts to set the water conservation stage to the level they feel is needed to meet their goals. The Commission discussed how the drought was effecting revenues and the household usage.

Chair Silva-Santella noted that staff was recommending going back to Stage 2 with no limitations. Discussion regarding the requirements of Stage 3 and the voluntary conservation in Stage 2 followed. Chair Silva-Santella voiced her concern over going back to Stage 2 and asked if the District did go back to Stage 2, could they still enforce the two-day-per-week watering schedule and allow more flexibility in drip irrigation. Discussion followed.

Councilmember Brown made a motion to take no action at this time. Commissioner Felton asked if Councilmember Brown would amend his motion to reconsider this item when the State revises their requirements in February 2017.

Agenda Item 5 (continued):

Councilmember Brown amended his motion to take no action at this time and to reconsider this item after the State revises their requirements in February 2017. Commissioner Felton seconded the motion. With a vote of 6-Ayes, 0-Noes, 1-Abstention, 1-Absent, the motion was passed.

6. Commission Discussion and Planning for the City of Marina Labor Day Parade and Festival 2016:

Commissioners were encouraged to volunteer at the MCWD booth at the Labor Day Parade. Commissioner Felton and Chair Silva-Santella stated that they would be present to help.

7. Review Runyon Saltzman Einhorn, Inc. Recommendations for Changes and Impacts to the Public Information/Conservation Program Materials:

Mr. Lord introduced this item and shared the suggestions made by Runyon Saltzman Einhorn, Inc. Some of the suggested changes include: consistency, simplicity – less words, clean and easy to read, and avoiding repetition of message points.

8. Receive an Update on the Status of Available Seats on the Water Conservation Commission:

Mr. Lord provided an update on the status of the available seats on the Water Conservation Commission and noted that the deadline to apply was July 21st. Commissioner Eskridge acknowledged that he had submitted his application. Commissioners Taylor and Robinson stated that they would be turning theirs in soon.

9. Review and Propose Agenda Items for the August 8, 2016 WCC Meeting and Future Meetings:

Mr. Lord suggested several agenda items: recommending the appointment of public members to the WCC; and, continued update on GPCD, Water Production, and Water Consumption Data. Chair Silva-Santella noted that she felt the retrofit of HE toilets upon sale of the property was more urgent than laundry to landscape. It was suggested to add a landscape design contest to the future agenda items.

10. Receive Update on Board/District Activities:

Director Shriner gave a brief update on the latest actions of the Board.

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11. Receive Comments from Commission Members:

Commissioner Felton shared a survey he received on his doorstep regarding coastal water issues. Director Shriner invited everyone to attend the Public Water Now presentation on July 12th at 7:00 p.m. at the Lutheran Church on Aguajito Road in Monterey.

12. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.