

Minutes  
Water Conservation Commission

September 5, 2019

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

Commission Members Present:

Shawn Storm, P.E. – Chair  
Phil Clark – Vice Chair  
Bill Huynh  
Sarah Babcock

Commission Members Absent:

Audra Walton

Staff Members Present:

Patrick Breen, Water Resources Manager  
Paul Lord, Water Conservation Specialist  
Paula Riso, Executive Assistant/Clerk to the Board

Audience Members:

None.

3. Pledge of Allegiance:

Chair Storm led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Oral Communications:

No comments were made.

5. Consent Calendar:

A. Approve the August 1, 2019 Meeting Minutes:

Chair Storm asked for item 7-B to read that he suggested to increase adoption of the program by only giving rebates to washers with a 2.9 or less water factor and increase the rebate to \$250. Vice Chair Clark asked for clarification of the voting of item 6-A on page 2 of the minutes. Chair Storm made a motion to approve the August 1, 2019 meeting minutes with the amendment. Commissioner Babcock seconded the motion.

Agenda Item 5-A (continued):

The motion was passed by the following vote:

Commissioner Walton	-	Absent	Vice Chair Clark	-	Yes
Commissioner Huynh	-	Yes	Chair Storm	-	Yes
Commissioner Babcock	-	Yes			

6. Action Item:

A. Consider Approval of Proposed Landscape Incentive Program Changes:

Mr. Lord introduced this item and reviewed the proposed changes made at the last meeting. There were questions on some of the language regarding requirements for landscapes over 1,000 square feet. Mr. Lord commented that the District made the requirements the same as the State to minimize confusion. Chair Storm inquired on his suggested requirement for rainwater catchment rebates for storage over 250 gallons to be connected to an inside toilet. Mr. Lord said he did not add that into the program because it has not been approved for indoor use by the County. He added that once the County approves rainwater catchment for indoor use, he will bring it back for more discussion. Martin's Irrigation Supply kindly provided samples for discussion.

Commissioner Babcock made a motion to approve the proposed landscape incentive program changes. Vice Chair Clark seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Commissioner Walton	-	Absent	Vice Chair Clark	-	Yes
Commissioner Huynh	-	Yes	Chair Storm	-	Yes
Commissioner Babcock	-	Yes			

7. Staff Reports:

A. Continue the Review and Discussion about the High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate Program:

Mr. Lord introduced this item. There was discussion on the cost of water per acre foot depending on the amount of rebate; whether or not to offer rebates for higher water use washers; and, if the program should be eliminated altogether. The High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate Program continuation will be discussed further when budget discussions are held. Chair Storm encouraged staff to look into targeting multi-family homes to change out washers.

B. Review the Water Shortage Contingency Plan:

Mr. Lord introduced this item explaining that the Plan was developed as an Emergency Response Plan in the event of an emergency or disaster. Mr. Breen added that the Plan was for the water “demand” side, not the “supply” side, so in an emergency, the Plan sets the guidelines for customers to adhere to.

Agenda Item 7-B (continued):

There was discussion on “water shortage” vs “demand reduction”; landscape watering; watering with recycled water; and, golf course watering. This Plan will be reviewed again when the Urban Water Management Plan is being updated.

8. Commission Member Requests for Future Agenda Items:

Chair Storm said he will send a list of his requests. Mr. Breen said Ordinance Code 3.36 would be discussed in October. Other requested items: the Board’s Strategic Plan regarding the WCC goals; reduction goals; water loss audit; and, approaching Campus Town and Seaside Senior Living Center regarding using reclaimed water.

9. Commissioner’s Comments:

Chair Storm commented that KWAV is running commercials by SaveOurWater.com that encouraged removal of sprinkler lawns, and he thanked Vice Chair Clark for his support at the Monterey County Fair.

Vice Chair Clark commented that the Water Awareness Committee called MCWD Paul’s city.

Chair Storm commented that this was the ninth meeting and thanked the Commissioners for making this Commission a priority.

10. Adjournment:

Chair Storm thanked staff, the Commission, and the public for their time and contributions. He noted the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 3rd at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.