

Minutes  
CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
**AGRICULTURAL POOL**  
March 13, 2003

The Agricultural Pool meeting was held at the offices of the Chino Basin Watermaster, 8632 Archibald Ave., Suite 109, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, on March 13, 2003 at 1:00 p.m.

**AGRICULTURAL POOL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Robert DeBerard, Chair	Crops
Nathan deBoom, Vice-Chair	Dairy - Milk Producers Council
Glen Durrington	Crops
Bob Feenstra	Dairy - Milk Producers Council
Jack Hagerman	State of California Institution for Men
John Huitsing	Dairy - Milk Producers Council
Jeff Pierson	Crops - Unitex Corporation

Watermaster Staff Present

John Rossi	Chief Executive Officer
Sheri Rojo	Accountant/Office Manager
Mary Staula	Recording Secretary
Devonya Williams	Trainee

Watermaster Consultants Present

Dave Argo	Black & Veatch
Michael Fife	Hatch & Parent
Steven Lee	Special Counsel, Reid & Hellyer
Mark Wildermuth	Wildermuth Environmental Inc.

Chair DeBerard called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

**AGENDA - ADDITIONS/REORDER**

None

**I. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

1. Cash Disbursement Report – February 2003
2. Combining Schedule Of Revenue, Expenses And Changes In Working Capital For The Period July 1, 2002 through January 31, 2003
3. Treasurer's Report of Financial Affairs For The Period December 1 through January 31, 2003
4. 2002-03 Actual YTD Revenues And Expenses Compared With Adopted 2002-03 Budget

Motion by Feenstra, second by Pierson, and by unanimous vote

***Moved, to approve Consent Calendar Items A.1 through 4, as presented.***

**II. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A. OBMP STATUS REPORT #6**

Mr. Rossi said the Appropriative Pool approved the OBMP Status Report No. 6 for filing with the Court on March 31, 2003. They also authorized staff to make non-substantive

changes as necessary, and added specific action that for more clarity, staff would highlight areas in the Report referring to the water quality issues (including perchlorate) that Watermaster is working on.

Motion by Feenstra, second by Pierson\_\_\_\_ and by unanimous vote

***Moved, to recommend approval of OBMP Status Report No. 6, with water quality activities highlighted, for filing with the Court and authorize staff to make any non-substantive edits required.***

#### **B. CONSIDER NOTICE TO TERMINATE CURRENT OFFICE LEASE**

Mr. Rossi updated the members with regard to Watermaster's current rental fees and future rental fees for Cucamonga County Water District's old offices, the increase in square footage, and current negotiations pertaining to facility updates and maintenance. Watermaster's current lease includes an early-cancellation clause in year 2003, with a six-month notice of intent. Staff is requesting authorization to provide a notice in April to the current landlord of Watermaster's intent to move on or about September 30, 2003.

Motion by Pierson, second by Feenstra, and by unanimous vote

***Moved, to recommend staff be authorized to notify the current landlord in April of its intent to move on or about September 30, 2003.***

#### **C. WATER TRANSACTION**

Notice of Sale or Transfer of Right to Produce Water In Storage from the City of Chino to the City of Ontario in the amount of 6,000 acre-feet of water (noticed on January 28, 2003). Special Counsel Lee said that the Agricultural Pool's special engineer has reviewed this water transaction.

Motion by Pierson, second by deBoom, and by unanimous vote

***Moved, to recommend Advisory and Board approval in April of the Notice of Sale or Transfer of Right to Produce Water in Storage from the City of Chino to the City of Ontario in the amount of 6,000 acre-feet of water.***

#### **D. PRESENTATION ON CURRENT STATUS OF WATER QUALITY PROGRAM**

The members were provided with a compilation of water quality data (OBMP Program Element 6) gathered through several efforts such as sampling private wells, DHS website on public drinking wells, and modeling for the Dry Year Yield (DYY) Program. Mr. Wildermuth reported that groundwater modeling is near completion and simulations of DYY Program scenarios are being conducted. He provided overheads of maps indicating the collective results and status of the Water Quality Program (OBMP Program Element 6). Water quality monitoring has been refined to identify and characterize water quality anomalies such as the Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) anomaly north of the Chino I Desalter well field. Currently, water samples are being analyzed for general minerals, general physical parameters, hexavalent chromium, silica, barium, perchlorate, 1,2,3-trichloropropane, etc. Mr. Wildermuth said have yet to develop a monitoring plan to evaluate state of hydraulic control in the southern end of the Basin. Also, Watermaster plans to develop a key well program based on future sampling.

In response to whether there has been improvement since the desalter was put into operation, Mr. Wildermuth said that water quality in the south end of the basin couldn't be used as a matrix to show water quality improvements. The reason is because it will take decades to work out the materials already stored in the vados zone. He pointed out however that building desalters is the right thing to do to begin the process of cleaning up

historic degradation. Unfortunately it will take a long time to see any results. Extensive discussion ensued.

Every ground-water basin has its problems but much is being done in the Chino Basin. Mr. Rossi said the important thing is to determine treatment processes to return the water as a public benefit, as a water resource, as an economic benefit, while cleaning it up. That is the big issue and should be the message. Look at the positive energy being generated through cooperative efforts.

Mr. Feenstra addressed current legislative concerns with regard to perchlorate and discussed ways to address the issues. Mr. Rossi pointed to the fact that in the OBMP and the Peace Agreement, Watermaster committed to form a Water Quality Committee. The pools will be discussing the formation of that committee in April. Additionally, the Agricultural Pool will need to discuss the water quality notification process in April. Watermaster is responsible to provide water quality data to the owner of a private well; however, the question came up regarding the extent the owner shares information with the people actually residing on the property. Another question is whether Watermaster should provide information/data in Spanish as well as English.

The members agreed to request staff include statistics, limits and recommendations regarding these issues in the next agenda package for further discussion. Along with that, staff will provide suggested language for revising the current notices sent to owners of private wells.

Mr. Wildermuth's presentation continued.

Mr. Feenstra mentioned that the Omnibus Bill passed dealing with the Farm Bill. He said there is \$846 million in the budget and at least \$120 million for water clean-up, water recycling, etc. A copy of the Bill will be faxed to Watermaster for review of monies that might qualify for Watermaster clean-up projects.

### III. REPORTS/UPDATES

#### A. **WATERMASTER GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT**

1. Chino Land & Water SBSC Case No. RCV 06484  
This case was dismissed in its entirety by Court Order. Chino Land & Water has until May 3 to appeal the Court's decision.
2. Attorney/Managers Meeting(s)  
No meeting is calendared at this time.
3. Niagara Water Company Well Production  
Subsequent to Counsel Fife drafting a compliant, Niagara Water Company (Niagara) expressed a desire to intervene into the Appropriative Pool without production rights and pay replenishment costs. However, terms pertaining to past production need to be worked out. Staff and Legal Counsel will meet with Niagra at 4:00 p.m. today at Watermaster.

#### B. **CEO/STAFF REPORT**

1. Update regarding Dry Year Yield Project  
Last month, the Dry Year Yield business deal with MWD was finalized last month and the parties are moving forward with the project participants on subsequent agreements between the agency building the facilities and getting nitrate wellhead removal facilities back to IEUA and Watermaster.
2. Update regarding Recharge Improvement Project

There is a tentative date of April 11 set for the Recharge Basin Project groundbreaking. He will provide the firm date, if changed, when available. Staff has been working with IEUA on reporting issues and anticipates a reimbursement of \$170,000 from bond proceeds for monies expended on the project. Meetings have been held with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding the need for permits for basins that are jurisdictional. This late finding could result in a time delay with potential costs to contractors.

3. Update regarding Replenishment Water Order

Watermaster finished spreading 6500 acre-feet supplemental water in December 2002. Watermaster then submitted its order to MWD for the 6500 acre-feet replenishment obligation. MWD advised Watermaster last week that they have wet water available, which is good news. To the extent the wet water runs out before Watermaster has completed its obligation, the balance will be taken through a cyclic account transfer.

4. Update regarding SB34 Legislation

This item was previously discussed. Mr. Feenstra inquired whether Watermaster has taken a position on SB 34 to which Mr. Rossi replied "not yet".

**IV. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Feenstra reported that he and Mr. deBoom interviewed Peter Hettinga, a retired dairyman, for becoming an alternate member of the Watermaster Agricultural Pool. Mr. Hettinga would like to become more involve in water policy and is very excited about serving on the pool committee.

Motion by Feenstra, second by deBoom, and by unanimous vote

***Moved, to add an action item to the agenda to authorize the addition of an alternate member to the Agricultural Pool.***

Motion by Feenstra, second by deBoom, and by unanimous vote

***Moved, to add Peter Hettinga to the list of Agricultural Pool Alternate Members.***

**V. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**VI. FUTURE MEETINGS**

March 27, 2003	10:00 a.m.	Advisory Committee Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	Watermaster Board Meeting
April 10, 2003	10:00 a.m.	Joint Meeting – Appropriative & Non-Ag Pools
	1:00 p.m.	Ag Pool Meeting
April 24, 2003	10:00 a.m.	Advisory Committee Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	Watermaster Board Meeting

Recharge Basin Project Groundbreaking – April 11, 2003  
AGWA/WEF Water Quality Conference April 8 & 9 – Ontario Doubletree  
ACWA Conference May 7, 8, & 9 – Lake Tahoe

Chair DeBerard adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Secretary

Minutes Approved: April 10, 2003