

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
The Board of Directors of the  
Aromas Water District  
May 24, 2011

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Aromas Water District was called to order by President Holman on Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 7:03 p.m. at the District Office located at 387 Blohm Ave, Aromas, CA.

**II. ROLL CALL:**

Pres. Holman, Vice President Mahler, Directors Dutra, Huggins and Borchard were present. General Manager Vicki Morris and Counsel Bob Bosso were also present..

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Pres. Holman led the pledge of allegiance.

**IV. STATEMENTS OF DISQUALIFICATION:** There were no disqualification statements

**V. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS:** There were no additions or deletions.

**VI. MINUTES:** The minutes of the April 26, 2011 Regular Meeting were presented for acceptance and approval.

Director Huggins moved and Vice Pres. Mahler seconded that the minutes be approved. Approval was unanimous.

**VII. ORAL COMMUNICATION:** None

**VIII. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Director's Reports:**

President Holman visited the office during May to inquire about procedures used to insure security of sensitive materials and backups. Staff went over the scanning, filing and archiving system.

**B. Attorney's Report:** Counsel Bosso went to the Spring ACWA Conference. He shared some possible changes in water rights law resulting from a Santa Rosa lawsuit. The Department of Water Rights may extend river jurisdiction to groundwater wells. He also informed the Directors of City of Palmdale litigation challenging tiered rates under Proposition 218.

**C. Manager's Report:**

Operations: Production is down overall. GM Morris reported there is concern throughout the industry about rates and budgets because of the loss of revenue due to the wet winter, conservation and the economy. While we encourage conservation, it lowers revenue. All lab results have shown non-detect for coliform, iron and manganese. Operators have installed drain rock, walkway and landscaping at the Carr Booster. The Marshall yard was broken into about May 1<sup>st</sup> but nothing was taken, even though locks were cut on storage and truck compartments. Staff is diligent about locking up and looking into additional security. Administration: Ms. Goodman is working on the annual water quality report. Ms. Cain is enhancing the AWD website. Staff Development: GM Morris and Ms. Goodman attended the Spring ACWA conference in Sacramento. Operators Warner and DeAlba attended ergonomics and Neptune Meter classes for additional contact hours. Projects: The loan application with Santa Barbara Bank has been approved for the *New Office Building*. GM Morris is working to get an acceptable funding commitment with the possibility of combining a new loan with the existing. GM Morris has sent a letter to MPE regarding liquidated damages for the *Carr Tank and Booster Station* project. The Initial Study for the *Oakridge and Via del Sol Subdivisions Project* will come before the Board at the next meeting. GM Morris noted that there have been a lot of changes in ownership and could change the consensus about the project. The *CalTrans Pipe and Hydrant Relocation* project at the San Juan

Interchange has added some changes requiring us to lower some of the existing pipelines, adding to our costs.

## **IX. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Award of Contract for Carpenteria Well #2 Project:** Two bidders submitted bids for the well-drilling portion of the project. Bids were opened on May 18<sup>th</sup> and Maggiora Brothers Drilling from Watsonville came in low at \$199,400. Zim Industries was close at \$204,275. Both bidders considered the site somewhat challenging because of lack of space. There was discussion about the material for the casing that could lower the cost by about \$17,000 if Cor-Ten is used instead of stainless. Dir. Dutra expressed the importance of the welds. GM Morris emphasized that hydrogeologist Martin Feeney will be overseeing the entire drilling process.

Pres. Holman moved and Director Huggins seconded that the contract be awarded to Maggiora Brothers Drilling. It passed unanimously.

Staff will review the bid bond and contract and issue a Notice of Award.

**B. Carpenteria Well #2 Proposal for Engineering Services:** We have a proposal to complete the design engineering for proper pump sizing, piping, electrical, SCADA and other specifications to complete the engineering to connect the new well to the existing system. Freitas+Freitas has proposed to provide services for the amount of \$12,750. Director Dutra moved and Director Mahler seconded that the proposal be accepted. Pres. Holman expressed concern the bid was high and a large number of hours for a well that already exists. Discussion about the process led Director Huggins to ask that the Board wait until the well is further along in construction. Dutra and Mahler withdrew their motion.

Director Dutra made a motion and Dir. Huggins seconded that the proposal be tabled until the well is closer to completion. The motion passed unanimously.

**C. Financial Report:** GM Morris presented the financials for the month of April 2011. Total current assets are \$656,424. Income for April was \$64,177.98. President Holman reviewed the payments from April 20<sup>th</sup> to May 17<sup>th</sup> 2011 which totaled \$78,784.11. Revenue is down, but so are operating expenses. Power costs for the new Carr Booster are down considerably. GM Morris expects to meet with the ad hoc Budget Committee, President Holman and Director Huggins, some time next week to discuss the budget for the new fiscal year.

Director Dutra moved to accept the financials. Director Huggins seconded and they were approved unanimously as presented.

**X. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION.** Board adjourned to closed session at 8:10 pm.

**XI. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:** The meeting returned to open session at 8:15. There was no action or report from the closed session.

## **XII. FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA**

The next Regular Meeting will be Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 7:00 pm. The location will be at

the District Office at 387 Blohm Avenue. Agenda items will include Engineering for the Carpentaria Well, OakRidge/Via del Sol CEQA and possibly loan documents.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

President Holman adjourned the meeting at 8:19 pm.  
Report submitted by Laurie Goodman, Board Secretary

Date: June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Read and approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Secretary