



**Water Commission
Minutes
7:00 p.m. – Monday, July 6, 2009
Council Chambers
809 Center Street Santa Cruz**

Minutes of a Water Commission Meeting

Call to Order Chair H. Whitney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Roll Call

Present: B. Fouse, C. Keutmann, M. McClellan, S. O’Hara, A. Schiffrin and H. Whitney.

Absent: L. Kasa, absent with notice.

Staff: B. Kocher, Water Director and D. Paul, Administrative Assistant.

Others: Councilmember M. Rotkin and Desalination Project Agreement Facilitator Brent Haddad, MBA, PhD.

Presentation There were no presentations.

Statements of Disqualification There were no statements of disqualification.

Oral Communications There were no oral communications.

Announcements There were no announcements.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner C. Keutmann moved to approve the June 1, 2009 Water Commission minutes as submitted. Commissioner B. Fouse seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Fouse, C. Keutmann, M. McClellan, A. Schiffrin and H. Whitney.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: L. Kasa.

ABSTAIN: S. O’Hara.

Consent Agenda

Item 5 - City of Santa Cruz/Soquel Creek Water District Desalination Task Force – Draft Operational Plan & Agreement materials June 2009 was removed from the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Commissioner M. McClellan seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Fouse, C. Keutmann, M. McClellan, S. O’Hara, A. Schiffrin and H. Whitney.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: L. Kasa.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Item 5 - City of Santa Cruz/Soquel Creek Water District Desalination Task Force – Draft Operational Plan & Agreement materials June 2009

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to approve Item 5 - City of Santa Cruz/Soquel Creek Water District Desalination Task Force – Draft Operational Plan & Agreement materials June 2009. Commissioner S. O’Hara seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Fouse, C. Keutmann, M. McClellan, S. O’Hara, A. Schiffrin and H. Whitney.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: L. Kasa.

General Business

1. Desalination Project Priority of Use Options

Director Kocher introduced Councilmember Mike Rotkin and Project Agreement Facilitator Brent Haddad, MBA, PhD.

Councilmember Rotkin and Dr. Haddad reported on how the scwd2 Desalination Task Force came to consensus on the 59/41% priority of use formula.

The Water Commission discussed several different approaches that could be used for the Priority of Use in order to make the cost share ratio closer to a 50/50 split.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to request that Councilmember Rotkin return to the scwd2 Desalination Task Force and seek to change the tentatively agreed upon cost share to City 55% and SqCWD 45%. The recommendation is based upon the Water Commission review of the “Priority of Use System” and its determination that if the plant production is being split equally (1.25 mgd) in April and November no priority exists. It was further moved that the Capital Cost Share be brought before City Council in order to have a public discussion and seek public comment. Commissioner C. Keutmann seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Fouse, C. Keutmann, S. O’Hara, A. Schiffrin and H. Whitney.

NOES: M. McClellan.

ABSENT: L. Kasa.

Subcommittee/Advisory Body Oral Reports

1. City of Santa Cruz/Soquel Creek Water District Desalination Task Force (Schiffrin)

There was nothing further to report.

Director’s Oral Report

1. Monthly Status of Water Supply.

Director Kocher reported that average daily water consumption is 17% below normal. The San Lorenzo River and North Coast streams are performing better than anticipated and that no water has been drawn from Loch Lomond. If this trend continues, the year should end on a positive note. Two water patrols are out every day and have found about 1,000 violations. A handful of repeat violators will receive fines on their water bills.

2. Desalination Program.

Director Kocher reported that the RFP for CEQA/NEPA services is out and that a mandatory pre-proposal meeting is being held next week for interested firms. Program staff has met with Coastal Commission staff Tom Luster and has received favorable review of the work being accomplished. An Informational Meeting on the Pilot Program is scheduled for September 24, 2009 at New Brighton Middle School in Capitola.

Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas

M. McClellan absent with notice August 24, 2009.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m. until next meeting of the Water Commission scheduled for August 24, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

ss/Donna Paul

Staff