



**Water Commission
Minutes
7:00 p.m. – Monday, November 7, 2011
Council Chambers
809 Center Street Santa Cruz**

Minutes of a Water Commission Meeting

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

Roll Call

Present: B. Fouse, L. Kasa, R. Mazurek (Chair), M. McClellan, G. Mead, D. Meyers and A. Schiffrin.

Absent: None.

Staff: T. Goddard, Water Conservation Manager; B. Kocher, Water Director; D. Paul, Administrative Assistant and L. Tolles, Management Analyst.

Others: Approximately 20 members of the public.

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 G. Mead moved approval of the August 12, 2011 Water Commission meeting as submitted. Commissioner L. Kasa seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

Ayes: L. Kasa, R. Mazurek (Chair), G. Mead and D. Meyers.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: B. Fouse, M. McClellan and A. Schiffrin.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved approval of the October 3, 2011 Water Commission meeting as submitted. Commissioner B. Fouse seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

Ayes: B. Fouse, R. Mazurek (Chair), G. Mead, M. McClellan and A. Schiffrin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: L. Kasa and D. Meyers.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved approval of the Consent Agenda as submitted. Commissioner M. McClellan seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

Ayes: B. Fouse, L. Kasa, R. Mazurek (Chair), M. McClellan, G. Mead, D. Meyers and A. Schiffrin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

At the request of a member of public, Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to reconsider approval of the Consent Agenda in order to pull item No. 3 Correspondence between Richard Lippi and Water Department and approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Commissioner M. McClellan seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

Ayes: B. Fouse, L. Kasa, R. Mazurek (Chair), M. McClellan, G. Mead, D. Meyers and A. Schiffrin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

3. Correspondence between Richard Lippi and Water Department

Public Comments were made by R. Lippi.

Director B. Kocher and Water Conservation Manager T. Goddard provided information and answered Commission questions on this item.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved approval of the Consent Agenda Item No. 3 Correspondence between Richard Lippi and Water Department as submitted. Commissioner M. McClellan seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

Ayes: B. Fouse, L. Kasa, R. Mazurek (Chair), M. McClellan, G. Mead, D. Meyers and A. Schiffrin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

General Business

1. 2012 Water Commission Calendar

Director B. Kocher provided the staff report on this item.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved approval of the 2012 Meeting Calendar with an amendment to change the January 2 meeting to January 9 due to the New Years Holiday. Commissioner B. Fouse seconded. Seven yes votes.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

Ayes: B. Fouse, L. Kasa, R. Mazurek (Chair), M. McClellan, G. Mead, D. Meyers and A. Schiffrin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

2. SCWD² Energy Status Report No. 6

Director Kocher provided the staff report and answered Commission questions on this item.

Public Comments were made by M. Rotkin, S. Mcgilvray, J. Bentley and B. Lamonica.

Commission Comments

Commissioner Schiffrin reported as the Commission representative that only 11 projects made it through the feasibility screening and that he has prepared an energy savings summary spreadsheet to share with the Commission and the Task Force.

It would be helpful to provide information on how much energy the plant will be using when it is running at 100% capacity.

It is important that the projects be local and preference should be given to projects within the City Water Department and the Soquel Creek Water District if possible.

No action was taken on this item.

3. Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Update

Water Conservation Manager T. Goddard reported that it is staff's opinion that this document more than meets the legal requirements set forth by the State. It is important to understand that the UWMP is a document that reports on the actions being taken by the City, not necessarily on potential actions that the City could take.

Written comments were received by six individuals and one agency. A summary of these comments have been provided. Several of the comments fall into the category of advocating for a different plan other the Integrated Water Plan. Other comments can be classified as information requests that would support water exchanges between neighboring agencies. These comments are not appropriate for the UWMP.

Public Comments were made by D. Stevens, R. Longinotti, S. Mcgilvray, M. Rand, P. Gratz, J. Ricker, M. Rotkin and J. Bentley.

Commission Comments

The Commission requested that the letter from Soquel Creek Water District in Support for a Possible Water Transfer Project between the City of Santa Cruz and Soquel Creek Water District be provided.

It is important to remember that the UWMP reports about a certain period in time. The update done in 2005 is out of date. It should provide the best factual information available at the time.

The City is committed to continue to pursue conservation in an aggressive manner. Over the last several years the City has had better than water neutral development. It is reasonable to incorporate some water conservation estimates and to report that conservation plays a role in keeping demand lower in future years.

The water transfer concept is being studied, with City cooperation. It may someday be a viable supply alternative but it seems a contradiction that the Soquel Creek Water District has sent a letter stating that it would transfer water to the City considering the state of the groundwater basins.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to recommend that City Council pass a resolution to adopt the 2010 Urban Water Management Plan and to authorize the Water Department to file a copy with the California Department of Water Resources with the following amendments:

1. Page 10-2 – General Plan action CC3.1.1 – add wording to qualify the policy on desalination to stipulate it needs to be shown to be environmentally acceptable and financially feasible.
2. Page 10-4 General action CC3.3.7 – regarding fisheries conservation, add wording that clarifies the City’s concern for the environmental resource (fisheries) demonstrating the motivation for fisheries conservation is not just regulatory compliance.
3. Page 10-5 – General Plan action CC3.5 – Regarding maximum water use efficiency, add another action statement that commits the City to implementing additional water conservation programs that provides a reliable gain in water supply and that are cost-justified.
4. Include a more direct discussion regarding the role of additional water conservation in the balance between supply and demand in Chapter 4.
5. Add some narrative language in Chapter 5 that explains the reason the City is not analyzing Tier 3 HCP flows without desalination in any depth is because the extreme consequences of trying to provide those releases in a drought without supplemental supply would be impossible to achieve with curtailment.
6. Include some discussion in Chapter 6 of the relationship between the City’s system development fees charged to new development and water conservation that is intended to help compensate for the impact on new water demands on the system.
7. Incorporate written comments received from the public into the plan.

Commissioner R. Mazurek seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

Ayes: B. Fouse, L. Kasa, R. Mazurek (Chair), M. McClellan, G. Mead, D. Meyers and A. Schiffrin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

4. City of Santa Cruz General Plan 2030 Draft EIR

Director B. Kocher provided the staff report on this item.

Public Comments were made by M. Rotkin.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved that the Water Commission provide a comment on the General Plan 2030 Draft EIR that the Final EIR should be updated to contain current information based on the 2010 Urban Water Management Plan. Commissioner B. Fouse seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

Ayes: B. Fouse, L. Kasa, R. Mazurek (Chair), M. McClellan, G. Mead, D. Meyers and A. Schiffrin.
Noes: None.
Absent: None.

5. Fiscal Policy – Status Update

Commissioner G. Mead provided the status report on the work accomplished to date by the Fiscal Policy Subcommittee.

Public Comments were made by M. Rotkin.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved approval of the Fiscal Policy Subcommittee recommendation of pursuing two separate funds 1) Operating; and 2) Capital. Commissioner R. Mazurek seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

Ayes: B. Fouse, L. Kasa, R. Mazurek (Chair), M. McClellan, G. Mead, D. Meyers and A. Schiffrin.
Noes: None.
Absent: None.

Subcommittee/Advisory Body Oral Reports No action shall be taken on this item.

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

There was nothing further to report

2. Fiscal Policy Subcommittee

There was nothing further to report.

Director’s Oral Report No action shall be taken on this item.

1. Monthly Status of Water Supply

A written report was provided and will be included in the original papers.

2. Desalination Program

Director Kocher reported that three contract amendments that support the development of the EIR will be taken to the Task Force this month and a community meeting on Energy Issues is scheduled for December 8, 2011 at Live Oak School.

Informational Items No action shall be taken on this item.

1. News Article – Santa Cruz Patch 09/21/11
2. News Article – Santa Cruz Weekly 09/21/11
3. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 10/06/11
4. News Article – Santa Cruz Good Times 10/11/11
5. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 10/29/11
6. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 11/02/11

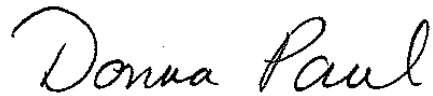
Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas

- Update on City Water Rights conformance
- Update on Capital Projects

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 p.m. until the next meeting of the Water Commission scheduled for December 5, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,



Staff