



**Water Commission
Minutes
7:00 p.m. – Monday, March 5, 2012
Council Chambers
809 Center Street Santa Cruz**

Minutes of a Water Commission

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

Roll Call

Present: D. Baskin, B. Fouse, M. McClellan, G. Mead, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow.

Absent: None.

Staff: L. Almond, Deputy Water Director/Engineering Manager; T. Goddard, Water Conservation Manager; P. Harmon, Principal Management Analyst; B. Kocher Water Director; H. Luckenbach, Desalination Program Coordinator; A. Martin, Environmental Projects Analyst; S. O'Hara, Assistant Engineer; D. Paul, Administrative Assistant and L. Tolles, Management Analyst.

Presentation There were no presentations.

Statements of Disqualification There were no statements of disqualification.

Oral Communications

Oral Communications were made by Commissioner Schiffrin requesting that staff provide an report on an iPad interview being conducted on behalf of the scwd² Desalination Program.

Water Director Kocher provided information on the iPad interviews being conducted by Civonomics on behalf of the scwd² Desalination Program.

Announcements There were no announcements.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner D. Baskin moved approval of the February 6, 2012 Water Commission minutes as submitted. Commissioner A. Schiffrin seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, B. Fouse, G. Mead, M. McClellan, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow.

NOES: None.

Consent Agenda

The following items were pulled for discussion:

3. Water Commission Packet Delivery.
4. Revised Water Supply Outlook Report for 2012.
5. Ballot Initiatives (2).
6. Proposed Water Conservation Strategy and Program to address Potential Future Increase in Water Demand at the University of California, Santa Cruz.
7. Water Supply Project Recommendation on Net Carbon Neutral.
8. Guidelines for Maintenance vs. Capital Improvement Projects.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved the Consent Agenda as amended. Commissioner W. Wadlow seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, B. Fouse, G. Mead, M. McClellan, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow.

NOES: None.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

3. Water Commission Packet Delivery

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to accept the staff recommendation to move the packet distribution up one day – Commissioners will receive the meeting packet by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday prior to the Monday meeting. Commissioner B. Fouse seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Fouse, G. Mead, M. McClellan, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow

NOES: D. Baskin.

4. Revised Water Supply Outlook Report for 2012

Water Conservation Manager Goddard and Water Director Kocher provided the staff report and responded to Commission questions.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to accept the Revised Water Supply Outlook Report for 2012 as submitted. Commissioner D. Baskin seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, B. Fouse, G. Mead, M. McClellan, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow

NOES: None.

5. Ballot Initiatives (2)

Commissioner Mead reported that he asked for this item to be pulled to ask that staff provide an update of what has happened since Council introduced the Ordinance for publication requiring voter approval for desalination plant construction.

Water Director Kocher reported that it was his understanding that Mayor Lane was working with Santa Cruz Desal Alternatives to better understand why its wants to put a measure on the ballot in November that secures the right of the public to a future vote. The natures of the discussions revolve around how to avoid two elections, when the election would occur and how the terms would be structured.

Orals comments were made by S. Pleich, representing Santa Cruz Desal Alternative and the Right to Vote on Desalination.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved that the Water Commission recommend to Council that it adopts the ordinance adding Chapter 16.10 to the Santa Cruz Municipal Code which require voter approval for desalination plant construction and to express its support as the preferred direction to allow the community the opportunity to vote for approval of desalination plant construction and also to express the Water Commission opinion that this ordinance would negate the need for the ballot initiative and to urge its proponents to respect the decisions made by Council in this matter and recognize that the ordinance as proposed is essentially as substantive the same as being proposed in the initiative and should seriously consider dropping the initiative to save the voters time the City money. Commissioner M. McClellan seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, B. Fouse, G. Mead, M. McClellan, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow.

NOES: None.

6. Proposed Water Conservation Strategy and Program to address Potential Future Increase in Water Demand at the University of California, Santa Cruz.
7. Water Supply Project Recommendation on Net Carbon Neutral.
8. Guidelines for Maintenance vs. Capital Improvement Projects.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to accept Consent Agenda items 6, 7, and 8. Commissioner D. Baskin seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, B. Fouse, G. Mead, M. McClellan, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow.

NOES: None.

General Business

1. Residential/Commercial Baseline Survey – Mid-point Status Report (Oral)

Water Conservation Manager Goddard and Environmental Projects Analyst provided the staff report and responded to Commission questions. The PowerPoint presentation will be included in original papers.

Commission Comments

Concern was expressed that the new conservation plan is on hold until the baseline survey is complete. The City is under scrutiny from the Santa Cruz Desal Alternatives group who is claiming that additional water conservation measures are available that would make a desalination plant unnecessary.

It was also expressed that we have an adopted Water Conservation Plan and this study will validate how the current programs are working. It will also let us know what potential conservation is still remaining out there.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to request that staff provide another status report at the June Water Commission meeting. Commissioner W. Wadlow seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, B. Fouse, G. Mead, M. McClellan, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow.

NOES: None.

2. scwd² Energy Status Report

Desalination Program Coordinator Luckenbach and Assistant Engineer O'Hara presented the Energy Study Status Report and responded to Commission questions. The PowerPoint presentation will be included in the original papers.

The Commission expressed concern that the scwd² Desalination Task Force continues to move forward before it has determined a cost share for operating and other associated costs.

Director Kocher reported that the capital and operating cost can share can be brought to the Commission.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to support the staff recommendation that the project be designed and operated with no net increase with regards to its direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions. Commissioner D. Baskin seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, B. Fouse, G. Mead, M. McClellan, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow.

NOES: None.

3. Capital Improvement Program Three year Outlook

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to recommend that Council approval Water Department Fiscal Year 2013-2015 Capital Improvement Program. Commissioner D. Baskin seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, B. Fouse, G. Mead, M. McClellan, D. Meyers (Chair), A. Schiffrin and W. Wadlow.

NOES: None.

4. Fiscal Policy - Status Update

The Fiscal Policy Status update was postponed until the April 2, 2012 meeting.

Subcommittee/Advisory Body Oral Reports

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

Commissioner Schiffrin reported that the Energy Study was the major item of business at the February meeting.

Director's Oral Report

1. Monthly Status of Water Supply There was nothing further to report.

2. Desalination Program

Director Kocher reported that the draft EIR schedule has slipped and is expected to be released this summer.

Informational Items No action was taken on this item.

1. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 02/02/12
2. News Article – City on the Hill Press 02/03/12
3. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 02/03/12
4. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 02/05/12
5. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 02/12/12
6. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 02/15/12
7. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 02/14/12
8. News Article – Santa Cruz Weekly 02/21/12
9. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 02/21/12
10. News Article – Central Coast News 02/22/12
11. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 02/26/12
12. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 02/27/12

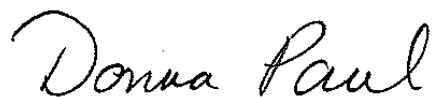
Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas

Water Director Kocher reported that the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) will be holding its spring conference in Monterey May 8 through May 11. Commissioners were provided the conference program and were asked to contact staff if they are interested in attending.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m. until the next meeting of the Water Commission scheduled for April 2, 2012 at 7::00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,



Staff