



**Water Commission
Minutes
7:00 p.m. – Monday, August 26, 2013
Police Community Room
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz**

Minutes of the August 26, 2013 Water Commission Meeting

Call to Order – Chair A. Schiffrin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Police Community Room

Roll Call

Present: D. Baskin, D. Meyers, A. Schiffrin (Chair), D. Stearns, W. Wadlow and L. Wilshusen

Absent: G. Mead (with notification)

Staff: L. Almond, Deputy Water Director/Engineering Manager; E. Cross, Communications Specialist; K. Crossley, Associate Civic Engineer; T. Goddard, Water Conservation Manager; B. Kocher, Water Director; H. Luckenbach, Desalination Program Coordinator; T. Praxel, Principal Management Analyst; L. Rossiter, Management Analyst.

Presentation- There were no presentations.

Statements of Disqualification – There were no statements of disqualification.

Oral Communications – There were no oral communications.

Announcements – Given the recent public announcement of Director Kocher's retirement in September, each of the Commissioners expressed their appreciation for his years of service to the City and their well wishes for his retirement.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner D. Baskin moved approval of both the June 3, 2013 and July 1, 2013 Water Commission minutes. Commissioner L. Wilshusen seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, A. Schiffrin (Chair), D. Stearns, W. Wadlow and L. Wilshusen.

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: D. Meyers, due to absence from the June 3 meeting.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner D. Meyers moved the amended Consent Agenda. Commissioner D. Stearns seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, D. Meyers, A. Schiffrin (Chair), D. Stearns, W. Wadlow and L. Wilshusen.

NOES: None.

1. Three-month Calendar

2. City Council Actions Affecting Water
3. Bay Street Reservoir Replacement Project – Neighborhood Issues

General Business

1. Santa Cruz Municipal Code – Revisions to Section 16.06, Water Wells

K. Crossley, Associate Civil Engineer presented the staff report and responded to Commissioners' questions regarding wells not covered by other governmental bodies.

Commissioner D. Baskin moved that the Water Commission recommend that City Council adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 16.06 of the Santa Cruz Municipal Code to exclude regulation of site-mitigation monitoring wells, with the addition of the following language at the end of the definition of "Monitoring well", "not governed by another governmental body." Commissioner W. Wadlow seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, D. Meyers, A. Schiffrin (Chair), D. Stearns, W. Wadlow and L. Wilshusen.
NOES: None.

2. Santa Cruz Municipal Code – Revisions to Section 16.05, Loch Lomond

L. Rossiter, Management Analyst presented the staff report and responded to Commissioners' questions.

Commissioner D. Baskin moved that the Water Commission recommend that City Council adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 16.05 of the Santa Cruz Municipal Code pertaining to hours of operation, allowed boat types and invasive species management at Loch Lomond Recreation Area (LLRA), and applicability of the Municipal Code on City watershed lands and riparian conservation areas, with the following revisions:

16.05.030 Places and Times, paragraph (c), add at end: "with public notice as soon as practicable."

16.05.090 Sanitation Regulations, paragraph (c), change "there provided" to "that are provided."

Commissioner D. Stearns seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, D. Meyers, A. Schiffrin (Chair), D. Stearns, W. Wadlow and L. Wilshusen.
NOES: None.

3. Water Commission Work Plan Update

L. Almond, Deputy Water Director/Engineering Manager presented the staff report and responded to Commissioners' questions. In the discussion, the following requests or clarifications were made:

Fiscal Policy: Staff clarified that this will be brought back to the Commission for final approval with the Rate Design study.

Rate Design: Commissioners expressed interest in having the design incentivize conservation as much as possible.

Capital Improvement Program: Staff clarified that the contract for the West Side Feasibility Study for Loch Lomond Recreation Area will be brought back to the Commission for approval before taken to City Council.
No action was taken.

4. Report on Proposed Desalination Project dEIR / EIR

L. Almond, Deputy Water Director/Engineering Manager presented an update on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Desalination Project. She explained that more than 400 comments were received and will be posted on the Department website in September. Staff is working with consultants on developing a schedule for completion of responses to the comments.

Commissioner L. Wilshusen moved, seconded by D. Baskin, that the Water Commission recommend to City Council that they fund the completion of the final EIR for the following reasons:

1. It will help the City understand the consequences of going forward with the proposed project or its alternatives, and help in future decision-making.
2. It will respect the comments provided by the public who, in making comments, expected to hear the city responses to those comments.
3. The completed EIR will, irrespective of what happens to the project, provide vital environmental information that could be used for other related activities, such as the HCP.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Baskin, D Meyers, A. Schiffrin (Chair), D. Stearns, W. Wadlow and L. Wilshusen.

NOES: None.

5. City Council Announcement regarding Water Supply Planning

Commissioners discussed the press release issued by the Mayor and City Manager on August 20. Commissioner D. Baskin requested that the Q & A distributed with the press release be sent to all Commissioners. Chair Schiffrin asked that this item be included on the September Commission agenda to discuss Council follow-up. No action was taken.

Subcommittee/Advisory Body Oral Reports

1. City of Santa Cruz/Soquel Creek Water District Desalination Task Force (Schiffrin)
2. Public Outreach and Education Program Subcommittee (Meyers)

Chair Schiffrin noted that the Desalination Task Force is not currently meeting and the Outreach and Education Subcommittee has sunsetted. He asked that both bodies be removed from future Commission agendas.

Director's Oral Report

1. Monthly Status of Water Supply
T. Goddard presented the staff report. No action was taken.
2. Desalination Program
No report was presented or action taken.
3. Emergency Intertie
Director Kocher reported that the Scotts Valley Water District has cancelled an intertie with the City's due to lower than expected funding from their Proposition 50 grant.
4. Director Transition
Director Kocher reported that Deputy Director Almond will be serving as acting Director until the recruitment is completed.

Information Items

1. Final Capital Improvement Program Budget
Management Analyst L. Rossiter presented the staff report and responded to Commissioners' questions. No action was taken.

Media Articles - No action was taken on this item.

1. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 06/29/13
2. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 07/01/13
3. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 07/12/13
4. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 07/22/13
5. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 07/30/13
6. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 08/01/13
7. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 08/06/13
8. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 08/08/13
9. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 08/09/13
10. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 08/10/13
11. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 08/19/13

Documents for Future Meetings No action was taken on this item. Chair Schifffrin asked that this item be removed from future agendas.

Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas

Chair Schifffrin asked that a resolution be prepared for the next agenda in appreciation of Director Kocher's service.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m. until the next meeting of the Water Commission scheduled for October 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Staff