Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board of Directors Meeting Held
November 22, 2006

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held November 22, 2006 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Kaiser, Baggerly Word and Hicks were present. Director Bennett was absent. Also present were John Johnson, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board; and Attorney, Rob Sawyer. There were two staff members and no members of the public in attendance. Director Kaiser led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public comments.

None

2. Board of Director comments.

Director Word attended the special issues meeting for AWA and Valencia was focus topic on the new system to soften water without adding salt. He thought the City and the Sanitation district would be interested in this solution. Director Baggerly suggested that for projects brought forward such as the Eagle Scout projects there should be some recognition or press release when the project is completed. Director Word asked for a report back from Brian on the sailing club and their paying for the storage on clean up.

3. Consent Agenda. APPROVED

a. Minutes of meeting held November 8, 2006.
b. Recommend scheduling the Lake Casitas Improvement Foundation Meeting to be held at the first board meeting in December which is December 13, 2006 at 3:00 p.m.
c. Recommend approval of the proposal of Eagle Scout Aaron Friedman to create a small rest area by installing a park bench about two miles down the trail on the East side of Lake Casitas.
d. Recommend approval of the invoice from Alliant for the SLIP renewal policy in the amount of $51,311.25.
e. Recommend approval of the license agreement with Ojai Valley Sanitary District for the purpose of installing an antenna at 6363 N. Ventura Avenue.

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks and passed the consent agenda was approved.

4. Bills. APPROVED

Director Hicks asked about #22617 the rental of a boat for $400. Why did we do that? Brian Roney explained that maintenance rented a smaller boat to do some maintenance on the boom so it was lower in the water and we did not have to have someone hang over the side. It saved us on the potential for work injury. Director Hicks

thought it was a lot of money for a few days. Brian explained that it was for two boats, a pontoon and an aluminum boat for a few days. Director Hicks asked if there was any word on the big boat. Brian answered that it will come to the next recreation committee. After next week they will owe us $1,000.

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Hicks and passed the bills were approved.

5. Committee/Manager Report(s). APPROVED FOR FILING

a. Report on specific issues.
b. Recreation Committee Minutes
c. Report of inspections of Pipeline and Mechanical Maintenance
d. Report on inspection of District Maintenance.

John Johnson passed around a rock or material that was taken out of the filter. The dark is the garnet sand and the light is the calcium carbonate. This was the good filter, the one they have not been having trouble with. This was growing on the metal fingers we have on the bottom of the filter and it was clogging them up. It was good we could go in and take care of it. Mr. Johnson explained that we have tried to test the sand or the filter media because we have opened it up. If they dig down there it falls on the side. We are trying to find a way of testing them while they are in service. Director Word thought there should be something to pull the core up. Director Hicks asked if they have to empty that tank. Mr. Johnson replied yes. President Kaiser asked if there was any treatment to mitigate this from happening. Mr. Johnson answered not at this time. President Kaiser asked what happens if you flush the system more frequently. Mr. Johnson responded that the system gets backwashed every day.

Director Baggerly asked about an agreement with Senior Canyon for the administration of the grant. Ron Merckling commented that he has spoken with their GM but there is no finalized agreement yet and it will be discussed at the water resources meeting next Wednesday.

There was discussion on seasonal discounts and the willingness to try something as a pilot venture. It was decided that this would be discussed during the rate hearing.

On the motion of Director Word, seconded by Director Hicks and passed the committee/manager reports were approved for filing.

6. Public Hearing for the adoption of rate changes for Lake Casitas Recreation Area.

President Kaiser reported this is the time and date set for a public hearing on the adoption of rate changes for Lake Casitas Recreation Area and on the filing of a preliminary assessment and Notice of Exemption. Will the Clerk of the Board read the names of any members of the public who have commented regarding the proposed rates? The Clerk of the Board reported that Larry Yuva had sent an e-mail regarding the modification of the time of this meeting and Mr. Johnson reminded the board that two customers spoke on recreation rates at the previous board meeting

General Manager's Report: Park Service Manager Brian Roney addressed the board and explained that the proposed 2007 fee increases would take effect sometime in January of 2007. Over the last 17 years Recreation has generally balanced. Depreciation paid to the district was $3.3 million and overhead paid was $6,940,537. Director Baggerly asked how much was loaned to Recreation. Mr. Johnson reported you are probably around 2.5 million left unpaid. Mr. Roney continued that staffing levels have gone from 14 to 9.5. Attendance has been reduced to 852,950 to 702,228. In the early 1980's attendance was over a million. Average attendance is now 751,000. Efforts to control costs include an extensive use of part time staff, extensive use of volunteers and contracting out services to save money. Efforts to increase revenue include filming and special events, seeking grants, continue to improve the facility. Refurbishment of the part, expanded the water park, add hook up sites and value added services that add value to customers visit.

Off season discounts were discussed and it was suggested to have a program for residents within the county to come for two nights and get a third one free. Another option was a lower rate for mid week. Recreation will provide off season discounts on a test basis and report back to the board.

There was discussion regarding the changes in pricing structure for the Water Adventure for various fees at the recreation area

President Kaiser opened the public hearing at 11:05 a.m. As there were no members of the public in attendance he closed the public hearing at 11:05 a.m.

a. Resolution adopting the fee changes for Lake Casitas Recreation Area and approving the Preliminary Assessment and adopting the notice of exemption.

The resolution was offered by Director Hicks to approve the proposed fees and also the inclusion of an off season discount program. This was seconded by Director Word and passed by the following role call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Kaiser, Baggerly, Word and Hicks
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	Bennett

Resolution is numbered 06-55

7. Ordinance establishing Rules and Regulations for the public use of Lake Casitas Recreation Area. ADOPTED AS MODIFIED

There was a question of this being the first reading of the ordinance. Mr. Johnson explained that there is no requirement under the water district act for first and second readings for ordinances.

Brian Roney addressed the board and spoke regarding the revisions to Ordinance 88-5 which had been in effect since 1988. The revisions were mostly housekeeping and

allowing delegation of authority to staff and adding the section on the waterpark. It also coincides with the ordinance violation program previously approved by your board.

Mr. Johnson added that in section 2.1.1 in the last sentence it states that Park Services Officers are not normally authorized to… normally should be struck out. There is no reason to have the Park Services Officers doing anything outside of the park.

Mr. Johnson mentioned that section 3.11 is inconsistent with 3.12. The self storage rental agreement includes some of the things that are in 3.12. It needs to be clear which we mean. The reason we went to the self storage agreement methodology it is easier to enforce. If there is a difference in 3.11 and 3.12 the self storage act would be the one we would want to occur. Mr. Johnson suggested wording such as any above that is inconsistent with self storage act we will use the self storage act or something like that. Rob Sawyer added a simple way to resolve 3.12 and self service storage act is nine lines down start on the enforcement and add the phrase except as otherwise provided by the self storage act.

The ordinance was offered by Director Baggerly with changes, seconded by Director Hicks and passed by the following role call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Kaiser, Baggerly, Word and Hicks
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	Bennett

Ordinance is numbered 06-03.

8. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Schaier's Dodge in the amount of $21,296.11 for the purchase of a 2006 Dodge Caravan. This is over budget $1,296.11. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Baggerly and passed the above recommendation was approved.

9. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Power Machinery Center in the amount of $13,938.21 for the purchase of two electric carts. This is an unbudgeted item. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Hicks, seconded by Director Word and passed the above recommendation was approved.

10. Recommend approval of Purchase Order #07435 to County of Ventura Environmental Health Division in the amount of $3,010.98 for the annual certification of the fuel tanks at Lake Casitas Recreation Area. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks and passed the above recommendation was approved.

11. Recommend approval of a purchase order to Gibbs International Trucks in the amount of $64,596.29 for the purchase of a dump truck. This item is over budget by $9,596.29. APPROVED

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Hicks and passed, the above recommendation was approved.

12. Resolution adopting the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and authorizing the preliminary assessment and the notice of exemption. ADOPTED

On the motion of Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Word and passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Kaiser, Baggerly, Word and Hicks
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	Bennett

Resolution is numbered 06-56.

Ron Merckling asked President Kaiser to pick the winner of the home makeover contest from the newsletter survey. The winner is Norma Curtis

13. Information items:

Level of lake –11/08/2006 - -560.40 feet above mean sea level 6.60 feet below spill elevation); present storage is 236,453 acre feet (17,547 acre feet below full capacity of 254,000 acre feet, 109,453 acre feet above half capacity, or 93.09% full capacity.

a. Recreation Area report for October, 2006.
b. Fisheries Report
c. Publishing of the Reimbursement Disclosure Report for single expenditures to employees and the Board over $100 pursuant to Government Code 53065.5.
d. July 29, 2005 letter to Rodney McInnis of NOAA and his August 4, 2005 Response regarding the Fish Passage facility.
e. Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Newsletter.
f. News Articles of interest.
g. Investment Report of November 9, 2006.

There was discussion regarding the screens and conditions in which the screens could be removed. In order to remove the screens we need to do a fish survey above and below Robles, determine that fish are not moving and the district has continuing obligation to check that they are not moving and then we can remove the screens until the debris has gone down to avoid the problem. The NMFS letter says they will provide technical assistance and we need to get their approval for the requirement. There was

concern about getting approval in a timely manner and the need to touch base with the fisheries agencies.

President Kaiser reported on the energy alliance and an exchange program to exchange two strands of Christmas lights for led lights at the City of Ventura.

14. Closed Session

a. Conference with Legal Council- Anticipated Litigation:
Decision whether to initiate litigation. One Case
Government Code Section 54956.9(c).
Agency Claimed against: Casitas Municipal Water District

b. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Section 54956.8):
District Designated Negotiators: John Johnson, James Word, Bill Hicks
Property: Rights to operate Lake Casitas Recreation Area under Federal Water Project Recreation Act.
Negotiating Parties: Bureau of Reclamation
Under Negotiation: Lease, price, identification and nature of consideration, and terms of payment

c. Conference with Legal Counsel -- Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9, Government Code). Name of Case: Casitas Municipal Water District v. United States.

Special Meeting item:

1. Recommendation that the Board of Directors consider a raise for the Accounting Manager at either the 5, 10 or 15% of current level, or after installation of the accounting system or provide direction for another methodology.

TABLED

Mr. Johnson presented a recommendation that the Board consider a raise now or in the future following installation of a new accounting system for the Accounting Manager. The Accounting Manager came into a situation a year and a half ago with a lot of problems. There were problems with the system, taxes were not paid, there were payroll problems, backflow not done, and the audit was late with errors. At that time your board wanted it fixed and indicated it was a high priority. We hired a good Accounting Manager to do that. She has straightened it out quickly. She has also done some things to reduce costs for DataStream for $25,000 per year. President Kaiser tabled this item for reconsideration.

Mr. Johnson reported to the Board that he would be retiring in March of 2007. He added that he has enjoyed working here and had a great time. He appreciated the support of the board. Director Word asked if this was formal. Mr. Johnson replied yes and that he would supply a letter of retirement. President Kaiser thanked Mr. Johnson for informing us in advance.

President Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m. There was no closed session held.

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Secretary