

Minutes of the Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting Held
July 9, 2008

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held July 9, 2008 at Casitas' Office, Oak View, California. Directors Word, Hicks, Handley, Kaiser and Baggerly were present. Also present were Steve Wickstrum, General Manager, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board, and Attorney, John Mathews. There were two staff members and five members of the public in attendance. President Word led the group in the flag salute.

1. Public comments.

Jeff Ketelsen spoke regarding the third district stating the area is very huge. He stated he has received brochures from Casitas Municipal Water District and has found them to be confusing, including information from the chief fisheries biologist. Mr. Ketelsen then read a prepared statement declaring his candidacy for CMWD District 3.

2. Board of Director comments.

President Word reminded the Board of the Ethics training session on Monday evening at 7:00 PM.

Director Hicks reminded the Board of the AWA BBQ on the 17th at 3:00 p.m.

3. General Manager comments.

None

4. Consent Agenda

ADOPTED

- a. Minutes of the June 25, 2008 Board Meeting.
- b. Recommend approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Casitas and the County of Ventura to participate in the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County's Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Efforts.

The Consent Agenda was offered by Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Kaiser and passed.

5. Bills

APPROVED

Director Hicks questioned #27644 for fish trap, signs and fencing. Mr. Wickstrum explained that this was for specialized netting to gather fish into an

area to count them. Director Hicks then questioned the fish that died in the river. Mr. Wickstrum explained that there is depleting flow and things are drying up. This occurs and pools dry up overnight. Director Hicks asked if we could have people walking the river and then have them call in if they see fish that can be saved. Mr. Wickstrum replied that we have to work with NMFS to develop a section 10 agreement to rescue fish under the National Marine Fisheries application. He also explained that we can't get out with resources to cover 15 miles of river bed. Director Hicks asked where the dead fish are going to go. Mr. Wickstrum replied that Scott is speaking with Stan Glowacki and Mary Larson about it. Director Baggerly added that this is something that happens when the streams dry up.

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

6. Public Hearing regarding the modification of Lake Casitas Recreation Area fees and charges.
 - a. Public Hearing

President Word stated this is the time and place for a public hearing regarding the modification of Lake Casitas Recreation Area fees and charges. He asked for the Clerk of the Board to state the names of any public that submitted comments regarding the modifications. The Clerk of the Board answered there were none.

Mr. Wickstrum provided the General Manager's report and explained that the Recreation area has put together a good budget, we have narrowed down a lot of items, and have eliminated some trips. The boating restrictions we placed in affect in March does not have too much of an impact in revenue. More concern is fuel costs and how people are deciding their vacations. The Recreation Committee determined some rates to be changed in camping, and putting into effect a daily weekend rate to go to \$15 on a weekend which is when we have more of our problems and needs for trash pick up etc. during the busy times on the weekends. We are looking to make the increases effective after Labor Day weekend. We will honor the current reservations.

Director Baggerly stated If we delay the implementation of the rates and changes that further exacerbates the \$400,000 deficit. Director Kaiser added that advanced reservation at the old rate will still be in effect. Mr. Wickstrum clarified that anyone making a reservation after September 2nd will be at the new rate. Director Word expressed having the rate effective in September no matter when the reservation was made. Mr. Doan added we would not want to charge people these rates until after the CEQA process. Director Hicks stated this is the biggest increase we have had in recreation and was concerned about the elasticity and we should monitor this closely. He felt the tent camping was increasing too much. Director Word added that on the comparison of rates we would still be lower than Piru.

President Word then officially opened the public hearing at 4:55 p.m. and asked if anyone wanted to address the issue. Hearing no comments the public hearing was closed at 4:56 p.m.

Director Baggerly asked about the \$400,000 deficit in the budget. Mr. Wickstrum explained that the depreciation will go down and the park has been very successful this year. We have to understand that we have ebb and tide and we have to keep our belts as tight as possible. We also have to have staff to protect the lake. Director Hicks stated we need to understand how we profit center Recreation and how would the water utility control the lake if Recreation was not there to protect the lake. We have to be careful, we are interrelated and we are good for each other. Mr. Wickstrum added the budget is a tool based on estimates.

- b. Resolution adopting the modification of Lake Casitas Recreation Area fees and charges.

ADOPTED

The resolution was offered by Director Baggerly, seconded by Director Handley and passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Baggerly, Kaiser, Handley, Hicks, Word
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

Resolution is numbered 08-25.

- c. Resolution approving the preliminary assessment for the revision of Lake Casitas Recreation Area Rates for the restructuring and revision in fees and charges for the Lake Casitas Recreation Area, and adoption of the Notice of Exemption.

ADOPTED

The resolution was offered by Director Baggerly with changes to be statutorially exempt, seconded by Director Kaiser and passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Baggerly, Kaiser, Handley, Hicks, Word
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

Resolution is numbered 08-26.

- 7. Resolution awarding the Night Fishing Tournaments for 2009.

ADOPTED

Mr. Wickstrum explained that staff has solicited proposals for night fishing. Last year we reduced it from 18 to 5 night tournaments. This year it was

successful. There were 27 boats on June 19th. They pulled in many fish and \$45 per boat was dedicated to the LCIF. The agreement would be awarded to Angler's Choice.

The resolution was offered by Director Hicks, seconded by Director Kaiser and passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Baggerly, Kaiser, Handley, Hicks, Word
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

Resolution is numbered 08-27.

8. Options to allow kayak entry into Lake Casitas.

APPROVED

Mr. Wickstrum explained the current procedure for allowing kayaks at lake Casitas with on site storage or by attaching it with a cable to a trailer, boat or vehicle. Mr. Grumette has developed another method. As staff we would like to see a limited amount of methods and consideration of what Mr. Grumette has put together here.

Mr. Grumette showed a small model of the device and explained how it is locked with a cable and tamper proof tag attached. This device would allow for a kayak to be taken home but could not be used in another body of water. If the owner wishes to use the kayak elsewhere, they break the tag; use the kayak and when they want to return they have to go through inspection and quarantine again. The cables and pvc pipe are custom fit for each kayak. Director Handle said this seems like a good option for those people who want to take their kayaks home. Mr. Grumette explained this would cost about \$50 - \$70 dollars for the devise.

On the motion of Director Kaiser, seconded by Director Handley and passed the recommendation to allow this fifth option for kayaks was approved.

9. Presentation by United Water Conservation District representatives Jim Kentosh and Kimberly Bowers requesting funding assistance for steelhead history research.

DECLINED

Jim Kentosh and Kimberly Bowers of United Water Conservation gave a presentation on their historical research on steelhead in the area and requested funding assistance for continued work on the project.

Director Hicks made a motion to approve funding for the research. The motion failed for lack of a second.

10. Information Items:

- a. Retirement party honoring Dana Wisehart from United Water Conservation District
- b. Monthly Cost Analysis for Operation of Robles, Fisheries and fish Passage.
- c. Fiscal Year 2007-08 Reimbursement Disclosure Report
- d. News Articles of Interest
- e. Investment Report

Rick arrived late and asked about the rate increase at the lake. President Word stated it has been resolved and it will go into effect on September 2nd.

President Word adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

Secretary