

REDWOOD VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
2370 Webb Ranch Road
Redwood Valley CA 95470
(707) 485-0679

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting
Thursday, January 16, 2014

Directors Present: Jeanette Hallman, Granville Pool, Pamela Ricetti, Ken Todd
Directors Absent: Jack Spilman
Staff Present: General Manager Bill Koehler
Recording Secretary: Excused
Others Present: County Supervisor Carre Brown, Martha and Charlie Barra, Robert Gitlin, Jeff Basili

CALL TO ORDER: 7:01 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL.

Pamela Ricetti, Director
Ken Todd, Director
Jeanette Hallman, Board Vice-President
Granville Pool, Board President

2. HEARING OF COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM THE ATTENDING PUBLIC.

Nothing.

3. CONSIDER HEARING OF URGENT ITEMS RECEIVED SINCE THE AGENDA WAS POSTED.

Nothing.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA.

MOTION: Approve the Agenda as presented, with the exception of Hearing member of the public, Mr. Gitlin, early in the Meeting since the matter can probably be resolved quickly.
Hallman/Ricetti Discussion CARRIED
AYES: Hallman, Ricetti, Todd, Pool
NOES: None
ABSENT: Spilman

President Pool stated the Board will Hear the Agenda Item No. 8.e. at this time. There were no objections.

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT AND ACTION ITEMS #E: WELL POLICY. (Agenda Item No. 8.e)

Director Hallman stated, In all the years I have served on the Board of Directors, Building & Planning has always sent Subdivision packets to us and the Board has always talked about them and then sent a letter back to Building & Planning. When I heard about this one, the Board had not talked about it yet, and at the time I thought he was drilling new wells. Our Board Meeting was on the 16th and the County was scheduled to discuss Mr. Gitlin's subdivision on the 16th, so that was a concern. I sent an email to GM Koehler saying "We haven't seen this at the District. Is that correct?" and then I added, "If the Planning Department monitored other wells and new wells, when a new well was drilled I would have no problem with this; but we are going into a dry year and we might not have the water to help our customers, let alone anyone with a failed well." She continued, I now know he is not drilling new wells, he has existing wells but because we had never seen that, I did not know at the time and I thought that he was drilling new wells. On my second email, with Bill telling me that Mr. Gitlin had existing wells, I asked that we look at our 'Letter for new wells' because throughout the years we have sent the same Letter over and over. She added, The only unusual thing about this would have been if I hadn't commented, because everybody knows my stance on new wells, and I talked about it at the Rate Increase Hearing, about how the moratorium hasn't stopped the drilling of new wells or anything else, so as far as I'm concerned, the Well Policy and this matter are separate issues. Mr. Gitlin already has the wells, I see no reason not to send the Letter to Planning & Building.

Director Ricetti asked for clarification, Our District has a policy about drilling a well?

GM Koehler explained further: Director Hallman contacted me and I contacted Planning & Building and asked what was going on. I pointed out to them that the District has a Form Letter regarding new development, whether it's a new construction or a minor subdivision, that basically says, The District is not involved, however please be aware that if you build something after 1997 and the well fails either due to quality or quantity, the District is unable to provide water to the parcel.

GM Koehler added, The Letter is applicable to this subdivision; but I also had to tell Planning that the District has a Board Member who wants this matter discussed at its upcoming Board Meeting and therefore the District cannot provide a Letter until after the Board Meeting. So the Planner in charge of the filing suggested a 'Continuance' for a month and that was agreed upon. However Mr. Gitlin contacted me and we had a couple of conversations back and forth because this delay is throwing a monkey-wrench into the process for another month. As a result, I contacted the Planner in charge again and said the District doesn't want a Continuance, and that I will attend the Hearing the morning of the 16th.

While at the Hearing, I told them that the District doesn't want to hold up the process. I provided them with a copy of the District's standard Form Letter and said a signed letter would be forwarded after the Board Meeting.

GM Koehler remarked to the Board, I do not bring the Request for Comments to the Directors. This is none of our concern.

Director Hallman stated, As long as I have been on the Board we always heard them.

GM Koehler answered, You don't see them. I get two or three a year. When I get an Application from any department of the County stating that so-and-so is building a new house, I send back the same exact Letter every time and they go into a file folder and they are forgotten. We don't have a dog in this fight. So, I do not bring them to you.

Director Ricetti asked, If they're not asking us for water, why do we even need the Letter?

GM Koehler stated, Should a majority of you vote that you want to be informed in advance or even if you want to be informed that a Letter was sent, or if you wish to modify the Letter, I will be more than happy to do so but in general my position is, we don't have a dog in this fight. We have a Letter that has been going out for 25 years; the same Letter.

Director Hallman said she does not want to modify the Letter for existing wells but when she did call Building & Planning, what she heard was that, because of the way this is worded, we are not opposed to new wells going in.

GM Koehler replied, That is correct, we are not opposed. Even regardless of whether it is a new well or an existing well. GM Koehler informed the Board that there was discussion at the Planning Department this morning about the fact that Inland Mendocino County does not have a well inspection/well comparison policy.

He added, Whether or not they want to have a policy, that is their decision to make. It's not for us, in my opinion, to urge them to have such a policy.

Director Hallman said she thinks it would not hurt the District to urge them to have a policy just because if everybody drills new wells, we cannot supply water.

GM Koehler said, You're right, we cannot supply them with water. So, if your neighbor were to drill a new well and impact your existing well, you have no recourse. We have no dog in this fight.

Director Todd stated, It's not our business.

GM Koehler offered commentary, Many county water districts that are not under a moratorium do have a policy for drilling wells for potable purposes; typically not for irrigation purposes. Their policy would prohibit the drilling of a well if it is within a predetermined number of feet of a water main because their District put in the infrastructure and they need the customers. They demand that. Since our Moratorium went in, Redwood Valley cannot provide new services and we are not in the position of telling people anything about their wells, in my opinion.

President Pool stated, In any case none of this would apply to Dr. Gitlin's situation, as he already has wells.

There was no modification of the Form Letter. GM Koehler will deliver the District's standard letter on Tuesday, and indeed in the future if the District receives another packet for a new house or a new well, they will receive the same Form Letter without notice to the Board. The Board was in agreement.

Dr. Gitlin thanked the Board, adding that he was pleased to see the democratic process in action and he appreciates his matter being heard early in the Board Meeting.

Dr. Gitlin left the Meeting at 7:15 p.m.

(NOTE: The Mendocino County Division of Environmental Health Policy 4600-11-01, "Well Permits for Drilling Within Water Districts" is included after the signature page of these Minutes.)

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDARS. (Agenda Item No. 5)

The December, 2013 Consent Calendar was reviewed.

MOTION: Accept the Consent Calendar as presented.

Ricetti/Todd Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Ricetti, Todd, Hallman, Pool
NOES: None
ABSENT: Spilman

The January, 2014 Consent Calendar was reviewed.

MOTION: Accept the Consent Calendar as presented.

Ricetti/Todd Discussion CARRIED
AYES: Ricetti, Todd, Hallman, Pool
NOES: None
ABSENT: Spilman

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AS PRESENTED. (Agenda Item No. 6)

The Draft Minutes of November 21, 2013 were reviewed.

MOTION: Approve the Minutes.

Hallman/Ricetti Discussion CARRIED
AYES: Hallman, Ricetti, Todd, Pool
NOES: None
ABSENT: Spilman

Note: At the November 21, 2013 Meeting the Directors agreed to cancel the December Regular Board Meeting because GM Koehler would be on vacation and there were no pending business deadlines during the holidays.

8. DIRECTORS AND STAFF REPORTS AND DISCUSSION OF NON-ACTION TOPICS. (Agenda Item No. 7)

a. Personnel Committee Report.

The Personnel Committee did not meet.

b. Ad Hoc/Consolidation Committee Report.

GM Koehler spoke with GM Sean White this morning and he also spoke with GM Dave Redding and GM Tim Bradley this morning. Sean stated that in the future, all four of the General Managers should be much more aggressive about making sure that all four GM's are involved in future conversations so that each Board receives direct reports from their own General Manager thus eliminating the issue of second-or-third-hand-information. Both Tim and Dave were in full agreement that it is important that all four GM's need to be in the same room at the same time during potential JPA discussions.

GM Koehler stated that there is no plan for a JPA at this time. If it evolves into a JPA at some point in the future, the Board Members will be aware of it and will be participants of that discussion.

President Pool feels there are advantages to consolidating. GM Koehler said that the California Department of Public Health is very much pro-consolidation. Director Ricetti feels that consolidating is very beneficial for everybody.

GM Koehler will continue to work with the other three General Managers with the goal of consolidation.

Member of the public asked how a consolidation happens.

GM Koehler said the process is called Dissolution & Annexation. Bruce Baracco, Executive Director of LAFCO has provided information to aid with going through the process. RVCWD would dissolve and would be annexed into the Flood Control District which would hopefully then gain a New Name. There would be a separate Zone of Benefit within the new district, tentatively known as the Upper Russian Water Agency. The area north of Hwy 20 would be a Zone of Benefit and as such would retain the assets and the liabilities of that Zone. For example, customers within the Upper Russian Water Agency that are not within the new Zone of Benefit would not owe part of the \$7.2 million dollar debt to the USDI Bureau of Reclamation, nor would they own any part of the Water Treatment Plant. There are a myriad of details but they are doable, however the current drought situation has sort of thrown a monkey-wrench into the process.

GM Koehler reported that GM Tim Bradley suggested the following, if indeed the direction is to completely incorporate/consolidate the Redwood Valley work staff with the Willow work staff: They would be thoroughly willing to offer RVCWD a 120-day grace period, and if during that time RRFC doesn't think the arrangement is working and RRFC wants out, they would help RRFC recruit and would include up to 120 days training new staff. That might mitigate some of the Director concerns. Director Todd had previously asked GM Koehler why Redwood could not make use of Willow's extra staff, but GM Koehler now knows that Willow does not have extra staff and if Willow had to go out and hire, their Board would need some assurance that there is a reason to do that.

c. Discussion of Rates.

The Proposition 218 Water Rate Protest Hearing was held at 7:00 p.m. on December 4, 2013 at the RV Grange Hall as scheduled.

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT. (Agenda Item No. 8)

a) District Operations.

The District is operating well with no particular problems to report. Field crew has repaired or replaced all the broken valves at the clearwells. Since no local parties have responded with estimates, the District will be issuing a repair order to Utility Services for the needed repairs to the clearwell.

b) Fire Service at Cerro Pacific.

As a result of the last Board Meeting, GM Koehler contacted Fire Chief Hession to discuss Director Spilmans request for Cerro Pacific to install a tank rather than a direct tap into our system. Fire Chief Hession is strongly opposed to this concept as it does not supply adequate refilling of water through a standard 4" meter (versus the 6" fire flow meter). In addition the design also calls for an internal hydrant which must be fed from a 6" unrestricted line.

Note: This information was previously provided to the Directors in their Board Packets with a request to contact GM Koehler if the Board wishes to have Fire Chief Hession attend this Board Meeting. There was no such request and no further objection to the design. The original design with hot tap will be allowed.

c) Fraud Policy.

Minor changes have been made to the Fraud Policy as requested at the last Meeting. President Pool and Director Ricetti both said the changes are good. There were no objections. President Pool signed the Fraud Policy.

d) Customer Deposit.

The Board previously requested a clarification of the monthly checkbook balance which includes a debit entry titled "Less Tenant Deposits". This entry is a combination of the \$25 owner deposits and \$100 tenant deposits, minus the sum of any unpaid bills that might exist when a tenant moves. The Board was satisfied with this information.

e) Well Policy.

Previously discussed at the beginning of this Meeting, Item No. 5.

f) Pat Higgins Support Letter.

Pat Higgins of the Eel River Recovery Project is requesting letters of support for funding from the State Water Board. The ERRP is doing valuable work on the Eel River, much of which provides information about the system that counters information being produced by the Friends of the Eel River. A proposed letter and a copy of the support letter sent by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors was provided to the Directors in their Board Packets. Other agencies supporting this are 6 Rivers National Forest, Humboldt BoS, UC Berkeley, the Eel Russian River Commission and the Wiyot Tribe.

MOTION: Approve the Higgins support letter and authorize President Pool to sign.

Hallman/Ricetti Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Hallman, Ricetti, Todd, Pool

NOES: None

ABSENT: Spilman

President Pool signed the Support Letter.

g) Drought.

On January 7, 2014 the Board of Supervisors issued a Declaration of Drought Emergency. They have appointed Supervisor Carre Brown and Supervisor Dan Hamburg to an *ad hoc* committee to respond to the emergency.

GM Koehler accompanied GM Sean White as he voluntarily conducted a bathymetric survey of the bottom of the dwindling pool left in Lake Mendocino. At this point the RVCWD intake is theoretically 9' below the surface and we are losing about 2" of water per day. In 2009/2010 we discussed getting a pump in the lake. We need a crane on a barge to pull off the fish screen and we would pump into the caisson (using it as a big 'bucket') and we would periodically turn on our pumps. It would hold roughly 300,000 gallons, giving us 1-1/2 to 2 days of water for domestic use. We would just keep filling the caisson with a diesel pump.

Director Todd asked if we could get water from the Masonite site or from the City of Ukiah.

GM Koehler said that GM Tim Bradley is exploring that. The Masonite well is not being used and maybe there is a possibility of renting the well temporarily. The chemical analysis has been done in accord with Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.

GM Koehler has been discussing the drought situation and temporary scenarios with GM Sean White and once an Emergency has been declared, then a lot of these Place of Use and water transfer issues kind of get set by the wayside. It would be expected that with the Emergency Declaration, the District ag customers would not be receiving District water. Basically, we have 30-days of lake water to do something; and we have 60-days of storage water at the Treatment Plant.

GM Koehler also met with GM Dave Redding yesterday to discuss the reality of an emergency or permanent intertie. We have a 6" line on Uva Drive and 1200-feet south of that, is the northernmost Calpella CWD hydrant. Expenses would include hiring an engineering firm.

Supervisor Carre Brown said the County O.E.S. is meeting weekly with the State O.E.S. She suggested that if the District needs special equipment, to also contact Tami Bartolomei at the County O.E.S., as they have several warehouses of equipment that might be helpful to this project.

GM Koehler asked the Board what direction they wish him to take, such as a temporary line with possibly free pipe and possibly free pump?

President Pool said he feels if we can do a temporary connection with very little expense, then this is the way we should explore. However, if we have to go out and buy everything to make a temporary connection, then we should think very hard about doing a proper, permanent connection, so that the whole valley-wide system has a better sharing capability. He instructed GM Koehler to contact Rau Engineers to get some idea if George is comfortable doing the intertie analysis or if he is comfortable referring us to the appropriate engineer, and get some idea of what that will cost. Once that information is received, a Special Meeting should be scheduled because this is a very urgent matter.

GM Koehler will follow up on all that has been discussed.

GM Koehler asked at what point, at what date, at what lake level and at what water supply level does the Board want to get started issuing mandatory conservation notices. President Pool agreed with GM Koehler that the first 6 stages listed on the Ordinance have occurred.

A member of the public encouraged the Board to proceed with conservation measures, citing the many folks she has personally spoken with and who are concerned with the need to enforce those measures. GM Koehler mentioned that although he is not a viticulturalist, he understands that at some point lack of soil moisture can cause permanent damage to crops.

Martha Barra stated, Absolutely; that's where we are right now.

GM Koehler said he thinks the intent of the District is to communicate with our ag customers and say, you probably are only going to get 50% this year, and you need to decide how you're going to use it.

He added, The hierarchy of water usage per the California Water Code is Human Consumption, Human Sanitation, Fire Protection, Industrial and Agricultural. GM Koehler suggested that if the Board thinks there will be an impact that is felt by wineries, the District should consider holding a meeting of the ag community and make sure they are informed of limited supply.

Charlie Barra stated that the plants will struggle with low soil moisture but they can survive, and that's about it. However, the water for frost protection is critical.

Director Todd mentioned that he has already called the nursery where he orders his new grape plants and told them not to send him any plants this year.

Director Ricetti said she has let everything go dry. She thinks it would be terrible to be putting water on a vineyard and not be able to provide water to people's homes. This is people's lives.

Supervisor Brown said that earlier this week the BOS reviewed the Agenda items about the drought in preparation for their Tuesday meeting. She added, I don't know all the details, but we all know that the City of Willits went to a Phase 5. Well, I believe that they were contacted by the SWRCB and told that they could not go to a Phase 5 without the permission of the SWRCB.

GM Koehler said that Brooktrails went to 110 gallons-per-day for a household of four. That translates into the 27 gallons-per-day, per person, generated by the World Health Organization as the rock-bottom minimum for the industrial world.

Supervisor Brown continued, If you remember back in 2009, we went to Sacramento and met with several people which resulted in the SWRCB passing some kind of an Action for us in the Ukiah Valley, so that we could make a Drought Declaration and implement the Ordinance. I will need to speak to the City Manager or the Council Members to learn more details; however, if the Governor declares a Drought tomorrow, that changes everything.

Charlie Barra remarked, It's an emergency time. I think the people that live here need to protect themselves against the emergency. In order to sometimes protect yourself against an emergency, you may need to pay a little more money. The District may have to increase the price of water because of all these expenses the Board is talking about. I think the Board needs to move ahead with whatever programs you can get in order to get us some water. Even if the cost is up, you have to pass it on. Mr. Barra suggested following up on the Masonite program because it provides a lot of water. He also

mentioned the newspaper notices from Sonoma County Water Agency asking for customers to implement a voluntary 20% usage cutback.

GM Koehler said part of the issue for Redwood Valley is that our customers are already using far less water per day than what Sonoma County uses.

Director Hallman suggested the District send a letter asking for a voluntary cutback. The letter should also say, When we get to this Tier, Ordinance No. 1 will require further action, and we detail the action.

President Pool said the thing that bothers him about the Ordinance and the Tiers is that we are telling people to cut back a percentage of what they cut back in the past. How do they know what percentage they did? We need to give them more guidance. We can suggest that in these circumstances it would be prudent if everybody were using 30 or 40 gallons per day, or whatever it is. We can also point them to our website at the water conservation tab which will give all kinds of suggestions for implementing conservation.

Director Todd suggested the website have a button the customer can use that will show their last 4-months usage and a calculator.

GM Koehler suggested a compromise: If our average at this point is 80 gallons per person per day and we're asking for a 25% reduction, we could recommend that our target is no more than 60 gallons per person per day.

He also noted that St. Helena and Willits have gone down to 75 gallons per person per day, however Brooktrails has had to go down to 27 gallons per person per day.

GM Koehler continued, The target at this time would be an urgent request for compliance, however if the monthly reads indicate lack of cooperation, we would have to go knock on doors and tell the customer that they risk losing their service until drought restrictions are removed.

Director Ricetti inquired about the ag customers during this time. She feels the irrigating is important but not crucial, however the frost protection water is crucial.

Martha Barra commented that if we haven't had rain by mid-March, we are in deep trouble.

GM Koehler asked the Board what the next step will be. Will we send a warning that 50% cutback is imminent for ag? We will ask domestic for a 25% cutback, at approx 60 gallons per person per day? He mentioned that our Domestic customer base has already measurably reduced the annual usage. The Board continued the discussion.

Director Hallman suggested the letter should mention what the other municipalities or districts are doing so that our customers see that there's a range that we fall in the midst of.

President Pool thinks that is a great idea and that we should also say that Willits and Brooktrails are in dire straits and we are not far behind. And we should mention that Pillsbury is running dry; we've got potentially **nothing** coming into Lake Mendocino.

Director Ricetti suggested telling the grape growers the 50% is happening now; don't say that it's going to happen soon. She also feels strongly that ag customers with small ponds that don't have the capacity for more than two days of frost protection, shouldn't fill their ponds at all. She stated, How do we know? There is no way of knowing how many days of frost we're going to experience. I think there is going to be an awful lot of water sucked out of what's left of that lake for no good reason at all. That's a terrible waste of water when in dire straits it should be allocated to human needs.

Director Todd recommended for Ag: 50% of the past 3-year average.

Charlie Barra told the Board that he thinks the District should be looking to get more water now and talk about the price, later.

Director Ricetti agreed, We absolutely need to go after that water. That's the problem, we're out of water. We need to bite the bullet in going after a water supply.

GM Koehler stated that we have had several meetings with the local water folks, we've got the Department of Public Health coming up on Tuesday, the Army COE has scheduled a meeting next week.

Charlie Barra clarified, I'm talking about the project of the intertie up here.

GM Koehler said he will talk to Tim at Millview if the Board directs him to. Whether or not they can make it work will be partly dependent upon what Governor Jerry Brown does as to the access to that water. Again, if what we're getting is water from Masonite through the intertie, it's probably not going to be for Ag. It's potable because it came out of a well. It would be stored in our domestic tanks.

Martha Barra and Director Ricetti both said that doing so would then free up the lake water to be used for ag needs.

Supervisor Carre Brown said that when Supervisor John Pinches heard she was coming to this Redwood Valley Meeting, he told her to tell the Redwood Valley Board: If ever there's ever a time, this is the time to do it.

She added that Willits did communicate with the Boy Scouts Organization and they are willing to help the community in any way they can. Scout Lake is isolated, it receives runoff when there is rain, but the lake is isolated and there is no way to get water out of it.

Supervisor Brown repeated Supervisor Pinches' statement to Redwood ... "This is the time."

President Pool asked, The time to do what?

Supervisor Brown answered, Get the water from Scout Lake and pipe it down to Tomki Road. (Everyone spoke at once.)

President Pool remarked, For Willits it would be wonderful because it would be gravity, and it's also in the same watershed.

Director Todd stated, The cost for Redwood Valley to pipe it and pump it would be astronomical.

GM Koehler commented that our formal response to this in the past has been, You get it to the confluence of Tomki East and West, with a meter on the end of the pipe, and we will be happy to receive it.

President Pool asked Supervisor Brown to assure Supervisor Pinches that she did in fact deliver his message and that the matter will be shown in the Minutes.

Director Todd stated that Redwood Valley should definitely look into the Masonite well.

President Pool reiterated that the Masonite well would be potable water going into our potable system.

GM Koehler asked for a recap of the final decision. His notes indicate:

Domestic, 60 gallons per person per day now, or it's going to get even lower and expensive very soon. No penalty at the moment.

The letter will state the cutbacks that surrounding agencies have to enforce.

Agricultural, 50% reduction based on 2006-2007-2008 usage, unless staff finds -0- usage during that period, in which case, staff is allowed to look at a previous year. There will also be language about non-compliance being a trigger for being locked off.

Office staff will research the look-back period and each letter will provide the individual customer with their personal 50% figure.

Start Date: End of January.

After a great deal of discussion, and wanting to be fair to both the domestic and ag accounts, the Board agreed.

h) CDPH evaluation.

The CDPH inspection during November resulted in a number of deficiencies, none of which came as a surprise and most of which exist because the District simply has not had the labor to complete the projects. The State has now directed us to complete the modification of the injection vault and if our staff can't get to it, we will need to hire a contractor. Closely related is the matter of the lack of alarm testing because the missing alarms are not in the vault. Each of the Board Members have been provided with the CDPH letter and GM Koehler noted that the CDPH independently came up with the same assessment regarding short staffing that mirrors GM Koehler's assessment. Meetings between Redwood and Willow/Millview are ongoing.

The Directors have read the CDPH letter and they have no questions at this time.

Director Hallman said she has one more question for Item g, Drought.

g) Drought, Continued.

Director Hallman stated, The Board of Supervisors has just created its Committee. Are any of our Board Members planning to attend? GM Koehler said he is planning to be involved in it.

Supervisor Brown responded, The Ad Hoc Committee has just met, which was very quickly, the day after the Drought Declaration by resolution was made, and that was just to make sure that we start gathering the information we need, plus, to set up a hotline. We want to be very careful that we are Brown Act compliant in the posting of this. We really can't do anything because of the government. We can do 'education', but we've already got that. Sonoma County has it on their website, the State has it and now we can be proactive. If the Governor indeed Declares (a Drought/state of emergency) tomorrow, then most likely the Ad Hoc is going to turn into a Task Force and we'll let the Office of Emergency Services handle their work and then the Task Force will lay out water conservation and just try to deal with the others, because we have people that are not served by water companies, and whose wells are dry.

She also mentioned that water trucks are keeping busy at the coast, as the Mendocino wells are still dry.

Director Ricetti said The District must stop selling to bulk water delivery trucks.

GM Koehler said the District isn't selling to owners of raw water tankers; however there are a couple of drivers with potable water trucks that still can buy treated water to fill storage tanks for people within the District boundary whose wells have gone dry.

A discussion of whether or not the District letter to customers should include something about observations of water theft from water hydrants. Supervisor Brown stated that the Sheriff's Hotline will take those calls. The public should be warned to not confront the water thief, but perhaps get the license plate number or take a picture without confrontation, and then call the Sheriff's Hotline. It was concluded that most of the public knows this information already.

8-i). Appointment of new Director.

Director Jack Spilman has moved out of the District boundaries and if he were in attendance tonight it would have been the last meeting at which he was eligible to serve on the Board of Directors. It is the responsibility of the Board to make an appointment filling this vacancy until the end of his full term of office and then there will be an election. If the Board is unable to appoint, the issue reverts to the Board of Supervisors.

Member of public was invited to introduce himself to the Board.

Jeff Basili introduced himself and said he has worked at the water department for the City of Ukiah since 1989. He lives in Redwood Valley and is a Water District customer. He has been in discussions with Director Ken Todd about serving on the Water Board, ever since Director Todd was appointed, and he would like to serve.

President Pool asked for a Motion.

MOTION: I nominate Jeff Basili to be appointed and to serve on the Board of Directors.

Todd/Hallman Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Todd, Hallman, Ricetti, Pool

NOES: None

ABSENT: Spilman

Supervisor Carre Brown offered her services to perform the Swearing-In for Oath of Office for the new member of the Board of Directors. The Board then asked her to please proceed.

So done.

Mr. Jeff Basili has been Appointed and Sworn-In as a Director of RVCWD.

All of the Directors welcomed him and thanked him for volunteering to serve on the Board.

The Form 700 and all appropriate documents will be provided.

00:53:39

The Directors thanked Supervisor Brown for coming and participating in the Meeting and for Swearing-In our new Director tonight.

Supervisor Carre Brown left the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Member of the public told the Board that the reason she came to the Meeting was to suggest to Redwood Valley and to Supervisors and to Flood Control, that what we really need is to have meetings throughout the Ukiah Valley where people can get together and suggest tips they have to deal with drought; to break the isolation and deal with some of the fear that people have. They know it is coming and I think we can help each other learn how to do the right thing. I'm suggesting we start having some big public opportunities to do that, not a political agenda and maybe not even have a lot of professional people to attend, but just to have that forum and have that opportunity.

GM Koehler said he thinks this type of thing is imminent and that it is going to come out of the County Task Force. He noted that Supervisor Brown didn't have the opportunity to answer Director Hallman's question about who would be in attendance at the Ad Hoc/Task Force, but since Redwood Valley does have an Ordinance he expects to be a part of the discussions about what works and what doesn't.

President Pool stated that he is interested in attending also.

Vice-President Hallman stated that it is important for at least one Board Member to be in attendance and she will also attend if her schedule allows.

GM Koehler mentioned for the benefit of the public that, as a point of reference, in 2009-2010 the District organized and hosted three or four meetings here at the Grange Hall in RV and at the RV Fire Department. We brought in several speakers and others with all kinds of ideas and procedures for saving rain water and conserving.

GM Koehler continued, Also we need to point out that at the recent Flood Control District meeting they had a discussion about contacting an expert from Australia, as Australia has experienced a 10-year drought in their winery area.

Director Todd informed the Board that the ranchers in Australia overplanted their vineyards for the amount of water they had available for vineyards. So that's one of the problems with growing grapes in Australia.

Break: 9:20 p.m.
Reconvene: 9:35 p.m.

Director Basili took his Seat at the Board Meeting Table.

10. FINANCIAL REPORTS. (Agenda Item No. 9)

After a review of the Financial Reports for December, 2013 and January, 2014, a Motion was made.

MOTION: Accept the Financial Reports for December and January as presented.

Ricetti/Todd Discussion CARRIED

AYES: Hallman, Ricetti, Todd, Basili, Pool

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

11. LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY – LAFCO.
(Agenda Item No. 10).

Director Todd asked if we are waiting to receive more data from Bruce Baracco at LAFCO.

GM Koehler said we have received all the information on the dissolution/annexation that occurred in the Central Valley and we finally received the last piece of information we were waiting for. We have to produce a Narrative. Once we File the Application, at some point we're going to have to hire somebody to help us do the Metes and Bounds of the District. GM Koehler has contacted the engineering firm that produced our map years ago, and they do not have the Metes and Bounds information.

12. M. C. INLAND WATER & POWER COMMISSION. (Agenda Item No. 11).

A limited meeting was held in Hopland on January 2nd with Janet Pauli, Supervisor Carre Brown, Candace as notetaker, GM Koehler and Mike Dillabough from the Corps of Engineers. The concern is that the COE has informed the IW&PC that the Feasibility Study hasn't been funded for three years, therefore the COE is killing it.

Mendocino County has put \$600,000 into the Feasibility Study and has received virtually no receivables during that time.

Supervisor Brown reported, After many days of analysis the Corps of Engineers has determined that the Coyote Dam at Lake Mendocino is incredibly safe; it is extremely well built. Unfortunately it is a Category Three Dam and the Corps does not raise the height of any Category Three Dams, Period. It's a Category Three because, even though it is extremely well built, we have all this documentation and all these photographs that show that if the Dam were to fail, it would be catastrophic because of the amount development and humanity that would be in the path of this huge tidal wave that would come rolling out of that Dam.

To get the Dam to Category Four, we would have to put in a Warning System of sirens, etc., similar to the Tidal Wave Warnings at the Coast. We are looking at that; there is some matching COE money for the warning system.

GM Koehler added, The Army COE has estimated the Cost of raising the Dam to the original predetermined height that it was designed for, to be over \$300,000,000 and the Benefit of the water is \$100,000,000. Also specifically in their Manual on how they determine the Benefit, they ignore ag, they ignore recreation and they don't put a multiplier in for domestic.

Director Todd asked, So where do they figure the Benefit would be?

GM Koehler said, Drinking water for Healdsburg, north. He added, At the Regular IW&PC Meeting on January 9th, they established the intent to definitely try to get a better Cost/Benefit Analysis.

Director Ricetti mentioned the \$120,000,000 cost for the raising of the Los Vaqueros Dam in Contra Costa County.

GM Koehler stated that the Los Vaqueros Dam is very similar to the Coyote Valley Dam, but the huge difference in cost of the two projects is that Contra Costa County self-funded their project. When you involve the Army COE in a project, you can figure it's going to cost 2-3 times more than a self-funded project.

GM Koehler continued, The basic issue is that the Coyote Valley Dam Raising Project was authorized at the very beginning, but it was never appropriated. They did appropriate the Feasibility Study, but it is a joke. It's possible that the remaining money, combined the IW&PC credit for in-kind contribution of labor, may pay for some Coring Studies. It was suggested that the IW&PC go to Congressman Thompson and Congressman Huffman and convince them to authorize things such as the Coring Study because in reality the Feasibility Study, even after another \$2,000,000 to complete, is going to tell them to do that study.

GM Koehler added, Unfortunately, the Corps will not accept an outside Economic Analysis, so really all you can do is go back to the same people that botched it the first time and pay them to do it a second time.

Janet Pauli is asking for more specific answers even though it is difficult to decommission an Army COE project at the federal level; but it is possible to transfer it to the USDA Bureau of Reclamation and it is possible for a community to actually take private ownership of it. The operating cost just to keep the dam working is \$4,000,000 per year. The liability would be scary. The divestiture process is incredibly slow, up to 10 years or more.

Also of note, Recreation is closed at both Lake Mendocino and Lake Sonoma for 2014.

The dam is still being run as a flood control structure. Campground fees only bring in about \$150,000 a year even though it is a very popular venue.

There is actually \$22,000,000 worth of deferred maintenance.

GM Koehler then brought up the topic of the perennial question by the public: Why don't you dredge the dam in order to create more storage in the existing structure?

He explained, The amount of silt at the bottom of Lake Mendocino is 7.7-million cubic yards. If the silt has no mercury (which is not going to happen) it would cost \$140,000,000 to remove that amount. If the silt does have mercury it would cost about \$280,000,000 to remove the 7.7-million cubic yards of silt. This would yield 5,000 acre-feet of water.

13. MENDOCINO COUNTY RUSSIAN RIVER FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT. (Agenda Item No. 12).

At the monthly meeting, GM Sean White stated for the record that he is a personal friend of Congressman Jared Huffman and he also stated that Congress is developing legislation that will force the US Army COE to improve and update the Lake Mendocino Operations Manual.

The FCD is recommending an incremental decrease in the percentage of the allocations for their ag users as well. They said that all the ag ponds are full.

The new Vice-President on the Board of Trustees is Richard Shoemaker.

The FCD will be submitting their License Application very soon.

Update: GM Sean White told GM Koehler the License Application was submitted yesterday (January 15th).

14. SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY. (Agenda Item No. 13).

GM Koehler reported, The Russian River Compact should be out in a month or so. Lake Pillsbury is at 13% of storage and they've got only about 10 days that they know they can continue releasing. The Lake has about 8,000 acre-feet that they're not sure they can get at, at the bottom, because it is heavily silted. They are also concerned that if they get a couple of gully-washers back-to-back, they are going to be blowing all that silt back up to into the river going down toward Cape Horn.

SCWA is setting up a meeting soon, probably in Ukiah, to discuss water supply issues.

15. REPORT OF ATTENDANCE AT AGENCY MEETINGS OF ANY OTHER ENTITY NOT LISTED SEPARATELY HEREIN. (Agenda Item No. 14).

GM Koehler reported that on January 7, 2014 the Board of Supervisors made their initial Declaration, and they announced the Public Policy Facilitating Committee will be meeting on January 17th from 10a-12n for an update on the Biological Opinion. GM Koehler will attend and a Director also may attend. Supervisor Carre Brown, GM Sean White of FCD and Lee Howard of FCD are reappointed to be the representatives from Mendocino County.

The Emergency Drought Declaration was created to assist the individual water purveyors with possibly obtaining access to funding (although it has been temporarily rescinded). The economic impact could be severe.

Chief Executive Officer Carmel Angelo pointed out that the County doesn't have any staff to man this Task Force; so, if the Task Force is created there will be a hotline established.

Director Hallman added, Supervisor Pinches was appointed again as the Chair. She remembers Richard Shoemaker getting up and congratulating him for being the Chair. GM Koehler said he was most likely being congratulated for having done a good job last year as the Chair. President Pool said the BOS does not reappoint the same Chair.

It was determined that Supervisor Dan Hamburg was appointed as the Chair. (See Note)
(Note: Director Hallman is correct. GM Koehler misunderstood. Supervisor Pinches was appointed Chair to replace outgoing Chair, Supervisor Hamburg.)

GM Koehler said that representatives from Willits and Brooktrails and Fort Bragg all came before the Board of Supervisors to declare that they are in water crisis mode.

16. STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD. (Agenda Item No. 15).

Nothing new to report.

17. STATUS REPORT OF PLACE OF USE ISSUES. (Agenda Item No. 16).

Nothing new to report.

18. STATUS REPORT OF 2800 ACRE-FEET STORAGE RIGHT. (Agenda Item No. 17).

19. CONSIDER ATTENDANCE AT SEMINARS, TRAINING EVENTS, CONFERENCES AS RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING. (Agenda Item No. 18)

GM Koehler will be taking a 3-hour training program on-line as required by CDPH.

The Meeting ended at 9:50 p.m.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at the Water District Office, 2370 Webb Ranch Road, Redwood Valley, California.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Groth, Recording Secretary

APPROVED with Attachment: Board of Directors

DATE APPROVED: February 20, 2014

SIGNED: Paula Berezay
Secretary, Board of Directors

See Attachment, next page (in reference to Meeting Item No. 5, Well Policy):
Mendocino County Division of Environmental Health, Policy 4600-11-01, Well Permits for Drilling Within Water Districts

Mendocino County Division of Environmental Health

Policy 4600-11-01

Well Permits for Drilling Within Water Districts

Intent and Benefit

It is the intent of the Division of Environmental Health (DEH) to recognize the authority of local water districts to take action on proposed well placement located within district boundaries.

Background and Authority

DEH's position on processing well permit applications for wells located within water districts has been to notify and obtain approval from the district prior to issuing a permit to construct (County Counsel Opinion 06-812) (California Water Code §35409).

Implementation

DEH will continue to notify water districts when well permit applications are received for wells to be located within water district boundaries. For districts authorized by resolution or ordinance to take action on well installation located within their service area or where the district provides an adequate basis to substantiate denial of a permit, DEH will respect the decision of the water district to approve or deny the request.

Effective Date: September 1, 2011

Director's Initials: _____

