

SAN ELIJO JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MARCH 14, 2011
AT THE
SAN ELIJO WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

Thomas M. Campbell, Chair

Teresa Barth, Vice Chair

A Meeting of the Board of Directors of the San Elijo Joint Powers Authority (SEJPA) was held Monday, March 14, 2011, at 9:00 a.m., at the San Elijo Water Reclamation Facility at 2695 Manchester Avenue, Cardiff by the Sea, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Barth called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Directors Present:

Teresa Barth
Maggie Houlihan
Dave W. Roberts

Directors Absent:

Thomas M. Campbell

Others Present:

General Manager
Director of Operations
Administrative Assistant
Accounting Technician
Safety/HR Administrator
Wastewater Operator
Electrical Instrumentation Technician

Michael Thornton
Christopher Trees
Monica Blake
Carrie Cook
Marisa Buckles
Aaron Simonson
Casey Larsen

SEJPA Counsel:

Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch

Greg Moser

City of Encinitas,
Director of Public Works

Larry Watt

City of Encinitas,
Public Works Management Analyst

Bill Wilson

City of Solana Beach,
City Manager

David Ott

City of Solana Beach,
Director of Engineering/Public Works

Mohammad "Mo" Sammak

Guests:

Olivenhain Municipal Water District
General Manager
Management Analyst

Kimberly Thorner
Joseph Randall

St. Francis Court HOA

Frank Warner & Al Evans

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

David Ott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

5. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

General Manager Michael Thornton presented Aaron Simonson, Operator II, and Carrie Cook, Accounting Technician, both with a certificate of recognition for 5 years of continuous service to the SEJPA.

The California Water Environment Association (CWEA), San Diego Section, awarded Casey Larsen, Electrical/Instrumentation Technician, with the 2010 Electrical/Instrumentation Person of the Year award. The General Manager stated that Casey Larsen is now being considered for the CWEA award at the state level.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Moved by Board Member Roberts and seconded by Board Member Houlihan to approve the Consent Calendar with the following vote of approval.

AYES: T. Barth, M. Houlihan, and D. Roberts
NOES: None
ABSENT: T. Campbell
ABSTAIN: None

Consent Calendar:

Agenda Item No. 7	Approval of Minutes for the February 14, 2011 meeting
Agenda Item No. 8	Approval for Payment of Warrants and Monthly Investment Report
Agenda Item No. 9	San Elijo Water Reclamation Facility Treated Effluent Flows – Monthly Report
Agenda Item No. 10	San Elijo Joint Powers Authority Recycled Water Program – Monthly Report

11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

None

12. NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY COOPERATIVE DEMINERALIZATION PROJECT

The General Manager Michael Thornton stated that in an effort to maximize the regional benefit of the SEJPA's planned recycled water demineralization project, the SEJPA has

partnered with the Olivenhain Municipal Water District (OMWD) and the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy to create the North San Diego County Cooperative Demineralization Project (Project). The General Manager presented a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the project elements and community benefits. The Project includes a study of potential brackish groundwater demineralization by OMWD for increasing local potable water supplies, water quality and quantity monitoring in the San Elijo Lagoon by the Lagoon Conservancy, the construction of a recycled water demineralization facility by the SEJPA for improving water quality and increasing production capabilities, and the design and construction of urban runoff diversion structures by the City of Solana Beach and the SEJPA. The urban runoff diversions structures will redirect low flow storm water and urban runoff from the San Elijo Lagoon and local beaches and send the flow to the San Elijo Water Reclamation Facility for treatment and reuse and/or disposal. OMWD General Manager Kim Thorner gave a brief presentation on OMWD's component of this project, which is the feasibility evaluation of treating brackish ground water for potable water supply. One of the common elements between the projects is that the brine from the OMWD treatment facility could potentially be treated and disposed of through existing infrastructure owned by the SEJPA, providing operational cost advantages to both agencies. This project has been selected by the San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) group for \$1.05 million in grant funding. Final approval of the grant award is expected summer 2011.

This was an informational report not requiring Board action.

13. REC-1 OCEAN DISCHARGE COMPLIANCE UPDATE

General Manager Michael Thornton stated that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) recently established new requirements for the SEJPA's discharge of treated municipal wastewater from the San Elijo Water Reclamation Facility to the San Elijo Ocean Outfall (SEOO). The Regional Board established a mandated compliance schedule for meeting these new receiving water standards. Task 1 of the compliance schedule was to prepare and submit a proposed work plan that outlines the approach, necessary infrastructure, and the construction schedule of new infrastructure needed for ensuring compliance with the new standards. The work plan was completed by the SEJPA in February 2011 and submitted to the Regional Board on March 2, 2011. A copy of the final work plan is on file at the SEJPA office.

The submitted work plan provided a detailed review and analysis of more than 4,600 water samples taken near the outfall over a six year period. The conclusion of the analysis is that the current treatment and ocean discharge systems provide compliance to the new water quality standards. Therefore, the SEJPA is recommending no new ocean treatment is required and has requested that Tasks 2-7 be eliminated from the NPDES permit. In addition, the SEJPA will continue its pursuits of recycling wastewater as a preferred alternative to ocean disposal.

This was an informational report not requiring Board action.

14. QUARTERLY UPDATE – RECYCLED WATER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE SAN ELIJO JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (SEJPA) AND THE SANTA FE IRRIGATION DISTRICT (SFID)

General Manager Michael Thornton gave the Board of Directors a quarterly update on the progress of negotiating new recycled water agreements with the SEJPA's existing the water purveyors; Santa Fe Irrigation District (SFID), San Dieguito Water District

(SDWD), and the City of Del mar.

The General Manager reported that the SFID and SEJPA staff met twice within the quarter. Discussions focused on whether to amend the existing agreement or replace the agreement with an entirely new agreement. Also, SFID has awarded a construction contract to expand the existing distribution system to serve the lower San Dieguito Park property and some high-use estate properties in the area. The new use is expected to begin in late 2011 and may ultimately serve an additional 50 to 80 acre-feet per year of recycled water.

The SDWD and SEJPA staff met twice during the quarter. Discussions focused on ways to reduce the cost of recycled water in the service area without reducing the current sales revenue that the SEJPA depends on to operate the system. The General Manager stated that use within the SDWD service area has decreased substantially in the past two years from conservation efforts.

The 22nd Agricultural District, City of Del Mar, met once during the quarter to discuss expanding recycled water use to serve additional irrigation demands at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. The SEJPA has provided technical assistance to the District for assessing the feasibility for using recycled water in cooling towers at the fairgrounds. The General Manager stated the next step in the process is obtaining County Department of Environmental Health approval for converting the cooling towers to recycled water and for the proposed expansion of the fairground's irrigation system.

This was an informational report not requiring Board action.

15. JOINT LOBBYING AND COST SHARING BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY REGIONAL RECYCLED WATER PROJECT

General Manager Michael Thornton stated that at the February 2011 meeting of the SEJPA Board of Directors, staff presented the concept of seeking federal funding for the North San Diego County Regional Recycled Water Project (Project). The Project seeks to expand recycled water use within north San Diego County to meet the region's future water needs, while minimizing the discharge of treated wastewater to the ocean. The Board of Directors directed the General Manager to work with Director Roberts and City Manager David Ott to better understand the strategy for pursuing federal grant funding, then return the item to the full Board of Directors for further discussion.

The General Manager reported that a conference call was conducted with the Hal Furman to discuss the current political climate in Washington D.C. and to review strategies for seeking grant funding for this project. Overall, Mr. Furman noted that regional infrastructure projects, be it freeways or water projects, will likely have the greatest probability for funding, if not in this fiscal year, then in future years.

From the information learned by Director Roberts, City Manager Ott, and General Manager Thornton, it was agreed that the SEJPA could benefit from the participation in this regional project and funding effort.

The General Manager stated that the annual total cost for the cost sharing agreement would be equally divided among the participating agencies. Staff estimates that the one-year cost of this agreement to the SEJPA is likely \$12,000 to \$14,000 and these funds are available in the Recycled Water Program Budget. This agreement would not obligate the SEJPA to participate for more than the current year, but multiple years of

lobbying will likely be required to obtain grant funding. The project has qualified for \$1.5 million in Proposition 84 grant funding to develop planning and engineering documents.

Moved by Board Member Houlihan and seconded by Board Member Roberts to:

1. Enter into a joint lobbying and cost sharing agreement with the other members of the North San Diego County Regional Recycled Water Project.

Motion carried with the following vote of approval:

AYES: T. Barth, M. Houlihan, and D. Roberts
NOES: None
ABSENT: T. Campbell
ABSTAIN: None

16. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Michael Thornton reported that the City of Escondido has not, as of this date, responded to the letter from the SEJPA's Board of Directors regarding excessive peak flows to the San Elijo Ocean Outfall that occurred in December 2010.

17. GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

General Counsel Greg Moser stated that the 9th Circuit Court decided a case brought by the Natural Resources Defense Council against Los Angeles County and L.A. County Storm Water Management Agency and their flood control district, saying that channeled flood waters are a point source and must be treated before discharge to waters of the U.S.

18. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

19. CLOSED SESSION

None

20. ADJOURNMENT

The Board of Directors adjourned at 9:52 a.m. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on April 11, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael T. Thornton, P.E.
General Manager