

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster (Watermaster)
February 17, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Bruno called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Coastal Subarea Landowner – Director Paul Bruno, Chair
California American Water (CAW) – Director Eric Sabolsice
City of Sand City – Mayor David Pendergrass
City of Del Rey Oaks – Mayor Jerry Edelen
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) – Director Robert Brower
City of Seaside – Mayor Ralph Rubio
Monterey County/Monterey County Water Resources Agency – Supervisor Dave Potter

Absent: City of Monterey – Director Libby Downey
Laguna Seca Subarea Landowner – Director Bob Costa

III. REVIEW OF AGENDA

There were no requested changes to the agenda.

IV. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

There were no public communications.

Chair Bruno appointed an ad hoc committee comprised of the members of the Watermaster Administrative Committee: Directors Sabolsice, Bruno, Pendergrass, and Rubio, to review Watermaster staffing. Mr. Evans will coordinate with members in scheduling a meeting.

V. REPORT ON WATER FLOW DIVIDE STUDY AND SUPERIOR COURT UPDATE

B. Discussion/Consider taking action on 2016 Update to the Superior Court by Mr. Russ McGlothlin as the basis for his preparation of an Appendix Report to be presented at a Superior Court Status Conference Hearing in April/May 2016. Mr. McGlothlin participated in the meeting via conference call, presenting slides of the subjects that will be covered in a Watermaster update to the court. A new judge has been assigned to the Decision as of January 29, 2016: Honorable Leslie Nichols (Ret.). No action would be requested from the new judge at the status conference hearing, only input and direction. The Board concurred to move forward with the update to court as presented by Mr. McGlothlin. Watermaster staff will support Mr. McGlothlin where appropriate with preparation of any non-legal documents. Mr. McGlothlin will draft within a week an outline of where Watermaster staff assistance would be most helpful.

The Board accepted the report as informational and provided the noted direction to staff.

A. Discussion/Consider taking action on Water Flow Divide Study in the vicinity of Laguna Seca Subarea (LSSA) Eastern Boundary prepared by HydroMetrics WRI. Mr. Derrick Williams of HydroMetrics participated in the meeting via conference call, noting that the results of the flow divide modeling are consistent with an update to the court in regard to the LSSA as suggested by Mr. McGlothlin.

The Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act being formed for the Salinas Valley Corral de Tierra area will most likely undertake a more thorough geologic understanding of the area. A GSA basin management plan is required to be in place by 2022. Under current conditions, material injury to the Basin in the LSSA is not expected to occur until after at least the year 2036. Supervisor Potter urged the Watermaster to take a more active role in Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) meetings and planning related to the Corral de Tierra area. Mr. Jaques reminded that Watermaster sent a letter to MCWRA requesting collaboration regarding basin management of the Corral de Tierra area; Supervisor Potter will follow up on the correspondence post haste.

Rob Johnson, MCWRA Deputy General Manager, addressed the board noting that the County and MCWRA is part of a consortium that is facilitating the development of a GSA for the Salinas Valley Basin that currently includes the Seaside and Corral de Tierra basins. The GSA is to be established by June 30, 2017. A basin boundary modification/adjustment request formulated by the County, MCWRA, MPWMD, Marina Coast Water District, and Seaside Basin Watermaster staff will be submitted to the Department of Water Resources by March 30, 2016. If the modifications are accepted, the Salinas Valley basins will be better defined and the Seaside Groundwater Basin will be removed from inclusion as a Salinas Valley basin and would stand alone as an adjudicated basin. It was recommended that a Watermaster representative attend GSA development meetings; Mr. Johnson will notify Mr. Jaques of upcoming meetings. Mr. Oliver elaborated on the basin boundary modifications/adjustments being sought.

The Board accepted the report with direction to staff as discussed.

- VI. DIRECTORS' REPORTS:** None.
- VII. EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENTS:** Mr. Evans noted that the election of officers will be held at the March 2nd regular board meeting if not cancelled.
- VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE:** **The next meeting of the Watermaster board will be held March 2, 2016 at the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA) Board meeting room at 5 Harris Court, Building "D" on Ryan Ranch in Monterey at 2:00 p.m.**
- IX.** There being no further business, Chair Bruno adjourned the meeting at 3:13 p.m.