

Minutes  
Water Conservation Commission  
February 2, 2012

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Commission members Dan Amadeo, Harold Krotzer, Jan Shriner and Ruth Krotzer, were present. Carl Niizawa, Brian True and Paul Lord were present from staff. CSUMB and the US Army were not represented at this time. Carroll L. Meuse was present from the public.

2. Public Comments on Any Item Not on the Agenda:

There were no comments.

3. Approve the Draft December 1, 2011 Minutes:

On motion by Commissioner Ruth Krotzer, seconded by Commissioner Harold Krotzer, the draft December 1, 2011 minutes were approved with Director Shriner abstaining from the vote.

4. Consider Recommending the Appointment of Mr. Carroll Meuse to the Commission:

Commissioner Harold Krotzer made a motion to recommend to the Board of Directors the appointment of Mr. Meuse to the Commission. Commissioner Ruth Krotzer seconded the motion. The motion was passed with Director Shriner abstaining from the vote.

5. Consider Recommending for Approval the Draft Spring 2012 Water Report Newsletter:

Mr. True stated that staff was pulling this item as they were still working with the General Manager on the Newsletter and it was not ready for approval. Commissioner Ruth Krotzer made a motion to pull this item, seconded by Commissioner Amadeo. The motion to pull the item was approved unanimously.

6. Review, Discuss and Consider the Water Conservation Commission Revisions to Procedures:

Mr. Niizawa commented that the title of the item disconnected with the body of the transmittal. He explained that there was discussion on the Scope and Duties of the Commission and that there was a thought to discuss the duties one-by-one. Mr. Niizawa answered that the Commission can discuss the Landscape Program at this meeting and at the next meeting, they can decide the course of action for reviewing the Scope and Duties. Mr. True stated that Mr. Niizawa's comments were intended for item 7 on the agenda.

Mr. True commented that following the discussion at the last meeting, he made the suggested changes that the vacancies be posted where the District posts notices and agendas and that anyone residing within the Districts service area is eligible to apply.

There was discussion on what qualifications, if any, should be required for the applicants.

Agenda Item 6 (continued):

Director Shriner suggested the following qualifications: meeting attendance prior to appointment to the Committee; a link to conservation and/or a link to water which can be via volunteering at organizations or events.

Commissioner Harold Krotzer commented that there hasn't been a lot of interest in this position and they shouldn't get too selective with the applicants.

Director Shriner suggested including a notice of the vacancy on the water bill that is sent to District customers.

On motion by Commissioner Harold Krotzer, seconded by Commissioner Ruth Krotzer, the Procedures are to be modified to include vacancy notices posted in the message section of customers' water bills as well as the changes provided in the packet provided none of the changes are of significant cost. The motion was passed unanimously. This item will be forwarded to the Board of Directors for consideration.

Director Shriner suggested expanding the Commission membership to include a member from the Salinas Basin. Commissioner Amadeo voiced his concerns over the vacant CSUMB and Army members. The Commission agreed to discuss the membership in more detail at the March meeting.

7. Review, Discuss and Consider the Water Conservation Commission Scope of Duties, Responsibilities, and Procedures Related to the Landscape Program:

Mr. Niizawa introduced this item. Mr. True reviewed the Landscape Best Management Practice and explained the water budgets that are allotted for each large non-residential landscape site. Mr. Lord shared an excerpt from his landscape budget worksheet that shows annual water use compared to the budgeted amount. Director Shriner inquired how much water goes to landscaping. Mr. Lord replied that it was approximately 40% of water use is for landscaping. Commissioner Amadeo inquired if there were graywater incentives especially for apartment complexes. Mr. Lord answered that the District didn't offer graywater incentives. Commissioner Amadeo suggested that maybe the Board of Directors could consider offering graywater incentives.

Commissioner Amadeo made a motion to receive the report on the Landscape Program. Director Shriner seconded the motion. The report was unanimously received.

8. Review Proposed and Suggested Agenda Items for March 1, 2012 and Future Dates:

Commissioner Harold Krotzer suggested discussing incentives for auto-shut-off faucets. Commissioner Ruth Krotzer commented that she would like to see the Zun Zun performance. Mr. Lord provided Commissioner Ruth Krotzer with a schedule of upcoming performances.

The Commission agreed to discuss the following items in March: Residential Toilet Rebate Program; the Landscape Incentive Program; and, possible Commission member expansion outside of the District's jurisdiction.

9. Receive Update on Board/District Activities:

Director Shriner commented that the next Board meeting was scheduled for February 14th. Commissioner Amadeo inquired on the Crescent Street pipeline project. Mr. Niizawa commented that the MRWPCA Groundwater Replenishment Project may require two transmission lines and the pipeline size and material is still undecided. He said that the District has deferred on this project due to the uncertainty of the project. Director Shriner asked if CalAm is including the Groundwater Replenishment Project in their alternative plan. Mr. Niizawa answered that he didn't know.

10. Receive Comments from Commission Members:

Commissioner Amadeo commented that he was reviewing the Emergency Conservation Plan, which was included in the Board approved Urban Water Management Plan, and noticed that Laundromats were included with commercial businesses and thought they were going to be separate because they were considered a public health and safety issue. He suggested that staff look into it further.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm.