

Draft Minutes
Water Conservation Commission
December 6, 2012

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Commission members Jim Ford, Dan Amadeo, Ruth Krotzer, Harold Krotzer, Carroll Meuse were present. Commission member Tom Jennings arrived at 6:20 p.m. James Derbin, Brian True, Paul Lord, and Paula Riso were present from staff. Grace Silva-Santella was present for the public.

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

No comments were made.

3. Approve the Draft November 15, 2012 Minutes:

Commissioner Harold Krotzer made a motion to approve the draft minutes. Commissioner Amadeo seconded the motion. The motion was passed with 5-Ayes, 1-Absent (Jennings), and 1-Abstained (Shriner).

4. Consider Clarifying the WCC Procedures Manual Regarding Commissioner "Vacancies" and Consider Recommending to the MCWD Board of Directors Potential Modifications to the WCC Procedures:

Mr. True introduced this item explaining that the procedures don't define what is considered a vacancy. He explained that in past practice, the Commission member whose term was expiring, would turn in an application and be reappointed to the Commission by the Board. Mr. True said that this was the practice as all of the public Commission positions were rarely filled. Now, he said, all the positions were filled and there were several members of the public interested in serving on the Commission.

Mr. True reviewed the three alternatives with to the Commission and stated that they could consider a fourth alternative. Commissioner Amadeo commented that Alternative 1 looked to be the best fit for the Commission. The Commission members discussed getting the appointments synchronized on a rotating cycle of two years and whether to extend or cut short a Commission members term to synchronize the terms.

Commissioner Amadeo made a motion to move the terms to a fiscal cycle. Commissioner Ruth Krotzer seconded the motion. Mr. True said that he will bring an agenda item to the January meeting that will show the synchronized appointment terms and an alternative for the Commission to review. The motion was passed with 5-Ayes, 1-Absent (Jennings), and 1-Abstained (Shriner).

5. Consider the Content of a Draft Letter from MCWD's Conservation Staff Requesting Assistance in Implementing Water Conservation Best Management Practices (BMPs) from Entities Served by MCWD:

Mr. True introduced this item explaining that at the last meeting it was discussed to have the letter signed by the Board President, but upon further review, it was decided that this letter would be better served coming from staff.

There was discussion on the language and if the letter should be from the District Board or less formal and have it from staff. Mr. Lord stated that he is in contact with most of these agencies and he would prefer to see the letter from staff. Commissioner Amadeo commented that if Mr. Lord was comfortable sending the letter to lower level staff and not the head agency executive, then he was in favor of sending the letter as proposed. Mr. Lord stated that the letter would go to the top executive, but will be passed down to the staff he has had contact with. Ms. Silva-Santella asked if the purpose of the letter was to see if the District was meeting the 2020 water reduction targets. Mr. Lord answered that the District wants to improve the communication with the large commercial customers and the letter will help the District learn about conservation activities the commercial customers are involved in. Ms. Silva-Santella commented that the letter reads awkward and suggested making it simpler and cleaner. Mr. Lord said that the customers may be using conservation measures that the District could get credit for in reaching the 2020 water reduction target. Ms. Silva-Santella suggested that this topic would be good for a roundtable topic with all the customers. Director Shriner commented that CSUMB would be holding a conference on February 26th looking for ways to conserve or be greener and this would be a good topic.

6. Review Proposed and Suggested Agenda Items for the January 3, 2013 WCC Meeting:

Mr. True stated that the Chair and Vice Chair elections would be on the agenda along with the alternative discussed earlier. Commissioner Amadeo asked when the budget process begins for the District. Director Shriner answered that she believes it starts in March. Commissioner Amadeo suggested combining the items that have budgetary impact (rebates for rainwater catchment, and the Landscape Incentive Program) and discussing them in January to be prepared for the budget discussions.

Ms. Silva-Santella asked what the UN World Water Day involved. Director Shriner answered that World Water Day was held in March and it included many different things including flying banners and handing out stickers. Ms. Silva-Santella suggested it be discussed in January to prepare for the March deadline.

7. Receive Update on Board/District Activities:

Director Shriner stated that there was a meeting scheduled for December 11th.

Agenda Item 7 (continued):

She gave a brief update on the Board meeting that took place earlier that afternoon explaining that the Board discussed the reconsideration of the Annexation Policy, voted in Mr. Ken Nishi as a liaison for meetings regarding water rights, and approved a Professional Services Agreement with Marina Water Alliance for the RUWAP.

Commissioner Jennings arrived at 6:20 p.m.

8. Receive Comments from Commission Members:

Commissioner Jennings apologized for his tardiness.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.