

Minutes  
Water Conservation Commission  
March 7, 2013

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Commission members Dan Amadeo, David Brown, Carroll Meuse, Tom Jennings Ruth Krotzer (arrived at 5:35 pm), Harold Krotzer, (arrived at 5:35 pm), and Bill Lee were present. Brian True, Paul Lord, and Paula Riso were present from staff. Dr. JoAnn Cannon was present for the public.

Commissioner Amadeo commented that since there was not a quorum of those present at the February 7, 2013 meeting, he wanted to skip item 4 for now. He also suggested skipping item 3 until later in the meeting.

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

No comments were made.

5. Receive an Update Regarding the WCC Procedures Document and Commissioner Positions:

Mr. True introduced this item and explained the schedule of WCC Position Appointments. He reviewed the terms and when the appointments would be made. Commissioner Amadeo asked that in the WCC Procedures, Section 3, Item D, the word “review” needs to be capitalized.

4. Approve the Draft Minutes for February 7, 2013:

Commissioner Amadeo noted that Ms. Premutati said she would provide a copy of the District’s policy but he hadn’t seen it yet. Mr. Riso said that she would remind Ms. Premutati. Commissioner Harold Krotzer noted that the verbiage in the first sentence on page 2 should be re-worded. Commissioner Harold Krotzer made a motion to approve the draft minutes with the correction. Commissioner Ruth Krotzer seconded the motion. The motion was passed with 5-Ayes, and 2-Abstentions (Lee, Brown).

3. Elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for the Water Conservation Commission:

Commissioner Harold Krotzer nominated Commissioner Amadeo for Chair. Commissioner Jennings seconded the nomination. With a vote of 6-Ayes and 1-Abstention (Amadeo), the nomination carried.

Chair Amadeo nominated Commissioner Jennings for Vice Chair. Commissioner Ruth Krotzer seconded the nomination. With a vote of 6-Ayes and 1-Abstention (Jennings), the nomination carried.

6. Receive an Update Regarding the Letter Requesting Cooperation in Implementation and Documentation of CII Best Management Practices:

Mr. True introduced this item and explained that the fifth bullet from the end should say the system was approved by MCHD and not MCWD.

Agenda Item 6 (continued):

Chair Amadeo asked if there has been any response to the letters that were mailed. Mr. Lord answered that he would be meeting with CSUMB personnel the following week.

Chair Amadeo apologized for being remiss and noted that the new City Council Commissioner, David Brown was present and that there was now a member of the public.

Dr. JoAnn Cannon introduced herself and shared that she was a Professor at CSUMB and was looking forward to attending the meetings and noted that she hopes that CSUMB will continue to get involved.

7. Receive an Update on the Guest Editorial/Article Announcing World Water Day:

Mr. True let the Commission know that at the last meeting, the Board of Directors approved the distribution of the article. Chair Amadeo asked for suggestions on who would sign the letter and noted that there were two options; 1) put it under the author's names; and, 2) have it from the entire Commission. The Commission members agreed to have the article come from the entire Commission.

8. Review Budgets Versus Expenditures for Water Conservation, Fiscal Years 2007/2008 Through 2012/2013:

Mr. True introduced this item and explained that because the District's budget is behind schedule, the timeline did not allow a draft budget to be brought before the Commission for review at this meeting. He said that the draft budget review should take place at the May meeting. Mr. Lord went through the charts and tables showing the conservation wages, rebate programs, printing, membership, advertisement, in-school program, and landscape program. Chair Amadeo asked if there was a way to move funds around in the Conservation budget. Mr. True answered affirmatively. Commissioner Brown asked if the graph shows what has been spent to date. Mr. Lord said there was a little lag time between updating the graphs and the finance department sending checks, but it showed funds spent approximate halfway through the year. Chair Amadeo voiced his concern over the lack of conservation staff and advocated using interns or volunteer students to help put together newsletters and other informative items to get the public more aware and involved in conservation. There was discussion on how to improve conservation efforts and improve technology in the conservation department. Dr. Cannon said that there were many students that would be interested in helping with projects and by doing them in class could assist them with their studies.

Commissioner Brown left the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

9. Review Proposed and Suggested Agenda Items for the April 4, 2013 WCC Meeting:

Mr. True commented that the Budget discussion will have to be delayed until May. Chair Amadeo asked if the Commission could meet the Acting General Manager at the next meeting. Mr. Lord said that he would like to discuss refining and expanding the rebate program. Mr. True said the CCR would also be on the agenda.

10. Receive Update on Board/District Activities:

Director Lee said that he didn't have anything to offer at this time.

11. Receive Comments from Commission Members:

Commissioner Ruth Krotzer commented that she and Commissioner Harold Krotzer met with DB Jacobs Realty and Mast Realty and shared conservation information with them and found that they were very appreciative of the information shared. She said that there were other real estate offices that they would try to meet up with in the near future.

Commissioner Meuse shared that his water heater got a leak and after having a plumber inspect it, he found that the copper tubing had deteriorated and needed to be replaced. He said that the plumber used stainless steel tubing to replace the copper.

Dr. Cannon asked that everyone introduce themselves and who they represent.

12. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.