

Minutes
Water Conservation Commission
February 7, 2013

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Commission members Dan Amadeo, Ruth Krotzer, Harold Krotzer, Carroll Meuse, Tom Jennings (arrived at 5:33 pm), and Jan Shriner (arrived at 5:42 pm) were present. Brian True, Paul Lord, Jean Premutati and Paula Riso were present from staff. Grace Silva-Santella was present for the public. Commission member David Brown was absent.

Commissioner Amadeo commented that since Director Shriner was running behind schedule, they would adjust the agenda so that the items she was involved in would be discussed after her arrival.

Mr. True stated that he would be the lead on the agenda items and Mr. Lord was there to answer any questions that were beyond his knowledge base.

Mr. True noted that with her status on the Commission unknown pending the Board decision on February 12, 2013, Commissioner Ruth Krotzer could consider refraining from voting.

Commissioner Jennings arrived at 5:33 p.m.

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

No comments were made.

3. Approve the Draft Minutes for January 3, 2013:

Commissioner Harold Krotzer made a motion to approve the draft minutes. Commissioner Meuse seconded the motion. The motion was passed with 5-Ayes, and 2-Absent (Shriner, Brown).

5. Overview of Budgets Verses Expenditures for Water Conservation Rebates and Incentives, Fiscal Years 2007/2008 Through 2011/2012:

Mr. True reviewed the annual budget and expenditures for all conservation programs which include the toilet rebate program, the clothes washer rebate program, the landscape incentive program, and the hot water pump incentive program. Commissioner Amadeo noted that the graphs show the District has never spent the amount budgeted for the conservation programs and suggested reallocating funds within the programs to allow more/new conservation programs.

Director Shriner arrived at 5:42 p.m.

Mr. True commented that the Commission could look at the conservation programs at the next meeting and decide if they want to move forward with any new ones.

Agenda Item 5 (continued):

Ms. Silva-Santella commented that there seemed to be quite a lot of rebates given in the toilet and clothes washer rebate programs and suggested more education/outreach to spread the word of the landscape and hot water recirculation programs.

Director Shriner questioned if there were many people who were denied hot water recirculation rebates because they didn't have pictures of the system before it was redone. Mr. True stated that they would talk about that under agenda item 10.

4. Receive Information on Available Online Professional Development Coursework:

Ms. Premutati noted that the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA/JPIA) has offered an online webinar for the Commissioners regarding violence in the workplace. She stated that participating in this webinar was strictly voluntary and upon completion, a certificate would be sent to the participant. Ms. Premutati demonstrated how to access the webinar.

Director Shriner asked what the District's policy listed as warning signs. Ms. Premutati answered that some of the signs were erratic behavior, and suspicion of alcohol or drug abuse. She said that she could provide a list to Director Shriner. Director Shriner commented that it would be good for this Commission. She then inquired about the fact that the policy requires staff to report violence. Ms. Premutati said that she would provide a copy of the District's policy to the Commission.

6. Review First Draft of the FY 2013-2014 Water Conservation Department Budget:

The Commission discussed the draft FY 2013-2014 Water Conservation Department Budget.

7. Consider Participation in World Water Day 2013 and Recommending to the MCWD Board the Transmittal of a Guest Editorial/Article and a Bill Message Regarding the Topic:

Commissioner Amadeo commented that he and Director Shriner worked together to draft the editorial/article and then sent it to District staff who made several revisions and that revised article is included in the packet. Mr. True clarified that the bill message had already been approved and forwarded to the billing cycles.

Ms. Silva-Santella suggested adding hot water recirculation pump rebates to the fourth paragraph where it mentions the other rebates.

Commissioner Amadeo made a motion to forward this article, with the addition of the hot water recirculation pump rebate verbiage, to the Board of Directors for consideration. Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion. The motion passes with 4-Ayes, 2-Abstentions (Shriner, Ruth Krotzer), and 1-Absent (Brown).

8. Review Proposed and Suggested Agenda Items for the March 7, 2013 WCC Meeting:

Mr. True commented that the Budget discussion will continue in March and may take up quite a bit of the meeting time. Commissioner Amadeo asked if there was anything urgent that anyone wanted to see in March. There were no urgent items anyone wanted to add.

Director Shriner commented that she would like discuss the process for recirculation pump rebates at a future meeting. She also suggested adding an item to discuss opportunities to work with the City of Marina on conservation topics.

Ms. Riso commented that the Consumer Confidence Report will be coming before the Commission either in March or April.

9. Receive Update on Board/District Activities:

Director Shriner stated there was an upcoming Board meeting set for February 12, 2013. She said that she and Director Le were assigned to the Outreach Committee and if any Commissioners knew of an organization that they would want the Outreach Committee to speak at, please let her know. Director Shriner informed the Commission that there was a Projects Workshop being scheduled to discuss MCWD projects and proposed projects.

10. Receive Comments from Commission Members:

Mr. True commented that there should be some resolution on February 12th regarding the appointment of Ruth Krotzer.

Commissioner Amadeo asked if staff sent the conservation letter, as discussed at previous meetings, to the large commercial and business entities. Mr. True said that is was close to being sent out.

Commissioner Harold Krotzer thanked Mr. Lord for the handouts provided.

Director Shriner thanked everyone for their help with the article.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.