

MOHAVE VALLEY IRRIGATION & DRAINAGE DISTRICT

APPROVED: APRIL 1, 2014

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014 AT THE OFFICES OF THE MOHAVE VALLEY IRRIGATION & DRAINAGE DISTRICT ("THE DISTRICT")

CALL TO ORDER.

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Steve Buck.

ROLL CALL.

Present: Charles B. ("Chip") Sherrill, Jr., Chairman, Director District III
Vince Vasquez, Director District II
John Kai, Director District I
Perry Muscelli, Treasurer, Director At Large
Clay Vanderslice, Director At Large
Mark R. Clark, CCM, Manager
Jamie Kelley, District Counsel
Cecily ("CeCe") Preusser, Administrative Assistant

WAIVER MOTION. Motion to waive the reading of full minutes and resolutions presented for approval or adoption.

Mr. Muscelli made a motion to waive the reading of full minutes and resolutions presented for approval or adoption. Mr. Vanderslice seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

1. REPORTS.

A. Staff report on water use.

Mr. Clark discussed the Water Use Report for January 2014. Mr. Clark advised that the water usage for the month of January was 1,931 acre feet, which is 2.4 times higher than the amount of water used last year. Last year at this time the District had only used 808 acre feet of water. Chairman Sherrill stated that there was more farm ground under production this year than at this time last year.

Mr. Muscelli asked Mr. Clark if there was a way of knowing how much farm ground was under production now than at this time last year. Mr. Clark responded that it was not so much the amount of farm land but the number of acres under production. Mr. Muscelli asked if we have determined, through crop reporting, how much farm land was under production this year. Mr. Clark answered that the crop reports are not due to be completed and turned in until July 1, 2014. Once the crop reports have been completed, we will have that more information.

- B. Bureau of Reclamation Lower Colorado Water Supply Report as of February 28, 2014; Snowpack Report and Lake Powell Water Data Graph.

Chairman Sherrill stated that the report is even more bleak than it was last month. Current total system contents is at 48%. Last year at this time total system contents were at 55%.

As for the Colorado Basin Snowpack, 2014 is much worse than 2011. The Lake Powell daily water levels in the last 150 days has fallen like a rock. There is very little snow in the mountains, so there is no run off going into Lake Powell.

- C. USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service: Arizona Agri-Weekly for the month of February 2014; Cotton Ginnings Reports for February 2014; News Release Re: 2013 Crop Values Summary; News Release Re: 2012 Census of Agriculture preliminary results.

Chairman Sherrill stated that cotton ginnings have gone down, as well as cotton acreage. The reports show temperatures from departure of normal by at least an inch or better.

- D. Arizona Meteorological Network Monthly Summary for February 2014.

Chairman Sherrill stated that the departure from normal for rainfall is at least an inch or better. Otherwise, the readings are very much within the normal ranges.

2. **AGENDA MODIFICATION.** Possible action to withdraw from, or move, any item on the Agenda, including the removal of an item from the Consent Agenda.

There was no discussion, no action on this item.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA.** The items listed below will be considered as a group and acted upon by one motion with no separate discussion of said items, unless a Board Member requests an item or items be removed for separate discussion and action.

- A. Approve the February 4, 2014 Meeting Minutes.
- B. Ratify payment of expenses for February 2014.
- C. Approve the Snell & Wilmer Billing Statement for the months of December 2013 and January 2014 in the amount of \$19,695.00.

Mr. Kai made a motion that the Consent Agenda be approved in its entirety. Mr. Vasquez seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

4. **REGULAR AGENDA.**

- A. **Westview Estates, Tract 4215, T19N, R22W, Sec. 14.** Discussion and possible action to approve extending the preliminary water allocation of 59.29 acre feet and deferral of the final 1/3 payment of the non-refundable fees until July 22, 2014.

Mr. Clark stated that staff was recommending an approval of a six (6) month extension of the preliminary water allocation. Mr. Clark further stated that there were fees (the final 1/3 payment) currently due and owing on this particular project, and that staff was recommending that payment of those fees be deferred for another six (6) months. Mr. Clark further stated that the engineer for this project (Territorial Engineers) had retired and the developers had to retain a different engineer. This project has shown forward progress in compliance with the District's resolutions.

Chairman Sherrill clarified that the developer had paid all relevant fees except for the final 1/3 of the fees. Mr. Muscelli questioned as to how much had been paid to date. Mr. Clark responded that approximately \$80,000.00 had been paid to date.

Mr. Vasquez made a motion that the request for an extension of the preliminary water allocation in the amount of 59.29 acre feet, as well as the request for a deferment for the payment of the final 1/3 of the fees be approved for six (6) months. Mr. Muscelli seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

- B. **Sunset Palms, Tract 4183-B, T19N, R22W, Sec. 26, Final Water Allocation.** Discussion and possible action to approve the final water allocation in the amount of 14.81 acre feet.

Mr. Clark stated that this project got its final plat approval from Mohave County in August of 2013. The developer has just now provided the required information to the District to be able to provide them with the final water

allocation. All fees have been paid and Staff is recommending approval of the final water allocation.

Mr. Kai made a motion that the final water allocation in the amount of 14.81 acre feet be approved. Mr. Vasquez seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

C. **Priority 4 Mainstem Contractors Shortage Distribution - Shortage Year: 2014.** Discussion and possible action regarding the establishment of a water sharing allocation policy during times of water shortage.

Mr. Clark stated that this item was being included to show the Board that the District could be hit with a large reduction in our water allocation (roughly 3,000 acre feet) in 2027. Through 2026, the District is in pretty good shape as far as sustaining any water cuts as the cuts would come out of the District's allocation rather than the usage. However, once we hit 2027, any water cuts will come directly off of our usage rather than off the allocation itself.

Mr. Muscelli asked about the consensus of growth which is projected. Mr. Clark answered that there were a number of different growths. One is basically 1% up to 4%, which he has seen, and it is anybody's guess. In the last two years growth has been less than 1%. However, in the early 2000's, the growth rate was more like 4%. Regardless, and even at the 4% growth rate, the District should be alright during that time period.

Chairman Sherrill stated that the shortage is coming. Mr. Clark agreed and added that it was no longer "if" the shortage was coming but "when". Right now, the Bureau is looking at a shortage being declared as early as next year, but almost assuredly in 2016.

Mr. Vasquez asked if the Bureau would be cutting from our allocation. Mr. Clark responded that the Bureau would cut from our 42,000 acre foot allocated number and not the water the District was actually using. Mr. Vasquez then asked if the Bureau would then be cutting from the actual usage. Mr. Clark responded that would be the case after 2026.

Mr. Muscelli asked if these cuts in allocations would come from the 4th Priority Water. Mr. Clark responded in the affirmative and that PPR water would not be cut anytime in the near future.

5. PUBLIC INPUT.

Mr. Steve Buck shared that the documentation between Bella Vista and Mohave Water Conservation District has been given to Maureen George. Bella Vista's

efforts to obtain water for their lakes after 2017 are ongoing and, at this time, looks like it will go forward with little problem.

There was discussion with Richard Park with regard to salt levels in the water. It was discussed that, depending on where you drill the well and how deep the well is, the salt levels are either very high or minimally high. It was discussed that, in many cases, the deeper the well is the better the water is.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to be considered by the Board, Mr. Kaii made a motion that the Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Muscelli seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed. The Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.