



Desalination Task Force Minutes
Regular Meeting
4:00 p.m. – Wednesday, March 19, 2008

The Desalination Task Force consists of two members of the Soquel Creek Water District Board and two members of the City of Santa Cruz City Council.

For the purpose of preparation of the minutes the following terms will be used throughout the current and all future minutes. The City of Santa Cruz/Soquel Creek Water District Desalination Task Force will be referred to as the “Task Force.” The City of Santa Cruz will be referred to as the “City” and the City of Santa Cruz Water Department will be referred to as the “SCWD.” The Soquel Creek Water District will be referred to as “SqCWD.” A member of the Soquel Creek Water District Board of Directors will be referred to as “Director” and the Soquel Creek Water District General Manager will be referred to as “General Manager.” A member of the Santa Cruz City Council will be referred to as “Councilmember” and the Director of the City of Santa Cruz Water Department will be referred to as “Water Director.”

Call to Order Councilmember M. Rotkin called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. in the Soquel Creek Water District Board Room, 5180 Soquel Drive, Soquel California.

Roll Call

Present: Director B. Daniels, Director D. Kriege, Councilmember E. Porter (arrived at 4:45 p.m.) and Councilmember M. Rotkin.

Staff: L. Brown, General Manager; B. Kocher, Water Director; D. Paul, Administrative Assistant and M. Schumacher, Public Outreach Coordinator.

Presentation There were no presentations.

Statements of Disqualification There were no statements of disqualification.

Oral Communications Director B. Daniels provided an article titled “Harnessing Nature’s Power” on forward osmosis.

Announcements There were no announcements.

Approval of Minutes

Director B. Daniels moved to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2008 Desalination Task Force meeting with an amendment to page 4 Approval of Minutes, motion, third line, change the second a to as. Councilmember M. Rotkin seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Daniels and M. Rotkin.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: E. Porter.

ABSTAIN: D. Kriege.

General Business

1. Multi-year Budget: Desalination Program

Water Director Kocher reported on the major work items included in the next fiscal year budget.

Director D. Kriege moved to accept the three-year budget estimate as presented. Councilmember M. Rotkin seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Daniels, D. Kriege and M. Rotkin.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: E. Porter.

2. Program for Grand Opening Event

General Manager Brown reported on the final plans and details for the Grand Opening Event.

It was determined that Councilmember Rotkin would emcee the Press Conference and Director Daniels would emcee the Grand Opening.

3. Draft Operational Plan and Agreement – City of Santa Cruz Conceptual Use Plan

The Draft Operational Plan & Agreement is an ongoing work product and standing agenda item.

Director Kocher reported that progress was made on the City of Santa Cruz Conceptual Use Plan by the Water Commission at its March 3, 2008 meeting. The commission determined that the Department Water Resources (DWR) classification for hydrologic years that looks at base flows in the San Lorenzo River would be the best indicator of a potential shortfall and surface diversions, wells and the allowable withdrawal from Newell Creek Reservoir will be forecast based upon rain to date. A matrix is being developed that would show qualitatively what would likely happen in the first year following dry or a critically dry year; what occurs after a dry year follows a dry year or critically dry year; and what occurs after a critically dry year follows a critically dry year.

Program Managers' Report

A. Work Schedule

Water Director Kocher reported that the paving at the Pilot Plant was rejected by the university and that Pavex will address it after the rainy season. The first round of storm sampling has been conducted for the Watershed Sanitary Survey. As of March 17, 2008, the one-year of operation has begun for Department of Public Health compliance.

B. Upcoming Tasks

Water Director Kocher reported that investigation No. 1 for pretreatment comparison between the three types of pretreatment is complete. We are beginning to get baseline performance information on single string seawater reverse osmosis. Peer review continues on the modeling done for the Watershed Sanitary Survey. Phase 2 will begin in the next month. The Technical Advisor (KJ) is reviewing CDM's testing protocols. The Hydrogeologist is reviewing beach well studies done in the past and will be making recommendations for further geophysical and boring studies. The fisheries biologist is reviewing the open water intake approach. KJ is preparing a formal approach for agency permitting and regulatory agency approach.

C. Additional or Amended Tasks **No report.**

D. Contacts with Regulatory Agencies/Requests from Regulatory Agencies

Director Daniels reported that the Regional Board has requested a tour of the Pilot Plant and that they will hold a meeting in Watsonville in Spring 2008.

Water Director Kocher reported that a meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2008 with staff from the State Water Resources Control Board to discuss the intake evaluation and the Department of Public Health is expected to approve the monitoring plan in the next month.

E. Public Outreach Program **Nothing further to report**

F. Report of Findings **No report.**

Public Outreach No action was taken on this item.

Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas No items were initiated.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m. until the next regular meeting of the Desalination Task Force scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the City of Santa Cruz Planning Department Conference Room, 809 Center Street Room 107, Santa Cruz, California.

Respectfully submitted,

ss/Donna Paul
Staff