



Desalination Task Force Minutes
Regular Meeting
4:00 p.m. – Wednesday, April 16, 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 4:30 p.m. in City of Santa Cruz Planning Department Conference Room, 809 Center Street Room 107, Santa Cruz, California.

Roll Call

Present: Director D. Kriege, Councilmember C. Mathews and Councilmember M. Rotkin.
Staff: General Manager L. Brown; Water Director B. Kocher and Administrative Assistant D. Paul.

Presentation There were no presentations.

Statements of Disqualification There were no statements of disqualification.

Oral Communications There were no oral communications.

Announcements

The City of Watsonville is hosting the Watsonville Water Summit: Solutions for the Pajaro Valley on April 30, 2008 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Community Room, Watsonville Civic Plaza, 4th Floor, 275 Main St., Watsonville. Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi is the keynote speaker.

At its board meeting last night the SqCWD Board reviewed preliminary information on energy use by the agency when operating the Desalination Plant. A copy will be provided to the Task Force.

Approval of Minutes

Director D. Kriege moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2008 Desalination Task Force meeting as submitted. Councilmember M. Rotkin seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Kriege and M. Rotkin.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: C. Mathews.

General Business

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

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

Director Kocher reported that with the submission of the City's Conceptual Plan that the question of how both agencies intend to use the full scale desalination plant has been answered. If the Task Force agrees, these documents could be used as tentative agreements that may be revised as needed in the future. The next step may be developing cost sharing formulas based on the Conceptual Use Plans.

Task Force Comments

It appears that water will be available to SqCWD even in dry years.

The City's Conceptual Use Plan should be provided to Council as an FYI.

Director Kriege moved to accept both the City of Santa Cruz and the Soquel Creek Water District Conceptual Use Plans as an accurate representation of the planned use of the Desalination Plant and requested that staff combine the Conceptual Use Plans submitted by both agencies into one document (Conceptual Operations Plan) for final tentative approval by the Task Force. It was further moved that staff work from the December 18, 2007 Discussion Points memo to determine the next and future tasks for task force consideration. Councilmember C. Mathews seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

AYES: D. Kriege, C. Mathews and M. Rotkin.

NOES: None.

Program Managers' Report

A. Work Schedule

General Manager Brown reported that the Program Managers' (Kocher and Brown) and Coordinators' (Luckenbach and Schumacher) held a meeting on April 14, 2008 and the topics included energy use, public outreach approach and engineering issues. This group will be holding regular coordination meetings.

Director Kocher reported that construction at the pilot plant is complete. The paving will be redone later this year.

B. Upcoming Tasks

The Pilot Plant continues pretreatment comparison studies. The peer review is complete on the modeling report done by Scott Jenkins for the Watershed Sanitary Survey. Elaine Archibald is working on Phase 2 which is the development of the Sanitary Survey based upon the area defined. The Technical Advisor has provided comments on CDMs pilot testing protocols and will be scheduling a meeting for discussion. They are also preparing an agenda for a permitting strategy meeting and working on the web portal.

C. Additional or Amended Tasks

Nothing to report.

D. Contacts with Regulatory Agencies/Requests from Regulatory Agencies

Director Kocher reported that he met with Tim Carson of the Regional Water Management Foundation regarding the IRWMP Grant for the Intake Evaluation. Department of Health Services has approved the long term surface drinking water treatment monitoring plan. Department of Public Health staff will be touring the pilot plant on April 22, 2008.

D. Public Outreach Program

General Manager Brown reported that the Regional Water Quality Control Board will be holding a meeting in Watsonville in July. She has prepared a letter that includes a formal invitation to be signed by the Chair and Vice Chair for a tour of the Pilot Plant which would include transportation and a meal such as breakfast or a reception type event.

General Manager Brown reported that the local Coastal Commission staff will be touring the Pilot Plant on May 2, 2008 and she would like to extend the same formal invitation to the Coastal Commission. Councilmember Rotkin volunteered to attend the May 2nd tour.

General Manager Brown and Director Kocher spoke to a group of realtors from Bailey Properties about the Desalination Program.

E. Report of Findings

Nothing to report.

Public Outreach.

The task force suggested that staff approach Community Television about doing a program on the proposed Desalination Plant.

General Manager Brown reported that Public Outreach Coordinator Schumacher will be contacting Kennedy Jenks regarding doing technical forums that would be open to the public on the Desalination Program similar to ones that they conducted for Marin.

Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas

Councilmember Mathews suggested that staff do a “Spotlight on City Services” at a future City Council meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Desalination Task Force scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the Soquel Creek Water District Board Room, 5180 Soquel Drive, Soquel, California.

Respectfully submitted,

Staff