



Desalination Task Force Minutes Wednesday, November 21, 2007

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 Vice Chair B. Daniels called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Soquel Creek Water District Board Room.

Roll Call

Present: Director B. Daniels, Director D. Kriege, Councilmember E. Porter and Councilmember M. Rotkin (arrived at 4:15 p.m.).
Absent: None.
Staff: Public Outreach Coordinator M. Schumacher, Deputy Director/Engineering Manager L. Almond, Water Director B. Kocher and D. Paul, Administrative Assistant.
Guest: Ike Solem.

Presentation There were no presentations.

Statements of Disqualification There were no statements of disqualification.

Oral Communications There were no oral communications.

Announcements There were no announcements.

Approval of Minutes

Director D. Kriege moved to approve the October 17, 2007 minutes as submitted. Director B. Daniels seconded.

VOICE VOTE MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Daniels and D. Kriege.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: M. Rotkin.

ABSTAIN: E. Porter.

Informational Items No action was taken on this item.

General Business

1. Public Outreach Efforts

Water Director Kocher reported that the pretreatment portion of the pilot plant will be operational, but the reverse osmosis will not be in time for the Grand Opening Event scheduled for January 10, 2008. He suggested that the plant should be up and running for a couple of months before showing it off to the public and asked for Task Force comments.

Task Force Comments

- The Grand Opening Event should wait until all operational bugs are worked out.
- The Task Force determined that the Grand Opening event should be rescheduled for Thursday March 20, 2008 pending availability of the Seymour Center.

Public Outreach Coordinator's Report

Public Outreach Coordinator M. Schumacher reported that the handout and outdoor sign are being provided for comment and that several news items are being developed in order to keep public awareness of the project.

Task Force Comments

- The graphics are excellent.
- The sign should provide an explanation of what scwd² is.
- The handout should include a definition of impingement/entrainment.
- The domain name of scwd² should be secured as the website address.

2. Task Force Work Schedule

Water Director Kocher reported that the Task Force is responsible for the development of an Operational Plan; to recommend a Governance structure for the full scale facility; and to coordinate work that is of common interest of both agencies. A handout was provided that detailed of each of the tasks. The Task Force is being asked to determine a work schedule.

Task Force Comments

- The development of an Operational Plan for the full-scale facility should be the first task.
- The Task Force should “get educated” on different types of Governance agreements.
- It is important that both agencies cooperatively manage the shared groundwater basin.
- The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan (offsetting energy needs for the full-scale plant) is a very important task.
- The Task Force determined that the first task will be to examine how the plant will be operated, i.e. how many years by each SqCWD and SCWD and include cost sharing. A paragraph is to be included on the agenda explaining that the *Draft Operational Plan and Agreement is an ongoing work product and will be a standing agenda item.*

Program Manager’s Report

Deputy Director/Engineering Manager L. Almond provided a PowerPoint presentation titled “Why worry about energy for the desalination plant?”

The Task Force commented that it was very well done and quite useful, and requested that a printed copy be provided to all members.

Councilmember Porter stated for the record “that the public will expect a 100% offset and the planning process should include a cost for the 100% offset.”

A. Work Schedule

Water Director Kocher reported that four proposals were received for Technical Advisor. A team will review the proposals on December 3, 2007 and it is anticipated that a recommendation will be ready for the December 19, 2007 meeting.

The Task Force requested that a summary of the criteria that the selection committee used to make its decision be provided as part of the report.

B. Upcoming Tasks

There is nothing further to report.

C. Extra Work

No report.

D. Regulatory

Water Director Kocher reported that a meeting was held on November 6, 2007 with the Department of Public Health to finalize the monitoring and testing protocols for the watershed sanitary survey.

E. Contracts

No report.

F. Public Outreach

Water Director Kocher provided an ACWA draft Desalination Policy Principles. He reported that this document will go before the Desalination Committee at its upcoming conference on November 27, 2007 and the full ACWA board at its next conference. If any member has comments, please email Bill by next Monday.

He further reported that he will speak on a panel at the ACWA conference along with the General Manager from the Cambria Community Services District and a representative of Carlsbad, which recently received permit approval from the California Coastal Commission.

G. Budget

No report.

H. Summary of Findings

No report.

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

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m. until the next regular meeting of the Desalination Task Force scheduled for Wednesday, December 19, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the **Center for Ocean Health Building of the UCSC Long Marine Laboratory**, 100 Schaffer Road, Santa Cruz, California.

Respectfully submitted,

Staff