

DRAFT MINUTES
Special Meeting
Board of Directors
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
July 31, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm. Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-29-20 and N-33-20, the meeting was conducted with virtual participation via WebEx.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Directors Present via WebEx:
Alvin Edwards, – Chair, Division 1
Jeanne Byrne – Vice Chair, Division 4
George Riley, Division 2
Molly Evans, Division 3
Gary D. Hoffmann, P.E. – Division 5
Mary Adams – Monterey County Board of Supervisors Rep.
David Potter – Mayoral Representative

Directors Absent: None

General Manager present: David J. Stoldt

District Counsel present: David Laredo

The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Evans and second of Byrne the Board agreed to consider agenda item 2 prior to agenda item 1. The motion was approved on a unanimous vote of 7 – 0 by Evans, Byrne, Adams, Edwards, Hoffmann, Potter and Riley. No public comment was presented.

No comments.

Byrne offered a motion that was seconded by Hoffmann to adopt Resolution No. 2020-13 adopting the Construction of a Bypass Pipeline Modification Addendum as Addendum 6 to the ASR EIR/EA.

Evans offered a substitute motion to delay action on the issue until the MPWMD could explore questions regarding the CEQA process: (a) the assertion that installation of a new pipeline was a "minor technical change", and (b) modification to the water right as an alternative to the pipeline. The motion was seconded by Edwards and approved on a vote of 4 – 3 by Evans, Edwards, Adams and Riley. Opposed were Byrne, Hoffmann and Potter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

## ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

## **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Consider Adoption of an Addendum to the District's Prior ASR Environmental Impact Report for Construction of a Bypass Pipeline to Allow Simultaneous Pure Water Monterey Recovery and ASR Injection (Subject to CEQA Review per CEQA Guideline Sections 15162 and 15164)

Public comment: (a) Keith Van Der Maaten, General Manager of the Marina Coast Water District (MCWD). requested that the Board of Directors defer a decision on the Addendum until the MCWD and the MPWMD had an opportunity to discuss issues raised by MCWD and ensure that any proposed changes would not impact their ability to use the pipeline for their use. (b) Chip Wilkins, Counsel for MCWD, asserted that the proposed pipeline was intended to support the California American Water (Cal-Am) desalination project and that the Addendum was inadequate. He requested that a decision on this issue be delayed until the MCWD and MPWMD could develop a solution that would benefit the MPWMD and the region. (c) Chris Cook, Director of Operations, Cal-Am, stated that the parallel pipeline was critical to functioning of the Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) project. In addition, it was important to illustrate to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) that the region was optimizing use of its water supplies, as the area faced severe water cutbacks mandated by the Cease and Desist Order (CDO) in 2021. Without the pipeline the only option would be water rationing. (d) Melodie Chrislock suggested that a cost benefit analysis be conducted prior to approval of the pipeline. She recommended that the Board take no action on the Addendum until the California Coastal Commission rendered a decision on Cal-Am's desalination project. (e) Michael Baer stated that the proposed pipeline represented a piecemeal approach to water supply planning and lack of a plan for a regional water supply. He urged the Board to meet with MCWD and ensure that the pipeline, if needed, was sized appropriately. (f) Susan Schiavone stated that the pipeline was not needed as it would only be used a few months out of the year. She urged the Board to not approve the Addendum and instead to consider alternatives such as petitioning the SWRCB to amend Permit No. 21330. (g) **John Tilley** encouraged the Board to approve the Addendum. (h) Tom Moore recommended that the Board seek an amendment to Permit No. 21330 and alleviate the need for the proposed pipeline. (i) Anna Thompson requested that the Board defer consideration of the Addendum until a cost benefit analysis of the proposed pipeline had been completed. (j) Rick Heuer, resident of Monterey, expressed support for adoption of the Addendum in order to maximize production from ASR. (k) Marc **Kelley** spoke in support of the staff recommendation to approve the Addendum. (1) Wayne Kelly expressed opposition to approval of the Addendum, and construction of a pipeline for which there was no immediate need.

Potter offered a motion that was seconded by Hoffmann to refer this item to an ad-hoc committee of the Board.

Public Comment: John Tilley expressed support for the motion to refer this issue to an ad-hoc committee of the Board.

2. Consider Selection of a Public Outreach Consultant



Adams offered a substitute motion to consider agenda item 2 at the present session of the Board. Director Potter withdrew his motion.

Evans offered a motion to refer the item to an ad-hoc committee of the Board that would not include members of the Public Outreach Committee. The motion was seconded by Director Byrne. Following Board discussion, Director Byrne withdrew her second.

On a motion by Evans and second of Hoffmann, the Board referred the item to the Public Outreach Committee for action on a vote of 7 – 0 by Evans, Hoffmann, Adams, Byrne, Edwards, Potter and Riley.

Public Comment: (a) Gary Cursio recommended that this item be referred to an ad-hoc committee for further investigation, or the request for qualifications should be reopened. (b) Michael Baer requested that the issue be referred to an ad-hoc committee of the Board. (c) John Tilley requested that WellmanAd be removed from the list of firms under consideration that evening, or the Board should refer the item to an ad-hoc committee. (d) Susan Schiavone stated that the Board should select the firm that was most qualified and conformed to budgetary constraints.

Director Byrne and Director Potter left the meeting at 5:30 pm.

On a motion by Evans and second of Adams, agenda items 3 and 4 were deferred to the August 17, 2020 Board meeting. The motion was approved on a vote of 5 – 0 by Evans, Adams, Edwards, Hoffmann and Riley. Potter and Byrne were absent for the vote.

Deferred to August 17, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS** 

3. Discuss Options Related to Pure Water Monterey Final SEIR

## ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

4. Anticipated Initiation of Litigation by MPWMD – CA Government Code Sec. 54956.9(g) – One Case

**ADJOURNMENT** 

Arlene M. Tavani, Deputy District Secretary

