



FINAL MINUTES
Water Demand Committee of the
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
September 24, 2014

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm in the MPWMD conference room.

Committee members present: Kristi Markey, Chair
Jeanne Byrne
Brenda Lewis (participated by telephone)

Staff members present: David J. Stoldt, General Manager
Stephanie Pintar, Water Demand Division Manager
Arlene Tavani, Executive Assistant

Comments from the Public: No comments.

Action Items

1. **Consider Adoption of August 11, 2014 Committee Meeting Minutes**
On a motion by Byrne and second of Markey, the August 11, 2014 committee meeting minutes were adopted on a unanimous vote of 3 – 0 by Byrne, Markey and Lewis. No public comment was directed to the committee on this item.
2. **Consider Request to Fund Water Saving Retrofits at Local Schools**
On a motion by Byrne and second of Markey, the committee recommended that the Board of Directors authorize funding for water saving retrofits at local schools. The motion was approved on a vote of 3 – 0 by Byrne, Markey and Lewis. No public comment was directed to the committee on this item.

Discussion Items

4. **Update on Deed Restrictions**
Locke reported that deed restrictions are no longer required for installation of high efficiency toilets, and removal of a bathtub if replacing it with a shower or removal of a shower if replacing it with a bathtub. This reduces the time to process permits and saves money due to elimination of legal review. A deed restriction is required on all properties so that the Water Management District can access water consumption records.

Byrne stated that staff from Tehama have suggested that water consumption records for all lots in that area could be provided by the water system that serves Tehama. Deed restrictions are not necessary. Water Management District staff responded that a contractual agreement with Tehama would need to be developed for that purpose. It

could be practical for a small water system, but would not be an effective tracking system for the large California American Water Distribution System.

5. Discuss Response to Increased Occurrence of Outdoor Restaurant Seating

The committee directed Locke to send a letter to the jurisdictions advising them that the Water Management District has concerns about the proliferation of parklets, and the increased water use that results from additional outdoor restaurant seating. Also that the Water Management District may begin enforcement of seating limits, so planning departments should not make any representation to applicants that the outdoor seats are permanent.

During the discussion, several ideas were expressed about ways to address the concern about increased water use caused by outdoor restaurant seating. (a) There are some enforceability concerns about a suggestion to reduce indoor seating by the number of new outdoor seats. (b) The Technical Advisory Committee recommended in the past that no action should be taken to limit outdoor restaurant seating, because the small increase in water use that results from the outdoor seats is not significant. (c) The Water Management District could assess a fee for each outdoor seat, just as the City of Pacific Grove may charge a fee for public space used by outdoor seats. (d) Send a letter to each restaurant advising owners that the space is permitted for a specific number of seats, and that random inspections of restaurants will be conducted to enforce the seating limit. (e) It is not fair that property owners are prohibited from adding a half-bath or other improvement, but restaurateurs are able to double their seating. (f) The Water Management District may not have permitted some restaurants for a specific number of seats, or have permit records for very old properties. (g) Another issue to monitor is that Group 2 uses are increasing their offerings to Group 3 uses. For example, coffee shops and wine bars may be expanding their menus to provide full-service. (h) It was suggested that restaurants might be allotted a specific amount of water and if that limit is exceeded, higher water rates could be implemented. (i) Enforce permit restrictions – Group 2 businesses should be visited to determine if they are in compliance with their water permits. (j) The Board will encounter criticism if action is taken to limit outdoor restaurant seating, or if no action is taken.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for November 13, 2014 at 1:30 pm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.