



FINAL MINUTES

Water Supply Planning Committee of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District *June 1, 2020*

Call to Order: The WebEx virtual meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

Committee members present: George Riley, Chair
Molly Evans
Alvin Edwards

Committee members absent: None

Staff members present: David J. Stoldt, General Manager
Jonathan Lear, Water Resources Division Manager
Maureen Hamilton, Water Resources Engineer
Thomas Christensen, Environmental Resources Div. Mgr.
Arlene Tavani, Executive Assistant

Comments from the Public: John Tilley stated that it would be more appropriate for Monterey One Water to consider an issue such as agenda item 1, than it would be for the Water Management District Board of Directors to take up the question.

Action Items

1. Consider Development of a Recommendation to the Board to Send a Letter to the California Coastal Commission for Consideration of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

On a motion by Edwards and seconded by Riley, the committee recommended that the Board of Directors approve the letter submitted at the meeting as Sample Letter 1 that expressed support for Pure Water Monterey project expansion. In addition, the committee directed that both Sample Letters 1 and 2 be submitted for Board consideration, along with the option of not sending a letter. The motion was approved on a vote of 2 – 1 by Edwards and Riley. Evans was opposed.

Public Comment: John Tilley expressed support for Sample Letter 2. He stated that no proof had been provided that Pure Water Monterey expansion would adequately supply community water needs.

Discussion Items

2. Requirements for Lifting the Cease and Desist Order and Moratorium on New Service Connections

General Manager Stoldt reviewed the staff report and responded to questions from committee members.

Public Comment: (a) John Tilley expressed concern that Pure Water Monterey expansion was dependent on rainfall and movement of water from the Salinas Basin to the Peninsula and would not provide water for the District's needs. He expressed support for a water project that would provide a secure supply. (b) Steve Westhoff, attorney with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), said the State had observed that neither the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project nor the Pure Water Monterey expansion project would be on-line in time to meet the deadline for cessation of unauthorized diversions from the Carmel River. The SWRCB had not made a determination as to whether any of the competing projects were inadequate to meet the CDO. He encouraged Cal-Am, local agencies and the public to work together to move a project forward, and that a decision must be made at the local and state level.

Presentation

3. Update on ASR Project

A summary of Ms. Hamilton's presentation is on file at the District office and can be viewed on the agency website. She reported on the progress of construction of the water treatment facility at the Santa Margarita site.

4. Update on Pure Water Monterey Project

Mr. Stoldt reported that in order to achieve maximum injection capability, installation of a redundant third deep well was needed. Test borings were planned at two sites which would help staff determine the appropriate location for a test well, and eventually the permanent well. The District could fund the project internally or borrow funds through the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, and under either scenario the expenditure could be recovered over time through water rates.

5. Pure Water Monterey Expansion – Next Steps

At the June 15, 2020 closed session of the Board, the directors will discuss what action to take regarding the payment of an invoice in the amount \$614,878.53 for costs associated with Pure Water Monterey expansion.

6. Suggest Items to be Placed on Future Agendas

The following items were suggested by the committee members. (a) Discuss restructuring our relationship with Monterey One Water regarding the Pure Water Monterey Project in order to take ownership of the project. (b) Explanation of California American Water Company's cost of water calculations.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.