

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
MAY 7, 2012**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Communications Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on May 7, 2012 was called to order by Chairperson Daily at 10:32 a.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Chairperson Daily, presiding.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Member Vega
Alternate Washburn
Member Daily
Alternate O'Leary
Member Bednarski

Absent: Member Romani
Member Sowden

Also Present: Director Brazier
Water Operations and Customer Service Manager Atilano

There were no members of the public present.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There were no public comments.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

5. **INSTALLATION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER MS.KELLY BEDNARSKI**

Mr. Daily formally welcomed Mrs. Bednarski to the committee.

6. **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

A. Reschedule of June 4 meeting? (Daily on Leave)

The committee decided to change its June meeting to Monday, June 11th at 10:30 a.m. They also decided to keep the July meeting set for July 2nd.

Mr. O'Leary commented on the RMWD Board meeting he attended on April 24th and the presentation given by Mr. Seymour on the potential consolidation of RMWD and FPUD. Mr. Vega requested that a copy of the presentation be emailed to the committee members.

***7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. April 2, 2012

Ms. Bednarski pointed out Mr. Seymour's name was spelled incorrectly under Item #9.

Action:

Moved by Member Vega to approve the minutes as revised. Seconded by Alternate O'Leary.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Vega, Alternate Washburn, Member Daily, Alternate O'Leary and Member Bednarski.

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

ABSENT: Member Romani and Member Sowden.

8. REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF RMWD RELATED MEDIA STORIES AND POTENTIAL SHORT TERM ISSUES

Tom Sowden joined the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Mr. Daily and Mr. Vega shared recent media articles related to Rainbow Municipal Water District and Metropolitan Water District with the committee members.

Mr. Vega asked if RMWD could take credit for the idea of consolidating RMWD and FPUD. Mr. Seymour explained the steps that have taken place over the past couple of years that led up to considering consolidation of the two agencies. Mr. Seymour stressed this was not a done deal, but being studied at this time.

9. RMWD GENERAL MANAGERS COMMITTEE UPDATE (DAVE SEYMOUR)

Mr. Seymour noted the biggest discussion at the recent Board meeting was related to the possible consolidation of RMWD and FPUD. He reiterated this was only being studied at this point. He also mentioned both the reservoir cover and new tank projects will be wrapping up in the next couple of months as well as how the District may receive both State Revolving Fund Loans it applied for several months ago. He explained these loans need to be addressed with the Board should one or both loans be offered to the District.

Mr. Seymour pointed out help from the Communications Committee will be needed on the consolidation study once the Board decides whether or not they want to proceed with either of the two options or to do nothing at all. He noted the forming a Joint Powers Authority will take approximately four months and an actual consolidation will have to go through LAFCO which could take up to two years to complete.

Discussion ensued regarding the State Revolving Fund Loans and the steps RMWD may have to take before receiving any monies due to Ordinance 95-1. Discussion continued regarding funding the CIP and Beck Reservoir.

Discussion took place regarding election procedures, costs, etc.

Mr. Daily asked if there was any more discussion or action with new meters coming on line due to development. Mr. Seymour explained although the activity has slowed down a little bit; however, it will pick up again very soon.

Mr. Seymour stated there was not one particular division of RMWD that was in worse shapes than any of the other divisions.

Mr. Seymour pointed out the Orange County Grand Jury released a report about Special Districts stating they all needed to be disbanded which may or may not be picked up by San Diego County media. He said if they did, he believes we would look pretty good; however, it was never pleasant when the papers are out for blood. He said he would get a copy of the report sent out to the committee members for their reading. Discussion ensued.

10. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS PLAN UPDATE

A. Review of Communications Committee Charter/Purpose Statement

Mr. Daily stated he erred in having Item #A on this agenda; however, he will have more to discuss at the June committee meeting.

Mr. O'Leary asked whether or not RMWD wanted to possibly start looking at some dates to address the consolidation efforts as well as the State Revolving Fund loans at public workshops. Mr. Seymour stated this could be done in the future; however, the Board has not made any concrete decisions regarding this matter at this point. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Sowden talked about the article he drafted for committee member input and comment. Discussion followed.

Mr. Sowden said although RMWD could save some money with the consolidation or possibly letting employees go, it was only nickels and dimes in the big scheme of things and will not solve the issues at hand relating to water.

It was suggested the article be broken down into several sections in order to make it simplified for the readers. It was determined any comments and input should be forwarded to Ms. Washburn and she will in turn pass that information on to Mr. Sowden and Mr. Seymour.

11. SITE VISIT TO PALA MESA TANK

The meeting adjourned with a visit to the Pala Mesa Tank.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Action:

Moved by Member Vega to adjourn to the Pala Mesa Tank visit. Seconded by Member Sowden.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Vega, Alternate Washburn, Member Daily, Alternate O'Leary,
Member Sowden, and Member Bednarski.

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

ABSENT: Member Romani.

The meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Michael Daily, Committee Chairperson

Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary