

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TORRANCE WATER COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Water Commission convened in a regular session at 7:04 p.m. on Thursday, September 21, 2006 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Deemer, Lew, Rizzardi, Warner, White, and Chairperson Hoffman.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden and Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Rizzardi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner White moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Deemer seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES FROM JULY 20, 2006

MOTION: Commissioner White moved for the approval of the July 20, 2006 Water Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Lew seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

6B. WATER COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL 2005-06

This item was considered out of order.

When Commissioner Rizzardi noted that there was no mention of fluoridation in the Annual Report, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich explained that the item was considered after the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006.

Commissioner White offered correction of a minor typographical error.

Chairperson Hoffman noted that the Annual Report did not include information about the Water Department's capital and operating budget and requested that staff provide financial reports on revenue and expenses at least once a year.

Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich stated that in approximately two months the City would be preparing its audited Annual Reports, and that staff would provide a presentation on the Water Fund to the Commission.

Referring to a monthly report prepared by the Treasurer and presented to City Council, Commissioner Rizzardi questioned the \$11,806,000 non-restricted funds under Water Operations.

Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich explained that most of the amount was committed to on-going capital projects that has been appropriated or are projects in various stages of development.

Commissioner Deemer suggested that unaudited statements also be provided by staff at half-year periods.

MOTION: Commissioner White moved for the approval of the fiscal 2005-2006 Water Commission Annual Report as submitted. Commissioner Rizzardi seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7. WEST BASIN WATER ASSOCIATION REPORT

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden reported that at the September 5, 2006 Association meeting, the Watermaster discussed finalization of the year-end water accounts. He stated that West Basin Municipal Water Department was interviewing three candidates for Chairperson and would be building a desalination pilot facility at the AES power plant in Redondo Beach. He reported that West Basin Municipal Water Department also discussed their Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plan and installation of solar panels at the El Segundo recycling facility. He noted that there was good attendance at the August 17, 2006 joint barbeque and announced the next meeting on October 10, 2006.

When Chairperson Hoffman mentioned that at the barbeque Commissioners invited the District Manager of California Water to give a presentation to the Water Commission, Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden stated that staff would arrange to have him come to the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner White announced a Desal Conference with five panels at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach on October 5, 2006.

6A. PRESENTATION BY WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL DISTRICT REGARDING INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRWMP)

Fernando Paludi, Manager of Planning and Water Resources, West Basin Municipal Water District, gave a power point presentation on the Greater Los Angeles County Region Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP).

He provided background information about the State grant process put forth by the Department of Water Resources and State Water Resources Control Board, noting that the IRWMP is the future of bond measures. He discussed the planning grant and the two funding cycles of project grants available under Proposition 50 funding

opportunities. He noted that the State's definition of IRWMP includes integrated projects, regional water supply reliability, water quality, reduce pollution in impaired waters and sensitive areas, and safe drinking water and water quality in disadvantaged communities.

Mr. Paludi presented a map of the Greater Los Angeles County planning area that is divided into five sub-regions that includes the South Bay. He described the agencies that have taken a leadership role for each sub-region as well as water management area responsibility for the following strategies: groundwater, sanitation, surface water, habitat/open space, and storm water/water quality. He noted that there are therefore ten representatives in the leadership committee, chaired by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, as well as invited ex-officio non-voting members, who have been meeting monthly for a year and are in the process of preparing a Memorandum of Understanding.

Responding to Commissioner Deemer's inquiry, Mr. Paludi stated that the Los Angeles County Flood Control District reports to the Board of Supervisors, noting that more than 90% of the area is within Los Angeles County.

Mr. Paludi provided maps of the South Bay region that includes over 2.6 million residents and approximately 294 square miles of watersheds: Ballona Creek, Dominguez, and Upper & Lower Santa Monica Bay. He described the agencies and areas of responsibility that make up the South Bay Steering Committee. He briefly described integration objectives that include watershed management, dam rehabilitation, land use planning, water conservation, groundwater recharge basins, agricultural water conservation, imported water, recycled water, and system inerties.

He described projects submitted in Step 2 from the South Bay sub-region: Wilmington Drain Restoration Multiuse Project, Marshland Enhancement, and Large Landscape Conservation/Runoff Reduction Management Program. He discussed short-term priorities that include adopting the IRWMP by January 1, 2007, developing quantifiable targets, and maximizing funding opportunities. He stated that long-term priorities are to maintain the committee structures, enhance water supply reliability, reduce demand in imported water sources, protect groundwater supplies, improve surface water quality, and preserve/promote environmental interests. He briefly discussed draft quantifiable goals for water supply; water quality; open space, recreation and habitat; and to sustain local communities within the Greater Los Angeles County Region. He concluded his presentation with a review of current activities and opportunities for input that include monthly South Bay Steering Committee meetings and a Countywide Workshop in October 2006.

8. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORT

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden reported that water main breaks increased in August 2006 but are still 25% below last year's totals. He noted that Sepulveda Boulevard Water Main Replacement, Hawthorne Boulevard to West City Limit, will begin in January 2007 after the holiday season.

In response to Commissioner Rizzardi's inquiry, he explained that some capital improvement projects have been delayed due to a shortage of manpower.

Responding to Commissioner Deemer's inquiry, staff explained that cost of materials for capital projects was fixed and included in bid packages.

He recommended that the Commission accept and file the monthly department report.

MOTION: Commissioner Deemer, seconded by Commissioner Rizzardi, moved to accept and file the Deputy Public Works Director's Report as presented; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

9. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden noted that two reports from Metropolitan Water District Director Wright were included in the material of record: Final Assessed Valuations, Percentage Participation, and Vote and Director Entitlement of Member Public Agencies as of August 15, 2006 and the September 18, 2006 report regarding MWD activities to Mayor and Council Members.

10. ORALS

10A. In response to Commissioner Rizzardi's inquiry, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich advised that the fluoridation item would be going to City Council next month.

Chairperson Hoffman suggested that homeowners associations be notified about the meeting.

10B. Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden announced that the Government and Finance Committee budget meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2006 at 5:30 p.m.

10C. Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden provided information about an incident that occurred in the California Water service area on September 21, 2006 when a contractor hit a water main with a backhoe.

10D. Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich encouraged Commissioners to attend Protecta del Agua classes on November 4 and November 18, 2006.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:27 p.m., Commissioner Rizzardi moved to adjourn the meeting to October 19, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission meeting room. Commissioner Lew seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Hoffman so ordered.

Approved as Submitted October 20, 2006 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
