

Draft Minutes
Water Conservation Commission

May 4, 2017

1. Call to Order/Introduction:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Commission members Phil Clark, Bethany Taylor, Charlie Eskridge, Jason Montgomery, Jim Felton, Walter Erwin, and Jan Shriner (arrived at 5:35 p.m.) were present. Margaret-Anne Coppernoll and David Brown were absent. Efrem Valentine was present from the public. Paul Lord, Jean Premutati, and Paula Riso were present from staff.

2. Public Comments on Any Item Not on the Agenda:

None.

3. Action Items:

A. Approve the April 6, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2017 meeting. Chair Clark seconded the motion. With a vote of 4-Ayes, 0-Noes, 2-Abstained (Eskridge, Montgomery), 3-Absent (Shriner, Brown, Coppernoll), the motion was passed.

B. Consider Recommending Board Approval of the Proposed Modifications to the Clothes Washer Rebate Tiers and the Top Rebate Payment:

Mr. Lord introduced this item and explained the proposed tier modifications. Director Shriner arrived at 5:35 p.m.

Mr. Lord noted that over the past several years, most rebates were at the highest tier as most washing machines are more efficient and use less water. Mr. Lord stated that by modifying the tiers, it would provide the largest incentive for the more ultra-efficient machine, and reduce the rebate payments considerably as the less-efficient machines wouldn't receive as large or any rebate. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Felton made a motion to recommend for approval to the Board of Directors, the proposed modifications to the Clothes Washer Rebate tiers and the top rebate payment. Vice Chair Eskridge seconded the motion. With a vote of 6-Ayes, 0-Noes, 1-Abstained (Shriner), 2-Absent (Coppernoll and Brown), the motion was passed.

4. Staff Reports:

A. Receive a Verbal Update on Recent and Future Public and Private Water Conservation Education Events:

Mr. Lord briefed the Commission on the recent public events attended by volunteer commissioners and the District's Conservation Specialists, and upcoming events in May.

B. Receive an Update on State Executive Order B-40-17, Removing the Drought Emergency for Much of the State:

Mr. Lord introduced this item explaining that on April 7th, the State rescinded the drought emergency in California. Chair Clark asked what conservation stage the District was in. Mr. Lord explained that the District was still in Stage 2. He stated that the State has also rescinded the stress test requirement for water districts that rely on groundwater. Chair Clark talked about watering requirements at Bayview Mobile Home Park. Discussion followed. Mr. Lord stated that he would have water production information for the next meeting and they can see if there is any change following the driest month of the year so far.

C. Receive a Verbal Update on the Recruitment of a Water Science/Conservation Teacher:

Mr. Lord informed the Commission that the District has selected a new water science/conservation teacher and now is waiting for the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District (MPUSD) to offer her the job. The teacher will be employed through MPUSD but the District will reimburse them for her salary.

D. Review Proposed Working Group Meetings and Agenda Items for the June 1, 2017 WCC Meeting and Future Meetings:

Mr. Lord introduced this item and stated that in April there were no working group meetings. The next working group meeting was scheduled for May 11th to discuss toilet retrofitting upon resale. Chair Clark clarified that the working group would be discussing the District Ordinance that pertains to toilet retrofitting. Mr. Lord reviewed the items that have been completed and the ones that are still needing to be addressed. Chair Clark suggested bringing back a cleaned up list to the next meeting.

5. Receive Update on Board/District Activities:

Director Shriner gave a brief update on the latest actions of the Board.

6. Receive Comments from Commission Members:

Chair Clark commented on recent discussions with the East Garrison developer about water saving devices, e.g. graywater systems, but was told it was too late to install for the first phases. Chair Clark added that it would be helpful for Commissioners to attend local planning and development meetings so that the District can talk with the developers about how to increase water savings in the new construction before they start building.

7. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.