

Borrego Water District
MINUTES
Special Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 4, 2008, 11:30 AM
806 Palm Canyon Drive
Borrego Springs, CA 92004

I. OPENING PROCEDURES

- A. Call to Order: President Mendenhall called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance: Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Roll Call: Directors: Present: President Mendenhall, Vice-President King, Secretary/Treasurer Andersen, Shimeall, Smiley
Staff: Richard Williamson, General Manager
Jerry Rolwing, Operations Manager
Public: Judy Meier, *Borrego Sun*
- D. Comments from the Public and Requests for Future Agenda Items: None
- E. Comments from Directors and Requests for Future Agenda Items: None
- F. Correspondence: Rich Williamson announced that the correspondence would be covered during the next Agenda item.

II. CURRENT BUSINESS MATTER

Board to consider authorizing the General Manager to sign all documents to initiate the USGS/DWR Borrego Aquifer Groundwater Study: Rich Williamson invited the Board's attention to the USGS package, which contained essentially the same information presented in draft form at the last meeting. He noted that eight months ago it was contemplated that DWR would be the lead agency in the study, but since the USGS is staffed by more highly educated personnel and most of the work will consist of modeling, they have taken the lead. DWR will serve as the keeper of the State records, and along with Mr. Williamson and Jerry Rolwing will assist in updating the model. USGS will put our well data on the GIS grid, run the model created in the 1980s and then update it. The initial report will provide a range for long-term planning, and after completion of the three-year study, the information will be more precise. The total project cost will be \$178,050, and BWD has \$180,000 budgeted (\$30,000 from sustainable water and \$150,000 from groundwater management). DWR costs are not expected to exceed \$50,000, and their contract will be on a job order basis (any work pre-approved by BWD). In response to Director Mendenhall's inquiry, Mr. Williamson predicted that a preliminary report would be available by the town hall meeting in March. Director Smiley inquired how the Henderson-Netto basin cross sections were developed. He understood seismic studies would be required. Discussion followed, and Mr. Rolwing stated that the expert panel had addressed the issue. Mr. Williamson reported that he had asked Bill Mills to coordinate the study. *MSC: King/Smiley authorizing the General Manager to sign all documents to initiate the USGS/DWR Borrego Aquifer Groundwater Study. RC: AYES – King, Smiley, Andersen, Shimeall, Mendenhall.*

III. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Williamson announced he would be meeting with representatives of the County tomorrow to discuss mitigation policies. The County's primary concerns are enforcement and CEQA compliance. Director Smiley reported that Dan Wright, who has acreage available to fallow for mitigation, predicts the County will not act without direction from

the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Williamson preferred to start at a lower level and work upward if necessary. The County has liability concerns due to the number of projects they have already approved in Borrego Springs.

Mr. Williamson further reported he would be attending a sewer management conference in Anaheim on Monday.

Director Shimeall announced the Conservation Committee meeting tomorrow.

IV. CLOSING PROCEDURE

A. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2008 in the District's Board Room.