

Borrego Water District
MINUTES
Conservation Standing Committee
Wednesday, June 9, 2010, 11:30 a.m.
806 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, CA 92004

Attendance: Director: Shimeall
Staff: Richard Williamson, General Manager
 Jerry Rolwing, Operations Manager
 Wendy Quinn, Recording Secretary
Public: Don McKelvey Marshal Brecht
 Kathy Johnston

CALL TO ORDER
INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of May 5, 2010 were approved as written.

CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS:

1. IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Signage for Palm Canyon Resort

Jerry Rolwing showed three alternative proposed signs, prepared by him and Jim Engelke, for the Palm Canyon Resort. The majority of those present expressed preference for "Welcome to Borrego Springs, a water conscious community." Mssrs. Rolwing and Engelke will post the prototype sign in two alternate locations and decide which is preferable. Kathy Johnston asked whether the sign would be displayed elsewhere in town. Mr. Rolwing explained that no more locations had been planned, since the Palm Canyon Resort location was part of an agreement with the landowner regarding rebates for low flow toilets.

- Public outreach/education with Borrego College on Conservation Class

Rich Williamson had nothing new to report on the status of the conservation class at the College of Borrego. Director Shimeall reported that Shanda Hahn was the new President of the Board.

- Future plans for FYE 2011

Mr. Rolwing asked the Committee about its future, now that the conservation incentive rebates have been discontinued. Director Shimeall recommended reviewing the tiered rates. Mr. Williamson suggested reconsidering the four-year residency requirement for application of tiered rates. He added that he hoped to distribute costs according to beneficiaries of water projects, for example future developers. Adjudication would likely result in benefits for the farmers ("first in time, first in right"), not the rate payers.

Ms. Johnston inquired about recycling gray water. Mr. Rolwing explained that the County has stringent controls.

2. CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MONITORING DUTIES

- Review of irrigation audits

Mr. Rolwing reported that two irrigation audits had been submitted during the last reporting period.

- Turf removal approvals

Turf removal rebates for Robert Barton and Lisa McNatt were approved.

- Irrigation retrofit approvals

Irrigation retrofits for Sun and Shadows HOA, Carol Black, Wayne Legel, Ken Overmiller and Tom Cohelan were approved. Jack Stowell's application was denied due to late submittal.

3. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Williamson noted that the Conservation Committee would be actively involved in the rate review. Don McKelvey stated that he would like to continue to investigate gray water recycling. Discussion followed regarding various water recycling opportunities. The Committee inspected plastic bags which can be used to measure individual water use in showers, etc. Further consideration was continued to a future meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m. The next regular Conservation Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 7, 2010.