

do nothing and wait for the State to take control. The BWC suggests developing market-friendly regulations, seeking some public financing and adjudicating only if the community can't or won't cooperate to develop an acceptable Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Director Brecht estimated the cost of developing the plan at \$1.5 million over two to three years. He outlined various scenarios for dividing the cost among municipal users, farmers and recreation, with a blended proportional share providing the most equal division.

Director Brecht emphasized the need to act now, and suggested beginning with development of a budget and cost estimate with help from legal counsel, District staff and the public. He went on to summarize groundwater issues throughout the State and nation, noting that Borrego's are much less onerous than many.

C. Discussion and potential decision regarding status of direct placement financing to refinance the Viking Ranch note: Director Brecht announced that two banks are potentially interested in refinancing the Viking Ranch note. BBVA Compass Bank has submitted a quote and would like a decision today, but the Due Diligence Committee recommends requesting an extension of time and continuing to negotiate pending receipt of a quote from Umpqua Bank. The Board concurred in the recommendation.

D. Update on submittals of solar Request For Proposals: Mr. Rolwing reported that bidding closed at 5:00 p.m. yesterday for the solar RFPs. Four proposals were received for both options (purchase and power purchase agreement). The Operations and Management Committee will meet this week to review them and make a presentation at the next Board meeting.

E. Discussion of potential agenda items for March 25th board meeting: Agenda items for the next meeting will include a decision on submittals from solar Request for Proposals; consideration and possible decisions on hiring a consultant to address return flows and their impact on reduction policy, hiring a consulting project engineer for GSP activities, and directing counsel to propose a funding mechanism for GSP-related costs; acceptance of water credits from potential donors; an update on FEMA guidelines and building permits; consideration of application of the formula for A-1 and A-2 water credits for Rams Hill elsewhere in the Borrego community; agreement with Taussig for consulting services; and the budget.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) regulations: Information on the VOC regulations was included in the Board package.

B. Articles from *The Desert Sun*: Two articles from *The Desert Sun*, one on a pending clean water bill for the East Coachella Valley and one on the settlement of a lawsuit between Imperial County and the Imperial Irrigation District relative to the Salton Sea, were included in the Board package.

C. Letter from M. McElhatton, ABDNHA: President asked Director Tatusko to attend the April 10-11 program on "Desert Living: Water and Energy," coordinated by the Anza Borrego Desert Natural History Association.

IV. CLOSING PROCEDURE

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:50 a.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for March 25, 2015 at the Borrego Water District. The Town Hall meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2015, 4:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center.