

**AMADOR WATER AGENCY  
Board of Directors  
Regular Meeting  
September 11, 2008**

**MINUTES**

**Directors Present:** John P. Swift, President  
David S. Thomas, Vice President  
Terence W. Moore  
Paul Scott  
Madonna Wiebold

**Directors Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jim Abercrombie, General Manager  
Gene Mancebo, E & P Manager  
Michael Lee, Financial Services Manager  
Stephen A. Kronick, Agency Counsel  
Karen L. Gish, Acting Clerk of the Board

**CALL TO ORDER** – President Swift called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA** – There were no additions to the agenda.

**STAFF REPORTS** Gene Mancebo, E & P Manager and Michael Lee, Financial Services Manager, updated the Board on the various activities they have been involved in within their respective areas of responsibility and answered any questions from the Board. Jim Abercrombie reported for Operations and Construction Departments, mentioning the reorganization of distribution from operations to construction.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Mr. Bill Condrashoff asked President Swift if he had received the City of Jackson's letter of August 20<sup>th</sup> and if he was responding. President Swift stated he sent a letter to City yesterday stating he was reviewing all documentation and will be responding. Mr. Condrashoff stated that Jackson is largest customer and the Agency should put this item on the agenda and hear from the City's residents. President Swift stated that a decision would be made before next board meeting regarding such.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Scott, seconded by Director Wiebold, and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda.

## **AGENCY GENERAL**

### **Budget Committee Report – Recommendation to approve budget augmentation for Wonderware Licensing fees**

Director Moore stated the Committee met and discussed this item. He stated our system has been kept running, but is outdated. He further reminded the Board that this item has been discussed a number of times and that once Wonderware came up with licensing fees; we knew we would have to pay them. The cost came after the budget was in place, so we're recommending a transfer of funds to pay for the fee. He further stated that the fee will also allow for software upgrade to SCADA. Manager Abercrombie stated that Supervising Instrumentation Technician, Pat Purnell has done a great job negotiating the fee and knows SCADA in detail if the Board members have any questions. Director Wiebold asked if the fee included any expansion. Mr. Purnell stated that the Agency has expanded and utilizes software at all sites and has kept the licensing up to date, and that this licensing fee does allow for additional Wonderware capability by allowing remoting into the systems. He further stated that Buckhorn is currently the only system that allows this capability. He stated that Wonderware has allowed us to duplicate the remote in capability while they have been working on licensing fee issue. Director Scott stated that when Manager Abercrombie, he and President Swift met with Sutter Creek, the Fire Chief requested a special fire hydrant. He inquired as to whether this budget augmentation included that item. Manager Abercrombie stated that item should be on the next meeting agenda, that the cost calculations were not complete. President Swift asked what timeframe these licenses covered. Mr. Purnell stated that the licenses are forever as long as the annual support costs are paid. Mr. Joe Bonini inquired if this fee included tech support. Mr. Purnell stated that no, this fee is licensing only. He further stated that tech support is included in the annual fee which is a budgeted item. Mr. Bill Condrashoff asked how much the annual tech support cost. Mr. Purnell stated that it was approximately \$15,000-\$17,000 annually.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Moore and seconded by Director Thomas to authorize transfer of funds to acquire licensing. The motion was unanimously carried.

### **Regional Reclamation Planning – Discussion and possible direction regarding the regional reclamation plan**

Manager of E&P Mancebo stated that original plan presented by the consultant was for a regional plant, with the best disposal site being the Jackson Valley Irrigation District. Due to lack of interest in the regional plant, an alternate plan has been developed for consideration of the interested entities. Manager of E&P Mancebo presented a proposed map and discussed the alternate plan with the Board. Director Scott stated the alternate plan was a good direction and that partnering of the different entities to find the best solution for the county was critical in minimizing costs to the rate payers. Manager of E&P Mancebo stated the most difficult part of the concept was for all parties to recognize overall and not how it affects just them. He further stated this project would be accomplished in phases. The Board applauded Manager of E&P Mancebo's

efforts and good work. The Board directed Staff to enter into further discussions with all parties involved to explore this and other alternatives to a regional wastewater plant.

Mr. Bill Condrashoff also stated Manager of E&P Mancebo had done a good job. He stated his concern was how the Agency would isolate current rate payers. President Swift stated that the concept for the project has to be developed prior to getting into details. Mr. Condrashoff stated that he wanted to make sure the Board understood that people want to know how the project will be paid for prior to agreeing to it. Manager Abercrombie stated that the bulk of the project would probably be paid by developers for new projects, but there would be some cost to existing customers for infrastructure issues. Mr. Condrashoff inquired as to how much of the water supply is currently being used. Manager Abercrombie stated that about half the supply was being utilized but that we need to plan for the future now and keep costs to a minimum. He further stated that the project will be phased as the need is developed.

**RECESS** was called at 10:27 a.m.; **SESSION RESUMED** at 10:39 a.m.

**Agency Logo – discussion and possible approval for implementation of an Agency logo re-design depicting water supply, wastewater treatment and reclamation**

Manager Abercrombie stated the logo was discussed at the last strategic planning and direction was to come up with alternative logos to reflect our vision. He further stated that with the canal now obsolete, we are looking at incorporating the Agency's three areas of service – water, wastewater and reclamation. Following discussion on the two designs, direction was given to Staff to make some slight revisions and bring the logo back at the next meeting.

**IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS**

**Wastewater Improvement District No. 12 (Martell) – Approval to award contract for sewer collection pipeline**

Manager of E&P Mancebo stated Staff had identified 917 lineal feet of sewer line which needed rehabilitated. The project was put to bid. Upon review of the bids, Staff is recommending awarding the contract to J F Pacific Pipelines. He further stated the difference in costs between the two bids was for traffic control. He further requested direction for staff to proceed with the contract and project.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Moore, seconded by Director Scott and unanimous carried to direct staff to award J F Pacific Pipeliners with the contract for the Wastewater Improvement District No. 12 (Martell) sewer collection pipeline project and proceed with managing the project.

**AGENCY COUNSEL REPORT-** Counsel Kronick updated the Board on the various bills in the legislative process that could affect the Agency. He answered questions of the Board for clarification.

**FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS**

Life-line rate; right-type of reorganization.

**CLOSED SESSION** was called at 11:18 p.m. for the following matters

- A. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a) – Existing Litigation – Conference with Agency Counsel
  - 1. Amador Water Agency vs. Kenneth Perano, as Trustee of the Ernest W. Perano Exemption Trust, et al. Case No. 06-CV4189
  
- D. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(c) – Initiation of litigation-1 case

**OPEN SESSION RESUMED at** 12: 23 p.m. with direction given to staff

**ADJOURNMENT** –President Swift adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

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Karen L, Gish  
Acting Clerk of the Board of Directors

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_