

MINUTES

County of Inyo WATER COMMISSION

April 24, 2019

The Chairperson called the Water Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Inyo County Water Department conference room, Independence, CA. Commissioners in attendance were Chairperson Mike Prather, Mike Carrington, Randy Keller, Nate Gratz, and Commissioner Red Owl absent. Present from the Water Department were Aaron Steinwand, Laura Piper, and Keith Rainville.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Prather led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Public Comment

Daris Moxley stated that she read LA gets 60% of its water from the Owens Valley. Sally Manning requested that public comment be put back on the end of the agenda.

3. Approval of minutes from the February 20, 2019 meeting

Moved by Commissioner Carrington and seconded by Commissioner Keller to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.

4. Commissioners' reports

Commissioner Keller stated there is a proposal to establish a pump back water generating system on Wheeler Crest.

5. Director's report

Dr. Steinwand stated there have been two OVGA meetings since the last Water Commission meeting and provided an overview of the items discussed; the LORP Owens River Water Trail draft EIR will be available in May; an update on the Big Pine Recycled Water Project; and open positions available with the Water Dept. Sally Manning stated the Big Pine Tribes AB52 interest regarding consultation on the Big Pine Recycled Water Project. Philip Anaya discussed inclusion of Associate and Interested Parties on the OVGA.

6. Discussion of LADWP's 2019/20 Draft Annual Operations Plan

Dr. Steinwand provided an introduction and quick review on the PowerPoint presentation regarding the draft Annual Operations Plan. He stated most wells are near or above baseline with a few exceptions; maximum proposed pumping for 2019/20 is 73,710 AF; he discussed the in-valley uses; and the planned water exports to LA. Keith Rainville reviewed the process for the draft Annual Operations Plan; discussed runoff, irrigation, stock water, depth to water, W385 two month aquifer test, etc. The Board and staff discussed this item in detail. Sally Manning stated her concern on the recovery of vegetation conditions. Daris Moxley stated her concerns with the water allotment on her lease. Dan Tothoroh asked if there is a requirement that LADWP indicates where the water will be spread. Philip Anaya inquired about the timeline of runoff. Adam Perez, LADWP stated due to the cooler temperatures they are in good shape with regard to runoff & spreading.

7. Inyo/Los Angeles Standing Committee Meeting:

- a. Designation of Water Commission representatives**
- b. Discussion of Inyo/LA Standing Committee agenda**

The Chairperson announced the Standing Committee meeting would be held on May 6, 2019 and he would not be available. Commissioner Gratz and Commissioner Keller both volunteered to attend. The Chairperson discussed the ORWT, the draft EIR, and grants available for the project. Dr. Steinwand reviewed the items on the upcoming Standing Committee agenda. Sally Manning inquired if there would be a recommendation to the Standing Committee regarding LADWP's draft annual report and Philip Anaya asked the time and location of the meeting and discussed the annual report filed with DWR for the adjudicated portion of the basin.

8. Public Comment

The Chairperson opened the public comment period and there was no one wishing to address the Commission.

9. Schedule next Water Commission meeting

The next Water Commission was tentatively scheduled for June 2019.

10. Adjourn

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.