



**BEAUMONT-CHERRY VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – ENGINEERING WORKSHOP  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
560 Magnolia Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223  
Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

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**Call to Order: President Covington**

*President Covington began the meeting at 6:06 p.m.*

*Director Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance*

*Invocation was given by Director Ramirez*

**Roll Call:**

Directors present:	Covington, Hoffman, Ramirez, Slawson, Williams
Directors absent:	None
Staff present:	General Manager Dan Jagers, Director of Finance and Administration Yolanda Rodriguez, Senior Engineer Mark Swanson, Administrative Assistant Erica Gonzales, Assistant Director of Operations James Bean, Senior Finance and Administrative Analyst William Clayton, Engineering Assistant Daniel Baguyo

Members of the public who registered their attendance: Fran Flanders.

**Public Comment:** None.

**1. Presentation of President’s Special Recognition Award Received from the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority for Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District’s Property and Workers Compensation Programs**

Director of Finance and Administration Yolanda Rodriguez explained the basis of the recognition program.

Director Ramirez acknowledged the increase in safety and reduction in liabilities.

**2. Discussion and Direction regarding 4-inch Pipeline Replacement near 9087 Avenida Miravilla in the Community of Cherry Valley**

*Director Hoffman recused himself from the discussion and left the room at 6:08 p.m.*

Senior Engineer Mark Swanson reminded the Board the property at 9087 Avenida Miravilla has been previously discussed. The three parcels have been merged and

were previously known as 9133 Nonie Court. In the February approval of the Will-Serve Letter (WSL), the Board conditioned the property to realign the 4-inch water line which serves six or seven parcels. The applicant requested a cost consideration, as the original condition to bring the line down Avenida Miravilla was cost prohibitive.

Swanson explained the two-phase plan for the pipeline realignment. The cost of Phase 1 is the burden of the applicant, and Phase 2 would be constructed by the District at a later time as indicated back in February, he noted. The plan is 90 percent complete and staff will need to work to execute an easement with Director Hoffman as the pipeline will run across his property as part of Phase 2.

The applicant may use the plan produced by staff and hire a contractor, and execute an easement as identified, Swanson continued. Phase 2 can be done on the District's timeline and the estimated cost for pipeline replacement is \$62,900. Swanson explained that one property has irrigation lines that may be affected. He asked the Board for direction as to the inclusion of the project in the Capital Improvement Plan.

General Manager Jagers provided additional detail on the determination of the alignment. The intent is to procure the materials through the annual services contract with the District's pipeline suppliers and complete the work with District labor.

President Covington asked for explanation of the alignment and why it is not being constructed in the street (Avenida Miravilla) as lines in backyards are always a problem, he noted. Mr. Swanson indicated that the narrow width (22 feet) of Avenida Miravilla could present a problem with tree roots and at the intersection of Avenida San Timoteo and Avenida Altura Bellathe southernmost property has an old brick wall that staff prefers to avoid damaging. He explained service lines that would be affected and noted increased costs along Avenida Miravilla, including pavement repair. Mr. Jagers pointed out problems with potential land disturbance as designated by the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan.

In response to President Covington, Mr. Swanson explained easement and ingress/egress needs. President Covington indicated he did not like the alignment and the idea of skirting two properties but said he understands the challenging issues.

Director Williams asked about other structures indicated on the plan, the timeline for Phase 2 and pipeline alignments in the vicinity already on the CIP. Swanson pointed out a storage shed and explained some of the engineering challenges. In response to Williams' funding question, Swanson noted the work has been identified as a project but has not been penciled in as part of the CIP. Williams suggested shifting funds from an identified project to the 4-inch pipeline. Jagers noted there are not issues with the other line currently and explained the services to lower houses. This is the "best-worst" solution as determined by staff, he said. The idea was to mitigate a leaky area and get it fixed, Jagers added; Williams asked about causation of additional leak issues and Jagers explained.

Director Williams asked about availability of funds for an additional project. Mr. Jagers noted that funds would be from the Capital Improvement reserves and reviewed expenses. Part of the labor costs are spent fixing leaks in the area, he noted.

In response to Director Ramirez, Swanson noted that staff has not evaluated options beyond Phase 2 as additional work may incur CEQA and other issues. Per prior direction, staff has worked to find the lowest cost, best solution, Jagers noted. Phase 1 is ready to proceed, he added.

Director Ramirez clarified some alignment details. Mr. Jagers suggested photos could be supplied at another meeting to satisfy the Board with a more significant understanding. Director Ramirez requested staff look at access along Avenida Miravilla and Mr. Swanson responded. President Covington suggested a field trip to the location.

Director Slawson inquired about the lines serving and crossing the pipeline. Mr. Swanson responded. Slawson asked about additional nearby problem areas, and Mr. Jagers explained that the other areas will need to be addressed in the future.

President Covington reiterated the need for a field trip. If feasible to spend a little more money and do more work, the pipelines need to be in roads not in yards, Covington stated. He indicated that Phase 1, although already discussed with the homeowner, is not installed or set in stone. Mr. Jagers interjected that staff moved forward based on direction from the Board at a meeting in the spring. The homeowner paid for the drawings to be prepared and staff did the work and participated in getting to Phase 1.

The Board has not approved the alignment; if the Board directs staff to change the Phase 1 drawings, the cost is on the District, Covington stated. Mr. Swanson said staff would look at other options prior to the field trip and in response to President Covington, confirmed that none of Phase 1 has been installed.

Director Ramirez clarified that he would like staff to look at feasibility and cost of Phase 2 taking a pipeline from the bend / break in the trees at Nonie Court across to Avenida Miravilla, then down the street.

*7:03 p.m. – Director Hoffman returned to the dais.*

### **3. Discussion of City of Beaumont-Approved Ordinance and Implementation of a Pavement Cut Moratorium**

General Manager Jagers indicated this item is related to the Beaumont Avenue pipeline activity expected to be discussed in the near future.

Mr. Swanson reported that the City of Beaumont approved the moratorium and has now implemented an ordinance as part of the CIP plan and pavement management plan to keep the pavement in good condition. This applies to all utilities in the streets. New streets or reconstructed streets will have a five-year moratorium; if the District has plans to replace a pipeline, but the City plans to repave that street sooner, the District will have to wait five years.

Exemptions include emergencies which endanger life, public health and safety, such as a leak, work mandated by legislation, or service to buildings or properties where no other reasonable means of providing service exist, Swanson explained.

This applies to new development and the District would have to apply to the City to be able to provide service.

Streets that are slurry sealed incur a three-year moratorium, Swanson noted. This is what spurred the Beaumont Avenue pipeline replacement project discussed last month, Swanson explained. Staff must now be cognizant of the CIP and what projects and problem areas might need to be addressed, such as the 9<sup>th</sup> Street project staff proposed last month.

President Covington asked if BCVWD had taken a position on the ordinance; Mr. Jagers said it did not. Covington pointed out that the District will be the entity most impacted. Mr. Jagers advised that staff will prepare a sequence of work that will target the areas the City will be working in and try to get in front of the activity.

Mr. Swanson advised that the ordinance also mandates the resurface area shall be a minimum of 12 feet wide for each traffic lane affected, as determined by Public Works sole discretion. Additionally, the resurface area shall extend a minimum of 25 feet long in both directions. Right now, the District resurfaces as necessary plus a few feet, but this will require more and increase the cost of leak repair.

Mr. Jagers said the City Engineer indicated that the next segment of Beaumont Avenue that would move forward is at least three years away.

Director Ramirez asked about potential variance to be provided to the water district. Mr. Swanson said there is a provision for the Public Works Director to grant a variance.

Mr. Jagers suggested a letter from the District requesting a variance on an ongoing basis.

Since this is after the fact, Ramirez said, he would support persistence with those letters requesting any variance on how much resurfacing needs to be redone, as that affects costs to the residents.

#### **4. Discussion regarding Sites Reservoir**

General Manager Jagers updated the Board. There will be a decision made in the spring regarding what, if any, participation the BCVWD and the San Geronio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) wants to have moving forward. The conundrum, he continued, is he is now hearing others realize the amounts of water being utilized by the retailers are probably lower than what are projected in the Urban Water Management Plans. Jagers reminded that he has previously suggested similarly, such as reductions in water use due to the new landscape laws.

BCVWD is participating in the Sites Reservoir project for 4,000 acre-feet (AF) of supply. This is probably a number that is needed, plus some, but what others think they need may change quite a bit, Jagers posited. The SGPWA is in for 10,000 AF, and if demands are diminishing, Jagers said, the amount should be reviewed.

With SGPWA General Manager Jeff Davis nearing the end of his tenure, Jagers continued, the BCVWD must be tracking this to know its participation. If allowed, the SGPWA will collect taxes to fund their component, he said, but they also anticipate collecting from the BCVWD \$2.8 million until 2035 for BCVWD's

component of the bond sales. He suggested examining the number to define the amount needed and understand it well before making a decision. Jagers said he will bring further information at the next workshop.

President Covington asked about progress on the project. Mr. Jagers said the SGPWA relayed that the project is stalled at the moment due to uncertainty about environmental costs and how much water needs to go to support the fish. The buy-in was delayed until April 2020 but decisions need to be made in January-February, Jagers explained.

The ideal project looks like the 1.3 to 1.5 million AF reservoir with relation to costs and discussion indicated the cost might range from \$600 per AF to \$900 per AF, Jagers reported. He contrasted that with the comparable cost of filtration facilities such as that being developed by Yucaipa Valley Water District.

Additionally, Jagers continued, post-2035, the compression on the East Branch Extension bond sales will disappear and the tax base side to BCVWD ratepayers should diminish by 50 percent. The water costs more, but the taxes go down, Jagers noted.

The final decision will be made if the Bay-Delta conveyance facility goes forward, Jagers said. There may be an opportunity to pick up capacity for those who do not want to participate in Sites, paid by tax base.

BCVWD has stayed in the project amid uncertainty, Jagers explained, because BCVWD wants to assure it has eggs in multiple baskets. President Covington said risk of the money on the table was understood and commented that if Sites begins to go sideways, or become too expensive, assure that the District is not in too deep. Jagers advised that the next decision is the one that has that potential. He suggested inviting Mr. Davis to give another presentation when appropriate.

President Covington indicated confidence in the continued vigilance of GM Jagers and said if Jagers is not comfortable with something, to let the Board know. Jagers said his goal is to keep the Board informed and assure there are no surprises.

## **5. Discussion of San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency 2019 Imported Water Rate**

Mr. Jagers drew attention to the previous discussion on rates and how much water is to be delivered for the coming year. If delivery rates continue, BCVWD will take delivery of approximately 14,000 AF in 2019. The SGPWA identified that the 2019 rate was to pay for half the cost of the Nickel Water lease this year, at \$1,932,000. As of September, the SGPWA had collected more than anticipated on the lease recovery, Jagers reported.

Jagers showed SGPWA revenues and expenses and noted that water deliveries are continuing. He compared the average annual wheeling rates and calculated that BCVWD may be paying more than its costs. The SGPWA indicated it would reconcile its costs in February. This is important because BCVWD currently has a figure plugged into the rate model which sets the first-year increase to 12 percent. If that number should be lower, Jagers continued, it affects BCVWD's rate model. Covington pointed out it is a pass-through and suggested preparing for a worst-

case scenario. Should the rate go down, he noted, the District is not over-collecting from its customers.

## **6. Update: Status of District Wells, Capital Improvements, and Engineering Projects**

Mr. Jagers updated the Board on the Noble tank and pipeline project. In response to President Covington, Jagers confirmed the capacity of the new welded steel tank is 2 million gallons and there is a 24-inch pipeline slated for Dutton Street. Jagers explained the location of the new tank near the old entrance to Bogart Park.

Staff is working with the Health Department on the well project, Jagers said. The pipeline replacement project is almost ready to go out to bid, he continued.

Progress has been made on the recycled water project with the City of Beaumont, Jagers reported. A booster station site has been identified, he said.

## **7. Update: Legislative Action and Issues Affecting BCVWD**

There was no discussion.

## **8. General Manager's Report**

General Manager Jagers explained the overflow of the Hannon Reservoir and balancing of the groundwater basin. He noted a potential problem with the CLA valve and said staff is addressing the issue.

Current flow to the recharge basins is at 34 cubic feet per second (cfs), Jagers noted. The SGPWA has indicated that 25 cfs flow rates may be available to the end of the year, he added. He has directed operations staff to slow the rate in order to perform any needed maintenance.

The SGPWA notified BCVWD that their ponds can now receive water, Jagers noted. BCVWD has been invited to use those basins to accept water, but the basins have not yet been tested. Covington advocated accepting all the water possible.

Jagers shared the updated plans for the recycled water plant and potential location for BCVWD's booster station. He explained detail on flow rates. BCVWD now needs to work on the cost agreement with the City, Jagers reported, and the Recycled Water 2x2 Committee should meet early next year to begin talking about the numbers, he said. Covington asked about the March 2020 deadline for the plant to come online. Jagers said the City has asked for an extension from the State Water Resources Control Board due to last year's rain delay and the Board is willing to consider it. They might have recycled water in the summer of 2020, Jagers noted, but BCVWD will not be ready until the summer or fall of 2021.

Mr. Jagers advised that consultants estimated \$170,000 to improve the Board Room acoustics. Staff looked at cost savings strategies and installed new microphones, adjusted the sensitivity of the system, replaced older wiring,

adjusted all speakers and repaired the recorder. The next step is to replace the monitors and the projector and screen with video monitors. A request was received for access to electronic documents and a low-cost solution is a Chromebook tablet, Jagers said. He noted that a higher-end sound study may be performed, but panels may be installed as a first option. He assured the Board that staff is striving for cost-effectiveness.

## 9. Topics for Future Meetings:

Director Ramirez asked if a date was set for a Communications Ad Hoc Committee meeting in December. Ms. Rodriguez indicated she needs confirmation from directors on a date.

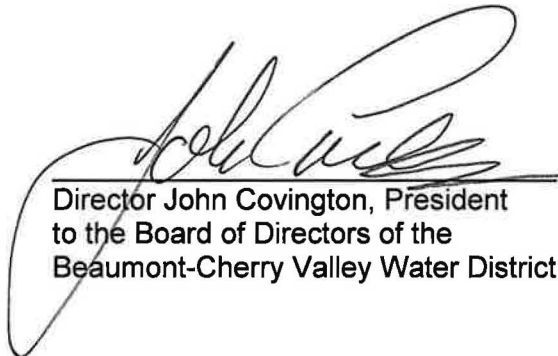
## 10. Announcements

*President Covington read the following announcements:*

- Personnel Committee meeting: Monday, Nov. 25, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.
- District Offices will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28, 2019 in observance of Thanksgiving Day
- Association of California Water Agencies Fall Conference: Dec. 3 - 6, 2019
- Beaumont Basin Watermaster Committee Meeting: Dec. 4, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
- Finance and Audit Committee Meeting: Dec. 5, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.
- Budget Workshop: Thurs., Dec. 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2019 at 6 p.m.


## 11. Adjournment

*President Covington adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.*



Director John Covington, President  
to the Board of Directors of the  
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

ATTEST:



Director Andy Ramirez, Secretary  
to the Board of Directors of the  
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District