

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
MARCH 1, 2010**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The Communications Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on March 1, 2010 was called to order by Chairperson O'Leary at 10:34 a.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Chairperson O'Leary presiding.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Member O'Leary  
Member Mathes  
Member Vega  
Member Romani  
Member Atkins  
Member Sowden

**Absent:** Member Crampton

**Also Present:** General Manager Seymour, Board Secretary Washburn

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no public comments.

**COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS**

4. **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Ms. Atkins reported on difficulties that prevented her from attending the committee's February meeting. She also requested periodic updates on state snowpack readings and reservoir storage levels.

Mr. Vega noted that a water heater emergency likewise prevented him from attending the committee's February meeting.

Ms. Romani reported she gave the Communications Committee's monthly report at the RMWD Regular meeting in February. She noted it was the first time she had attended a RMWD Board meeting and commented on the lively audience interaction that had occurred.

Mr. O'Leary advised that he may need another committee member to substitute for him taking minutes and preparing a draft agenda if a planned family-related trip comes to fruition soon.

Mr. Sowden noted the uncertainty and potential difficulties that surfaced for his agriculture-related company as a result of the recent Chilean earthquake.

**\*5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. February 1, 2010**

Minutes were approved by a 5-0-1 vote.

**6. REPORT ON COMMITTEE CHANGES OR POTENTIAL NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER(S)**

No changes in committee membership and no new expressions of interest were reported.

**7. STATUS REPORT AND POTENTIAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEASURES PERTAINING TO THE RUPTURED PIPELINE BENEATH SAN LUIS REY RIVER AND THE HIGHWAY 76 WIDENING PROJECT**

General Manager Dave Seymour gave a detailed report on the status of the ruptured pipeline below the San Luis Rey River and the potential impacts on the District as a result of the soon-to-unfold work to widen a segment of Highway 76. Numerous committee members asked questions about those projects and staff's plans to issue press releases as more details become known on those key items.

**8. UPATE ON THE NORTHSIDE RESERVOIR COVER PROJECT AND THE BID STATUS OF THE MORRO RESERVOIR**

Mr. Seymour updated the committee on the status of the district's pending reservoir projects. Several committee members asked follow-up questions and requested that additional information be provided as it becomes available and that the reservoir issues remain a discussion item on future committee agendas.

**9. UPDATE ON BOARD ACTIONS OF FEBRUARY 23, 2010 PERTAINING TO FUTURE RATES, POSSIBLE NOVEMBER ELECTION AND OTHER ISSUES PERTAINING TO RESERVOIR COVERING PROJECTS**

Mr. Seymour reported that (at the request of a director) the RMWD Board would discuss future rte issues and infrastructure payment options at its March 23 meeting. The renewal of interest within the Rainbow Board prompted a brief discussion, but no recommendations, on the part of the committee.

**10. STATUS ON PRESS RELEASE PDATE ON BOARD ACTIONS OF JANUARY 26, 2010 PERTAINING TO FUTURE RATES, POSSIBLE JUNE ELECTION AND OTHER ISSUES PERTAINING TO RESERVOIR COVERING PROJECTS**

Due to the anticipated return of the rates/reservoir funding issues before the Board, committee members agreed that no public information steps should be taken on that matter at this time. Committee members went on to discuss possible methods of publicizing district highlights, key infrastructure issues and a possible survey on the future viability of the local agricultural industry. It was suggested that perhaps the committee should revisit the idea of a quarterly or periodic brochure that could augment the newsletter that is distributed to ratepayers along with their monthly bills. The potential benefits and difficulties of such an adjunct publication were discussed by committee members. Mr. Sowden and Mr. Vega offered to examine potential formats of such publication and report back to committee members before or during their next regular meeting. Mr. Vega also recommended that the committee determine if it can help staff with a "quick turnaround" approach to certain press releases. That concept was also discussed and staff, Mr. Vega and other committee members said they would continue to explore various options.

**11. STATUS REPORT ON A PRESS RELEASE OR FEATURETTE REGARDING DISTRICT 2009 HIGHLIGHTS**

This item was discussed under Item #10 herein.

**12. UPCOMING NEWSLETTER TOPICS**

Upcoming newsletter terms, as well as the possible need for future submittals by committee members, were discussed and agreed upon.

**13. LIST OF SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT SCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Future agenda items were suggested. In addition, several committee members recommended that discussions on future newsletter items be moved to a higher location on the regular agendas.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjusted at 12:10 p.m.

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**Tim O'Leary, Committee Chairperson**

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**Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary**