

COLORADO RIVER REGIONAL SEWER COALITION
September 24, 2009
Annual Board of Directors' Meeting
2360 McCulloch Blvd., North, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403
Police Facility

ATTENDEES

Voting Membership Present

Mayor Jack Hakim	City of Bullhead City
Mayor Mark Nexsen	Lake Havasu City
Andy Jones	Colorado River Sewage Systems (JV)
Tom Sockwell	Mohave County (by phone)
Ronald Zegers	Southern Nevada Water Authority
Sandy Pierce	La Paz County Board of Supervisors
Lori Wedemeyer	Town of Parker
Jim Nafsey	Metropolitan Water District of So. Cal.
Cheryl Sallis	City of Needles

Also Present

Terry Brady	Bracy, Tucker, Brown & Valanzano (by phone)
Tracy Tucker	Bracy, Tucker, Brown & Valanzano (by phone)
Michael Bracy	Bracy, Tucker, Brown & Valanzano (by phone)
Brandon Avila	Bracy, Tucker, Brown & Valanzano (by phone)
Susan Betts	Bullhead City
Bob Leuck	Bullhead City
Mark Clark	Lake Havasu City
Doyle Wilson	Lake Havasu City
Charlie Cassens	Lake Havasu City
Kevin Murphy	PBS&J

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Nexsen called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. Roll call was taken and it was determined that there is a quorum.

1. Election of Officers:

- a. Vice Chairman Hakim made a motion to reappoint Chairman Nexsen as Chairman. Lori Wedemeyer seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.
- b. Cheryl Sallis made a motion to appoint Vice Chairman Hakim as Vice Chairman. Andy Jones seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.
- c. Cheryl Sallis made a motion to appoint Chairman Nexsen as Secretary. Andy Jones seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.

- d. Andy Jones made a motion to appoint William Way as Treasurer. Vice Chairman Hakim seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.

2. Secretary's Report—Mark Nexsen

The July 8, 2009 minutes were presented for approval. Andy Jones made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Sandy Pierce seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.

3. Treasurer's Report – Cheryl Sallis

Cheryl commented that Chairman Nexsen had revised the current treasures report. Currently there is a negative \$110,000 in the legislative advocacy account and in the operations account there is a positive \$163,000. Cash as of the writing of this treasurer's report was \$52,654.97. Andy Jones made a motion to approve the treasurer's as written. Vice Chairman Hakim seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Motion carries.

4. Discussion of Legislative Advocacy Activities – Chairman Mark Nexsen, Terry Bracy, Tracy Tucker, Michael Bracy, Brandon Avila

Tracy Tucker spoke about Representative Grijalva's bill, HR 3481 and their combined efforts with the CRRSCo leadership to generate support for the bill. They met with the offices of Representative Mitchell, Representative Franks and Representative Pastor as well as Representative Grijalva's to outline the importance of the bill to the state of Arizona and why a collective approach to protecting the Colorado River is most beneficial. The Members are considering their position on the bill. They are continuing to work with them and the other Arizona delegation offices to secure their support. They are encouraging the CRRSCo Board to remain vigilant in generating local support for the bill and writing their members of Congress to encourage them to sign on as co-sponsors.

Outside of HR 3481, Tracy Tucker highlighted a couple of legislative issues from our report to the Board including the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's hearing on a bill, H.R. 3202, The Water Protection and Reinvestment Act. The bill provides close to \$10 billion a year for clean water projects through new taxes on corporate income and the sale of containers of water-based beverages, water disposal project and pharmaceutical products. In addition, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee drafted a bill to create 10 pilot water resource management councils. These councils would not be dissimilar from the management conference that is established in Representative Grijalva's bill, HR 3481. They are monitoring both bills.

Finally, Tracy Tucker mentioned that the Department of Interior is launching a number of initiatives focused on identifying climate change impacts on waterways and studies of three Western water basins, including the Colorado River Basin.

5. Discussion regarding CRRSCo priority projects for the Federal Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations Bill

Susan Betts reviewed the “CRRSCo Priority Project Request” form, which was prepared in an effort to simplify the process for CRRSCo members to submit project proposals for the board’s consideration as the Board establishes CRRSCo priorities on an annual basis. The Board agreed that members in order to meet application deadlines and avoid having to call a special meeting.

6. Discussion and direction regarding a proposal for a cooperative water quality database program involving CRRSCo and the Bureau of Reclamation of the Lower Colorado Region

Bob Leuck presented an outline of the proposed CRRSCo/BoR Cooperative Database program, which would create a database of water quality data for both surface and groundwater along the Lower Colorado River for use by the general public, legislators, government officials and others. The BoR had originally approached CRRSCo about the possibility of developing such a database through their cooperative program at a special CRRSCo Board Meeting held at Metropolitan Water District’s Gene Camp in July, 2008 but due to funding limitations the discussions were placed on hold last year, however discussion at the Multi-Agency meeting in Boulder City in April of this year emphasized the need for such a database, along with questions that have arisen from the staff of some federal legislators working on legislature for protecting the River, and as a result the interest for the cooperative database was renewed. Based on this, staff from various CRRSCo agencies met with representatives of the BoR this summer and developed the proposed program, which is described in three documents which had been sent to all CRRSCo Board members prior to the meeting (Agreement, Plan of Study and Fiscal Year 2010 Task Order). The CRRSCo member staff that worked with the BoR to develop these documents consisted of Andy Jones from the Colorado River Sewage Systems Joint Venture (Andy is also a member of the CRRSCo Board), Jim Nafsey from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Jim is also a member of the CRRSCo Board), Doyle Wilson and Greg Froslie from Lake Havasu City and Susan Betts and Bob Leuck from Bullhead City. The program would be for a maximum of 7 years, with annual task orders approved by both CRRSCo and the BoR that will identify the scope, funding and in-kind requirements for each agency each year. In this manner, neither agency is obligated financially or resource-wise for anything other than what is identified each year when the task order is approved. The goal of the program is to develop a database that eventually would be taken over for maintenance and update by CRRSCo, although until that time the BoR will have full responsibility for it, but the decision of whether CRRSCo will take over the database in the future is not required until completion of this current 7-year program.

Staff indicated that due to budgetary constraints for all CRRSCo members, discussion with the BoR and the development of the program, especially for the first or more years, had centered around CRRSCo members committing their staff to provide in-kind services in the form of staff time and effort to development the database, obtain data from a variety of sources to include in the database, and assist with the development of the interfaces that the general public and other users of the data would use to access the data. Because each year is evaluated and presented to CRRSCo and the BoR separately, if additional funds become available to assist with other related tasks, such as additional sampling or testing of the River or the adjacent groundwaters, those could be considered however if funding is not available or staff resources are otherwise committed elsewhere, neither agency is obligated to perform beyond what is included in that current years’ approved task order.

It was noted that the program was set up with one member of CRRSCo being designated the primary representative that would be responsible to respond to the BoR and provide information to the CRRSCo Board, and that the BoR would designate one person to be their representative, and further, that the BoR would be the Project Manager as identified in the agreement. The intent was that CRRSCo would assign other member staff to serve on a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), which the designated CRRSCo representative would lead, to work directly with the BoR staff assigned to the program to develop and ultimately implement the database.

Members of the CRRSCo Board agreed that the cooperative database could provide benefits to the efforts of the legislators, government officials, lobbyists and others that are attempting to solicit funding for work along the Colorado River to protect water quality, however some of the members had concerns relative to the terminology used in the agreement and other documents, particularly the use of the "study" and "project" as opposed to the term "program". It was felt by the CRRSCo Board that program more accurately defines the intent of the effort and they were in favor of using that terminology in the various documents. Becky Blasius from the BoR then addressed the Board and advised that due to the type of funding and agreement being used for this database development, the federal regulations don't allow the use of the term "program" specifically because in the federal jargon program can mean something differently, however after considerable discussion Becky and CRRSCo's attorney, Maureen George, felt that they could come up with some language that met the desires of the CRRSCo Board and did not create a conflict with the BoR regulations. The Board then approved the program, subject to the changes in language regarding "program" versus "study" or "project" that Becky Blasius and Maureen George would develop, and the Board authorized the Chairman to sign said agreement once he is comfortable that the language developed is adequate.

The Board also designated Andy Jones as the primary representative for CRRSCo to the agreement, and further designated Jim Nafsey, Doyle Wilson, Greg Froslie, Bob Leuck and Peggy Rofer of Southern Nevada Water Authority to serve on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for this program.

Terry Bracy also commented that the water quality database project is not intended to forestall, but to create a continuing source of expert/professional information. CRRSCo Board Members agreed with him.

7. The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 17, 2009 in Lake Havasu City at 11:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. A vote was taken on the motion with all in favor. Chairman Nexsen declared the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.