



**Mariposa County
Department of Public Works**

Airport – Cemeteries – Engineering – Facilities
Fleet Maintenance – Parks & Rec – Plant Operations
Roads – Solid Waste – Surveyor – Transportation

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MARIPOSA COUNTY WATER AGENCY ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

May 27, 2021

Members Present: Michael Martin, John McCamman, Robert Keller,
Art Baggett

Members Absent: Brenda Ostrum, Daniel Hankemeier, Sonny Palmer

MPUD Ex Officio: Susan Wages

BOS Liaison Present: Marshall Long

County Staff Present: Steve Dahlem, Jean Dordan,

Guests: Melinda Barrett

1. **Call to order:** 1:03 pm.
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. **Elect Chair:** John McCamman (M) Mike Martin (S) Bob Keller
4. **Elect Vice Chair:** Art Baggett (M) Mike Martin (S) Bob Keller
5. **Approve minutes:** January 23, 2020 (M) Art Baggett (S) Mike Martin
March 5, 2020 (M) Art Baggett (S) Mike Martin with
correction to remove Mike Martin from attendance (listed twice).
6. **Action Items:**
 - a. **Final Approval of the letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the MID Settlement.**

The Governor has proposed a 5.1-billion-dollar water bill. This should create a lot of focus on water projects in the near future.

The Water Agency Advisory Board is ready to present a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding a feasibility study for future water project for Mariposa County consistent with the MID settlement. Marshall Long speaks of the possibility of a water irrigation district by drawing water out of Lake McClure for farming or recreation. Hornitos and North County have a need for water.

We are allowed 8,000-acre feet without charge under current water rights consistent with the settlement and which is a class 2 use. Mike Healy offers that Public Works could do an RFP.

Supervisor Marshall Long would like for the Board of Supervisors to stop the County from spending settlement monies on other uses. The issues that will be addressed to the Board will be a feasibility study for future projects including Maxwell Creek and Bean Creek. There is an amount equal to a portion of the power revenues not to exceed \$300,000 annually that goes to the General Fund. The consensus is that these funds should be used for water projects only.

Also in the letter is question of what roll the advisory group will play in the future which will hopefully be to continue to actively participate in water and MID settlement discussions and decisions. Robert Keller asks who does the accounting for monies which have been received which is the County Administrative Officer.

Mike Martin suggests quarterly meetings as needed to be scheduled for the 4th Thursday of the second month and any additional meetings needed.

Steve Dahlem relays edits to the letter as follows: Page 1 change the word underlaying to underlying. Page 2 Paragraph 2 first sentence does not make sense and requires clarification. Page 2 Paragraph three, second sentence remove extra word "the". Page 3 Paragraph 2 clarify Water Agency Advisory Board or WAAB by removing the word "group" .

Supervisor Long relays that there is room in language to do a project there within the Wild & Scenic Act. We do have water and diversion rights. Motion to submit the letter to the Board of Supervisors (M) Art Baggett (S)Robert Keller. Art Baggett wants the WAAB to review the water bond an any other legislation regarding water.

Mike Martin is concerned about having a quorum in the future since members are not attending scheduled meeting. Jean Dordan is asked to reach out to those members for future interest in the WAAB.

7. Discussion Items:

a. Public Works update on status of Coulterville, Yosemite West, and Don Pedro Districts

Mike Healy talks of special districts and needs of those areas. He wants to change rates Yosemite West. Lake Don Pedro is a non-sustaining district. Talks of Prop 218. Nature Bridge cannot get water at this time. There will be a need to go through environmental process.

b. Status of the Water Agency Advisory Board

Discussed above

5. Set next meeting Date and Time: TBD

6. Adjourn: Meeting Adjourned at 2:01 PM (M) John McCamman (S) Mike Martin

****Agenda item for quarterly meeting and meetings as needed in the future, SIGMA , ground water Merced County, water legislation**