

AGENDA ITEM:   A-1  

DATE:   June 19, 2014  

ACTION:   APPROVED  

SYNOPSIS MINUTES – MORRO BAY PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING – MARCH 12, 2014  
VETERAN’S HALL – 6:00 P.M.

Chairperson Makowetski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:	Matt Makowetski	Chairperson
	Janith Goldman	Board Member
	Marlys McPherson	Board Member
	Deborah Owen	Board Member
	Ron Burkhart	Vice-Chairperson
	Stephen Shively	Board Member
STAFF:	Rob Livick	Public Services Director
	Rick Sauerwein	Capital Projects Manager
	Damaris Hanson	Engineering Technician IV

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER  
MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

A. WORKSHOP

Livick provided an update on water and presented the Water Conservation Measures and Retrofit program.

Boardmember McPherson asked what percent of water is being used by residents, commercial, and landscaping. Livick stated between 85-90 % are residential and 15 % commercial, noting the City does not keep track of irrigation use.

Boardmember Shively asked what sets the acre feet per year amount. Livick stated it is based on planned capacity, noting the community uses about 1170 acre feet per year, the Desal plant produced 645 acre feet from salt water, and on the brackish water side, full production is about 11 acre per feet.

Boardmember Owen asked about permanent conservation and if there is a way to promote long term conservation. Livick stated keeping the message out in the public to continue to conserve with easy tips as well as surveys.

Boardmember Burkhart questioned the efficiency of tank less water heaters stating that he had heard they don’t last very long. Livick stated he doesn’t have any direct experience, but asked if any of the contractors in the audience has experience with them.

Chairperson Makowetski opened Public Comment period.

Gordon Thomas, Morro Bay resident, recommended desalting sea water to increase potable water supply. Thomas also suggested a massive desalting the plant could generate revenue for the City and help solve water supply shortages in outlying areas.

Chris Parker, Morro Bay resident, local architect and builder, stated he has used tankless water heaters designed for the whole house and has had no problems with them. Parker suggested using a grey water system from the washing machine for irrigation.

Chairperson Makowetski asked about limitations using grey water. Livick stated it is allowable in the plumbing code, noting if used for irrigation it needs to do be subsurface.

Paul Nagy, Morro Bay resident, asked if the water that comes from the Waste Water Treatment Plant is clean enough for car washing. Livick stated not presently. Nagy suggested increasing the use of non-potable water, look at increased use of the hot water recirculation system, and advocated a reasonable increase in water impact fees. Nagy also suggested exploratory drilling in the hills behind Panorama to see if there is water up there.

Kirk Najarian, Morro Bay resident, stated residents should be working on being self-sufficient and not having to rely on State water, or generating new sources of water supply.

Cathy Novak, Morro Bay resident, suggested recirculating water pumps for new homes and retrofitting existing older homes.

Michael Lucas, Morro Bay resident and local architect, endorses conservation and suggested putting in a grey water system for larger scale new single family homes.

John Heading, Morro Bay resident, asked if there is a plan to communicate new policies that are adapted to the Community. He asked what resources the City has for enforcement and will residents be held accountable for excessive water usage. He also, suggested using solar panels for production to run the Desal plant.

Chairperson Makowetski closed the Public Comment period.

Boardmember Burkhart asked what it would cost to get rain barrels or tankless water heaters. Livick stated City is looking into rebate programs.

Boardmember Owen asked what is the policing of the water usage for residents. Livick stated that all staff members are out and about in the community, while not part of their regular job duties but do some educating while out on daily routines with pamphlets and cards.

Sauerwein suggested neighbors should be good examples for one another by reducing irrigation for landscaping with xeroscaping, which uses native plants that require little water usage.

Boardmember Shively stated using a high pressure low volume pressure washer compared to a garden hose. Livick stated the City is trying to come up with more efficient cleanup methods on the waterfront and liked the high pressure washer idea.

Boardmember McPherson asked what the cost is for water smart ideas and who pays for it. Livick stated it would come out of water rates. Livick also stated the program for the first year is about \$1.20 per month per customer and drops to about half the second year.

Boardmember McPherson asked if there are any types of landscaping for new single family residents. Livick stated there is a landscaping guideline.

Gar Salsgaber, Morro Bay resident asked about percolating systems.

Gordon Thomas suggested replacing lawns with fake lawns as it will kill weeds, let rain infiltrate, and is a good way to conserve water.

Livick stated anyone who wants to provide comments can email staff.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled Public Works Advisory Board Meeting at the Veteran's Hall, 209 Surf St., on Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.