

APPROVED

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 17 MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 24, 2025

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ronald Marks, Christopher Shubeck
Steven Price

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg McHugh, Neil Sokoler

COMMITTEE MEMBER VACANCY: None

STAFF: Paul Chan, Director Water & Sanitation
Art Aseo, Deputy Director
Sean Hanley,
Jean Fontayne, Staff Services Manager-zoom
Homer Arredondo, Engineering Manager-zoom
Sara Negrete, Principal Accountant

GUESTS: * * *

1. CALL TO ORDER - The Meeting was called to order at 2:03 PM.
2. Approval of the Minutes of July 15, 2025, Meeting. Steven Price asked for a motion to pass the minutes. Christopher Shubeck voted in favor and Ronald Marks second in favor of passing the minutes.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT
Steven Price told us that there is a leak in the neighborhood. Sean Hanley took note to pass on the addresses of 159 Dabble Grey or 1 Sturup.
Steven Price wanted us to know that Neil Sokoler is not happy about having the meetings scheduled during the day, as Neil will never be able to attend a meeting. It was decided we will have the next meeting at the same time 2:00 PM and Steven will speak to Neil and Greg about the time, and a decision will be made for the next meeting. Earlier might be good for all the CAC Members at 9:00AM. Steve will speak with everyone and contact Paul if the meeting needs to change from 2:00PM to another time.
4. DISTRICT STAFF REPORT–
 - A. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REVIEW-An update on the budget and financial status of the District
 - o The past six months our sales were low.
 - o Based on water sales you will reach about 3 million, short 500K in revenue. Expenses about 3 million, so it will be a break even.
 - B. PROJECTS
CAPITAL PROJECTS – Status Report provides regular reporting on the

status of active capital projects within the district.

CEQA approval. Steve suggests we keep this project on hold. The project is financially out of control. We are continuing the design, but Steve asked why should we design something that will never be completed. We decided to live with what we have and just do repairs and line replacements. The CEQA process has AB367 for the fire flow requirement for Ventura County. Fire flow requirements for high fire danger areas which is what Bell Canyon is. Bell Canyon has no Wells, but the pumps you have are owned by Simi Valley. Paul is speaking with Simi Valley regarding how they manage the pumps for Bell Canyon. Chris suggested maybe working around the management of how the project is put together and work on the reservoir project just in case. Chris said in the future it could be beneficial not just for fire flow but to balance the system. Ron asked the creek pipeline, that has failed in the past. Is there a design difference in how it would be addressed today vs. once the reservoir is in place? Homer said the pipeline that goes down into canyon does not affect the reservoir, however it could improve the reservoir because we had planned on replacing it with a larger pipeline. The project had both the reservoir and pipeline bundled into this project. Homer said, in our next budget year, we are planning to do Bell Canyon Reservoir 1 repair and recoating project. Depending on staff availability. Timeline not available yet. Steve wants to know the last time we recoated. Homer said, it is unknown at the moment, but you should recoat every 15-20 years.

C. O&M UPDATE

WATER SALES TO BUDGET, SYSTEMS STATUS AND AMI

- Good year for rain, but not for water sales. Simi Valley is charging WWD17 less for water than Calleguas charges them. Simi Valley is aware of this, and billing will be reflecting changes.
- 8" Cast Iron Mainline Leak. This mainline predates WWD17.
- Three service leaks
- AMI is that WWD17 is still on top with the most recorded customers signed up. Always room for more.

5. DIRECTORS INFORMATIONAL ITEMS- Provides the opportunity for the Director to present items that are not within the subject matter of the district's Staff Report.

A. HOA/EQUESTRIAN CENTER WATER USAGE

- HOA Water is high. The usage has spiked up and the CAC Board wants to know why the spike December 2025-January 2026

B. CALLEGUAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT/METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA UPDATE- An update on decisions and rulings by these agencies may impact on the District.

- Simi Valley will likely get an upscale charge on a fixed charge by

Calleguas, therefore if we get that charge it will be passed onto the customers. Meaning they don't want to have variable they want to have a fixed fee based on the past 10 years. We will notify you.

- Calleguas is looking into a desalter.
- Reclaimed Water would be wonderful for savings and conservation. Cost savings would be a 50% reduction. Paul will look into Simi Valley to be supplying reclaimed water to WWD17.
- Paul is working with Simi Valley on the AB367 Compliance. Critical infrastructure, back up power etc. is required.
- We are doing a 5-year frame rate increase. It would work on the rate increase and capital improvement plan.

- C. BOARD LETTER TRACKER-UPDATE ON VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEMS RELATED TO THE DISTRICT- A status report on what items District staff has recently presented, or may be presented, before the Ventura County Board of Supervisors.

None

- D. UPDATE ON AVENUES OF PUBLIC OUTREACH – How the District is reaching out to its customers concerning water conservation.

None

6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Good news on the environmental cleanup in Simi Valley, but it may be decades to get it finished.

Two action items:

- How Bell Canyon's projects can be segmented but continue to move on for CEQA.
- Look at the peak for HOA
- Reclaimed line from Simi Valley to Bell Canyon.

7. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM

Next regularly scheduled District 17 CAC Meeting will be held on May 26, 2026.