

APPROVED

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 17 MINUTES OF THE JULY 15, 2025

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg McHugh

COMMITTEE MEMBER VACANCY: None

STAFF: Jeff Palmer, Assistant Agency Director PWA
Art Aseo, Deputy Director
Jean Fontayne, Staff Services Manager-zoom
Sara Negrete, Accountant II-zoom
Homer Arredondo, Engineering Manager-zoom

GUESTS: * * *

1. CALL TO ORDER - The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.
2. Approval of the Minutes of January 21, 2025, Meeting. Steve Price asked for motion to approve the minutes, Neil Sokoler 2nd the motion. All Members present approved of the minutes.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - Steve Price asked, any update on finding who hit the fire hydrant? Jeff, whenever there is damage to anything (a public system) and we identify the person, we have to prove this incident happened by this person. Risk management will find out the cost and make sure the person responsible will financially replace the damaged item(s). The cost is somewhere around \$1500 plus any other damage. Could be up to 1,000 gallons of wasted water. The person who has been found has the right to contest.
 - What is the status of the Director of Water & Sanitation. We have another candidate who has been chosen to be the Director, and they will be starting at the end of August. Jeff is the interim acting Director.
4. DISTRICT STAFF REPORT
 - A. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REVIEW – An update on the budget and financial status of the District.
 - Ending balance on the financial pages is very stable. Revenue vs. how much time staff is putting in, it looks very good. The aging of your system is going very well. Down the road we may want to put some money away for your future aging system over time.

B. PROJECTS

CAPITAL PROJECTS – Status Report provides regular reporting on the status of active capital projects within the district

- Steve asked about water on the construction project. To date we've spent \$555,771 is for the Reservoir that is not going to take place anymore. Correct, we are going to leave everything the way it is and if we get a larger Grant we can take up where we left off. More is going to be spent in addition to the \$555,000? A little more will be spent to close out this project. SEQUA plus is going to be mitigated to ensure we are going to take advantage of federal/state funds, should they become available to us. Homer, can you explain about the creek crossing waterline between Balboa and Stagecoach. This project is still going to be designed. Our plan is to get a design and reassess as a District to decide if we will continue with the project to get a better idea of the costs to replace that line. There has been a lot of erosion more so than what we thought with the existing soils. We will know more when we get a better design. This is an area where we have had long-term pressure concerns. In the future we may continue with this even if we do not continue with the reservoir.

C. O&M UPDATE

WATER SALES TO BUDGET, SYSTEMS STATUS AND AMI

- Water Efficiency-we are very close to tracking based on the weather and conditions.
- Mainline Leaks-None in 2025
- Service Leak-1 in 2025. At someone's house, break in the system. Usually on the private side of the system. What we have has been very minor.
- AMI Report, District 17 is doing better than any other district. North of 50% would be great. We will still try to reach out to people.

5. DIRECTOR'S 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

- On track with what we expect.

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

- Calleguas is still working very hard to have all the water districts talk about connections. Asking if a water district would be able to serve other districts at a functional level, if needed. The agencies will have to figure

Minutes of the Ventura County Waterworks District No. 17
Citizens' Advisory Committee Meeting
Ventura County Water and Sanitation
Minutes of the July 15, 2025

out cost efficiencies.

Everyone is starting to talk and figure out how to get there.

C. BOARD LETTER TRACKER-UPDATE ON VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEMS RELATED TO THE DISTRICT

- Calleguas water rates will be coming up and we will have those discussions at the next meeting.

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

6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- At the last meeting, the minutes discussed paper billing, will we be able to provide paper billing to our customers? Jeff said, yes, we will be providing paper billing and the bar graph that shows if your water is up or down, that was previously on the bills, will be on the bills again.
- The new Director, will he be here at the next meeting? Jeff answered, yes, he will be at the next meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM
Next Meeting October 7, 2025.