

**AMADOR WATER AGENCY  
Board of Directors  
Special Meeting**

**September 10, 2015**

**MINUTES**

**Directors Present:** Rich Farrington, President  
Robert Manassero, Vice President  
Paul Molinelli  
Gary Thomas  
Art Toy

**Directors Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Gene Mancebo, General Manager  
Cris Thompson, Assistant General Manager  
Damon Wyckoff, Operations Manager  
Josh Horowitz, Agency Counsel

**CALL TO ORDER**- President Farrington called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

**AGENCY GENERAL**

Possible Action Regarding Response to August 27, 2015 Letter from Bill Condrashoff  
Alleging Brown Act Violation

President Farrington read a letter into the record (attached)

**MOTION:** It was moved by Director Thomas, seconded by Director Toy and unanimously carried to reiterate support for the Agency's new water rate structure and to ratify the August 12, 2015 letter the Board sent out to the Agency customers stating the Agency's support of the new structure.

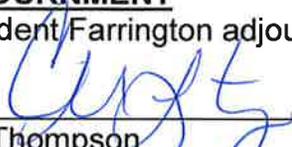
**Public Comment:**

Mr. David Evitt  
Mr. Jim Conklin, Amador County Business Council

Direction to legal counsel to draft a letter of response to Mr. Condrashoff's claim of Brown Act violation

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Farrington adjourned the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

  
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Cris Thompson  
Clerk of the Board of Directors

Approved: 9-24-15

**A Statement of AWA Board President Rich Farrington Introducing Public Action Item  
regarding response to August 27, 2015 Brown Act Violation Letter**

A member of the public delivered a letter at the August 27, 2015 Board meeting alleging that the Board violated the Brown Act in preparing the letter concerning the Agency's drought-related financial crisis. I first want to stress that the Agency's Board of Directors and staff take their obligations under the Brown Act seriously and work to comply with the Act's requirements at all times.

In regard to the allegations of a Brown Act violation in the August 27 letter, I would like to summarize the facts. First The Complaint says that the Board met and or conferred to approve the Board's letter mailed to customers. This did not happen. On July 24, I appointed myself and Director Molinelli as an ad hoc committee to address the RPA's opposition to the new Agency water rate structure adopted by the Board on July 21, 2015 and with the intent of preparing information regarding that petition. Based on the discussions at the many meetings at which the Board considered the proposed new water rate structure in which the Board members unanimously expressed support for the new rate structure's new revenues to protect the Agency's already precarious financial position, the ad hoc committee understood that the Board would support the writing of a letter to the editor and ratepayers explaining the need for the new water rates and potential impacts on the Agency if the rates were not adopted. Based on that understanding, the ad hoc committee members draft a letter to that effect. At the committee's direction, staff prepared the final letter and submitted it to the newspaper and printer.

Because it apparently is not clear to the public how the letter was prepared and to make it clear to the public that the Board supports the letter, I would entertain a motion from the Board to reiterate our support for the Agency's new water rate structure and to ratify the letter as stating the Board's position on the new water rate structure.