

ORDINANCE NO. 04065

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY  
REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 3672 AND ENACTING IN ITS PLACE, THIS ORDINANCE  
REGULATING THE LICENSING OF DOCKS AT NACIMIENTO LAKE AND  
ESTABLISHING DOCK LICENSING FEES

**County Counsel Summary**

*This ordinance repeals Ordinance No. 3672 and enacts in its place, this ordinance, pertaining to licensing of docks at Lake Nacimiento, to provide (1) for an increase in dock fees from \$40 to \$60, (2) for an increase in additional slip fee from \$15 to \$20, (3) that a dock use commercially acceptable flotation material and specified dock anchorage, (4) that applicant show proof of property ownership, such as a copy of tax bill or deed, where the dock is to be moored, or, in the alternative, provide a letter from a property owner granting permission for mooring, (5) that a dock constructed prior to the effective date of this ordinance be accepted for licensure if it meets the provisions of this ordinance, (6) that a disposal fee shall be charged to the property owner and/or licensee for any dock determined to be a nuisance, with such a fee being \$300 for single slip docks and \$125 for each additional slip, and (7) that the Agency has the right to remove moored docks not in compliance with this ordinance.*

The Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency repeals Ordinance No. 3672 and enacts, in its stead, this ordinance, to read as follows:

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF PRIOR ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. 3672 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply in this ordinance:

- (a) "Agency" is the Monterey County Water Resources Agency.
- (b) "Lake Nacimiento" or "lake" is the reservoir impounded by Nacimiento Dam in the County of San Luis Obispo.
- (c) "General Manager" is the General Manager of the Agency, or an employee of the Agency authorized to act on behalf of the General Manager.
- (d) "Dock" is any structure, raft, or vessel designed to float on water and not designed primarily for transport.
- (e) "Supervisors" is the Board of Supervisors of the Agency.

(f) "Licensing year" is the period from April 1 of any year to March 31 of the succeeding year.

(g) "Highwater mark" means the elevation or contour line that would be reached by the water in Lake Nacimiento when the lake is at the top of the dam spillway, elevation 800 feet. The lake is considered full when it is at the highwater mark.

(h) "Licensee" is the person who applies for a dock license and the person to whom the license is issued.

### SECTION 3. DOCK LICENSE REQUIRED

It shall be unlawful for any person to construct, moor, maintain, own, operate or use any dock on or in the waters of Lake Nacimiento unless said dock is first licensed by the Agency in conformity with this ordinance.

### SECTION 4. INITIAL AND RENEWAL LICENSES

(a) A dock license must be obtained from the Agency for each dock initially proposed to be constructed or placed within the highwater mark at Lake Nacimiento, in anticipation of floating such dock in the waters of Lake Nacimiento, before such dock is so constructed or placed. Such license shall be required, even though, at the time the dock is placed or constructed within the highwater mark, the lake bed is dry or partially dry. The license so issued shall expire on March 31 of the calendar year following the year in which the license is issued.

(b) Following the initial year of issuance, each dock license must be renewed on or before April 1 each licensing year during which the dock is left, reinstalled, or refloated on or in the waters of Lake Nacimiento. The renewal license shall expire on March 31 of the succeeding year. If a previously registered dock has been removed from the water or left high and dry and is not refloated until after April 1, the renewal of the license may be deferred, provided that the dock shall not be refloated until after issuance of the renewal license. Renewal is not required during any year in which the dock remains out of the water for the entire licensing year.

### SECTION 5. ANNUAL LICENSING FEE

Prior to issuance of an initial or renewal license, the licensee shall pay to the Agency an annual fee of \$60.00 per dock for all single-slip docks, or \$60.00 for the first slip plus \$20.00 for each additional slip for all multiple-slip docks. The General Manager shall determine the number of slips for which any particular dock is designed.

### SECTION 6. INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE

Before any initial license and any renewal license is issued by the General Manager, the licensee must file with the General Manager (a) a certificate of insurance issued by a company

authorized to do insurance business in the state of California, providing that the insurer will give to the Agency thirty days' notice of cancellation, and (b) an agreement executed by the applicant holding the Agency and Monterey County and their officers, agents, and employees harmless for any damage or injury resulting from the installation or use of the dock. The insurance shall have a combined single limit of not less than \$500,000 for public liability and property damage. The Supervisors may amend the required amount of insurance by resolution, and such amendment shall be effective for all initial and renewal licenses issued after the effective date of the resolution.

## SECTION 7. LICENSING CONDITIONS

(a) Each dock must be designed, constructed and maintained so that the dock or any of its parts will not capsize, break up, or slip its moorings and float at large on the surface of the lake.

(b) Styrofoam, poly-foam, or some other waterproof plastic foam material, or a commercially-constructed float manufactured specifically for dock flotation acceptable to the General Manager, shall be used for dock flotation. All foam material shall be encapsulated or enclosed by an outer layer sufficiently durable to withstand abrasion by normal contact with water and water-borne debris without damage to outer layer. Steel barrels may not be used for dock flotation. Plastic barrels, or barrel-like floats designed and manufactured specifically for flotation may be used but must meet all of the following conditions: (i) they must be completely filled with a waterproof plastic foam material, (ii) contain no toxic material, (iii) structurally designed to be attached securely to the dock in such a manner that they cannot become detached even if the dock is completely upset, and (iv) be approved by the Agency prior to being placed within the highwater mark of the Lake.

(c) Main dock anchorage shall consist of at least ½ inch diameter galvanized steel cable attached to anchorage with a combined weight of 2,500 pounds minimum. The anchorage shall be in two locations, one at or above the highwater mark elevation (800 feet above sea level) and one at the lowest Lake elevation that the dock is expected to float. The steel cable shall be strung between the two anchorage weights and the dock attached to the cable with a steel cable sling at each end of the dock. A light anchor or shore stake shall hold the dock near shore. The cable size and anchorage listed above are suitable for a dock with a dimension of 6 by 10 feet. Larger cable and heavier anchorage shall be used for larger docks (e.g., a 15 by 20 foot dock would require a 7/8 inch diameter main cable and an anchorage weight of at least 9,000 pounds).

(d) An applicant shall submit proof of property ownership for the land on which his or her dock is to be moored. Proof must be in the form of a copy of a deed or a recent San Luis Obispo County Tax Assessor's bill showing the parcel number of the property on which the dock is to be moored. If permission is granted by a property owner, other than the applicant, allowing the applicant to moor the dock, a letter shall be submitted by the property owner stating that permission is so granted, listing the name, address and telephone number of the applicant.

(e) Any dock(s) constructed prior to the effective date of this ordinance shall be accepted for licensure provided it is in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance.

(f) The General Manager shall not issue a license if in the opinion of the General Manager the dock does not comply with paragraphs (b) through (e), or there is a substantial danger that the dock will not comply with paragraph (a).

#### SECTION 8. DOCK LICENSE NUMBER

Each license issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be given an identifying number. The licensee shall forthwith paint or affix in a permanent manner said number in three-inch high numerals on said dock such that the number is readily visible at a distance from a boat on the lake.

#### SECTION 9. DOCKS FLOATING AT LARGE.

No licensee shall cause, suffer or permit any dock licensed to such licensee, or any part of such dock, to float at large upon the lake, without being tethered securely to a fixed location.

#### SECTION 10. REVOCATION OF LICENSES

A license may be revoked for any of the following reasons:

- (a) the dock is used or maintained in violation of any of the requirements of this ordinance;
- (b) deterioration, damage, or inadequate maintenance renders the dock a hazard;
- (c) at any time during the licensing year the dock fails to meet any of the conditions required to be met at the time of licensure;
- (d) the insurance required to be maintained expires or is terminated without renewal during the licensing year;
- (e) the licensee transfers ownership or responsibility for the dock, without issuance of a new license for the new owner or responsible party; or
- (f) the dock, or any part of the dock, is found floating at large on the lake causing a hazard to other users of the lake, to the reservoir's outlet works, to any other Agency property, or to Agency personnel.

#### SECTION 11. DISPOSAL FEE

Upon notice being provided to the property owner and/or licensee pursuant to Section 13, a disposal fee shall be charged to the property owner and/or licensee for any dock determined to

be a nuisance pursuant to Section 15. The disposal fee for a single-slip dock is \$300 and \$125 for each additional slip for all multiple-slip docks.

## SECTION 12. NON-TRANSFERABILITY OF LICENSES

Licenses issued under this ordinance are not transferable. If a dock is sold or if responsibility for the dock changes hands, a new license shall be applied for and issued for the dock. When such a transfer occurs before expiration of the license, there will be no new license fee for the licensing year in which the transfer occurs.

## SECTION 13. APPEALS

(a) Any decision by the General Manager concerning the granting or revocation of a license under this ordinance may be appealed. Such appeal shall be in writing and shall be filed with the General Manager within ten days after the date on which the General Manager gives notice of the decision to the owner.

(b) At the time of the filing of the appeal, the appellant shall pay to the Agency a filing fee of twenty-five dollars.

(c) An appeal shall set forth specifically the points at issue, the reasons for the appeal, and wherein the appellant believes there was an error or abuse of discretion by the General Manager.

(d) The appeal shall be heard by the Appeals Board established by Ordinance No. 3539, or by any successor body established by the Agency by ordinance or resolution for the purpose of hearing administrative appeals. Upon receipt of the notice of appeal, the Appeals Board shall set a date for public hearing thereon, giving notice thereof to the appellant. The Appeals Board may reverse or affirm, wholly or partly, or may modify the decision appealed from, and may make such order, requirement, decision or determination as should be made in light of the existing requirements set forth in this ordinance or any resolutions enacted pursuant to this ordinance. The decision of the Appeals Board shall be final.

(e) If no decision is made by the Appeals Board within sixty days after the date the appeal was filed with the General Manager, the appeal shall be deemed granted, except that this sixty-day period shall be extended by the length of all time extensions granted at the appellant's request in the appeal process.

## SECTION 14. NOTICES

(a) Any notice required under this ordinance shall be in writing and shall be given as provided in this section.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in (c), below, notice shall be given by depositing the notice in the U.S. Mail, first class postage or better prepaid, addressed to the party to

be noticed at his or her address last known to the General Manager. In such event, the notice shall be deemed given three days after the date on which the notice is so deposited in the mail.

(c) If no address for the party to be noticed is known to the General Manager, then notice shall be given by affixing to the dock in question a copy of the notice and, if the dock in question is moored, then either before such posting or promptly thereafter, by depositing a copy of the notice in the U.S. Mail, first class postage or better prepaid, addressed to the owner of record of the land to which the dock is moored, at said owner's address shown on the tax assessor's records or other public documents. In such event, the notice shall be deemed given on the date the notice is posted on the dock.

#### SECTION 15. NUISANCES

(a) Any licensed or unlicensed dock or any part thereof is a public nuisance and may be summarily abated by the General Manager if such dock or part thereof is not properly maintained in accordance with the standards in this ordinance, tethered securely to a fixed location, and is (i) floating on the surface of the lake or (ii) aground within the highwater mark of the Lake and is subject to flotation on a rise of the Lake level.

(b) Summary abatement may include destruction of the dock. However, if the dock has been licensed, the dock shall not be destroyed until after (i) the General Manager gives notice to the licensee that the dock may be retrieved if the mooring facilities are brought into compliance with Agency regulations, and (ii) the licensee fails to bring the mooring into compliance within thirty days of said notice or within such further time as the General Manager may grant.

#### SECTION 16. PENALTIES

(a) Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of an infraction which is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100.00 for each violation.

(b) Any violation which occurs or continues to occur from one day to the next shall be deemed a separate violation for each day during which such violation occurs or continues to occur.

(c) If licensee fails to comply with the standards and requirements in this ordinance, the property owner shall assume full responsibility for all fees owed to the Agency, including any and all disposal fees and removal expenses as appropriate.

(d) Agency shall have the right to remove, at the property owner's and/or licensee's expense, all licensed or unlicensed, tethered or untethered, boat docks not complying with the licensing conditions set forth herein.

SECTION 17. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the ordinance, or the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 18. EFFECTIVE DATE

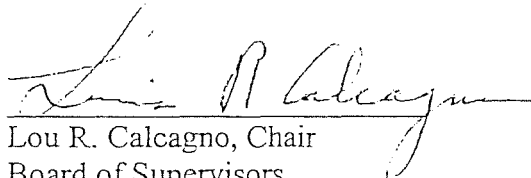
This Ordinance shall take effect on the thirty-first (31<sup>st</sup>) day after its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 30 day of May, 2000, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Salinas, Pennycook, Calcagno, Johnsen and Potter.

NOES: None.

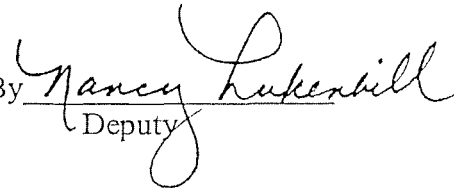
ABSENT: None.



Lou R. Calcagno, Chair  
Board of Supervisors  
Monterey County Water Resources Agency

ATTEST:

SALLY REED  
Clerk of the Board

By   
Deputy