

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
JOINT MEETING OF THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN (REGION 7) AND SAN DIEGO
REGION (REGION 9) REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 5, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

Nancy Wright, Board Chair of the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board, called the meeting to order on March 5, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Temecula Civic Center/Conference Center at 410000 Main Street, Temecula, California 92590.

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members present:

Region 7: Nancy Wright, Chair; Jayne Powell, Vice Chair; Ed Muzik; Peter Satin

Region 9: Henry Abarbanel, Ph.D., Board Chair; Celeste Cantú, Vice Chair; Eric Anderson; Megan Blair; Betty H. Olson, Ph.D.; Gary Strawn; Stefanie Warren.

Board Members absent:

Region 7: Tom Davis

Region 9: None.

Staff present:

Region 7: Paula Rasmussen, Mary Castaneda, Jose Cortez, Kai Dunn, Adriana Godinez, Maria Davydova, Dan Mefford.

Region 9: David Gibson, Kelly Dorsey, Chris Blank, Roger Mitchell, Jody Ebsen, Amy Grove, Sherrie Komeylyan, Michelle Santillan, Cynthia Gorham, Brandon Bushnell, Chiara Clemente, Jeremy Haas, David Barker, Rebecca Stewart, Craig Carlisle, Christina Arias, Emma Blankenship.

Remote attendance:

Region 7: None.

Region 9: Regan Morey, Melissa Corona, Cleo Muñoz, Leah Lorch, Martin Valerocasas, Laurie Walsh, Wayne Chiu, Mike Porter, Tony Felix, Nicole Gergans, Mireille Garcia, Ben Neill, Kimberly McMurray-Cathcart, Chad Loflen, Jason DuMond.

Others present on behalf of the San Diego and Colorado River Basin Water Boards:

State Water Resources Control Board, Laurel Firestone; Catherine Hagan, Katharine Buddingh, Office of Chief Counsel; Paul Ciccarelli, Office of Enforcement. California Reporting: Elise Hicks.

Public Attendance:

Vince Bernard

Terry Thielen
Lake San Marcos

Laurie Gonzalez, Cheryl Macegal,
Camille Merchant
Rincon Band of Desueño Indians

Angeline Gutierrez, Melissa Morales
San Pasqual

Trina Hamby
Imperial County EHS

Mariah Agvayo, Dorothy Willis
Los Coyotes Band of Mission Indians

Carolyn Ginno, Kyra Barboza, Brianna
Menke
City of San Diego

Adrienne Cibor, Kasey Skrivseth”
Enthalpy/Nautilus

Eric LaChappa, Anne Turcutte
La Posta Band of Mission Indians

Margarita Diaz
PFEA, Tijuana

Richard Boon, Rebekah Guill, Matt
Yeager, Darcy Kuenzi
*Riverside County Flood Control and
Water Conservation District*

Ian Wilson
Valley Sanitary District

Carlos Herrera
SDSU Imperial Valley

Nina Waszak
Coachella Valley Waterkeeper

Paul Ganster
SDSU

Al Javier, Doug Edwards
Eastern Municipal Water District

Stuart Kuhn
City of Temecula

Jeff Crooks
TRNERR

Chris Peregrin
California State Parks

Crystal Benham
County of San Diego

Matt Rich
Wood E&IS, Inc.

Jesse Anderson
Advanced Conservation Management

Carlos de la Parra
El Colegio de la Frontera Norte

Syndi Smallwood
Jamul Indian Village of California

Lisa Gover
Campo EPA

Kimberly Miller
Morengo Band of Mission Indians

Terry Biancardi
Sierra Club

BOARD MEETING

Public comments on agenda items were limited to 3 minutes or otherwise at the discretion of the Board Chair(s)

PUBLIC FORUM

Richard Boon, Chief of the Watershed Protection Division of Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, welcomed both Boards to Temecula.

Mr. Vince Bernard addressed the San Diego Water Board regarding the Commercial Agricultural Program. Mr. Anderson responded to his comments.

Mr. Terry Thielen addressed the San Diego Water Board regarding Lake San Marcos. Dr. Abarbanel asked Mr. Gibson to respond to Mr. Thielen's comments.

BOARD BUSINESS

1. **Minutes of Board Meeting:**

- Region 7: January 16, 2020

Motion to adopt the proposed minutes:

- Ms. Powell

Second:

- Mr. Satin

MOTION CARRIED:

- (Minutes01162020)

Aye:

- Mr. Muzik
- Ms. Powell
- Mr. Satin
- Ms. Wright

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Mr. Davis

Abstain:

- None

2. **State Water Board Liaison's Report.** *These items were for Board discussion only. Public testimony was not allowed, and the Board took no formal action.*

Ms. Firestone provided an update on State Board activities and upcoming priorities, and she announced that the annual Salton Sea update would take place on March 18.

3. Board Member Reports

a. Region 7: Mr. Muzik reported that the City of Twentynine Palms is doing a joint wastewater project with the Marine base to upgrade the base's wastewater facility, for which the current budget has allocated \$76.5 million. Ms. Powell stated that the joint meeting of the two Regional Boards is an excellent idea, and she expressed the hope that it could be an annual event. Chair Wright thanked the City of Temecula for hosting the two Regional Boards for this meeting, and she announced that the Mission Springs Water District received a gold medal from the Berkeley Springs, West Virginia Water Tasting Competition

b. Region 9: Ms. Blair thanked Ms. Gonzalez from the Rincon Band for making the effort to attend today's meeting.

Mr. Anderson asked Mr. Muzik whether the wastewater project in Twentynine Palms would include a water recycling component. Mr. Muzik responded that he did not have the details of the project. Mr. Anderson also took the opportunity to compliment Ms. Firestone and the current State Board administration for "getting things done."

Ms. Cantú stated that the San Diego Water Board had been invited to participate at the Southern California Tribal Chairs Association Meeting on March 24 in Escondido. She indicated that she plans to attend, and she invited the other Board Members to join her.

c. Region 7 Executive Officer's Report: Ms. Rasmussen stated that Region 7 has selected a new Assistant Executive Officer to replace Frank Gonzalez, who retired in December. The new Assistant Executive Officer will be Cassandra Owens, formerly from Region 4, who will join Region 7 in a few weeks. She also reported a UST site closing in Palm Springs and a pending site closure in Blythe. Ms. Rasmussen also invited the public to participate in the Salton Sea update on March 18, as announced by Ms. Firestone.

d. Region 9 Executive Officer's Report: Mr. Gibson stated that the USEPA Region 9 stakeholder meeting for March 9 was cancelled without explanation or a new date. He also reported on state legislative action regarding the Newsom administration's recommendations on funding for the New River and the Tijuana River. Mr. Gibson stated that staff had been working with the Port of San Diego to schedule an outreach meeting with state legislators, and they have settled on two dates in April; he indicated that he should be able to announce that invitations have been issued during the April Board meeting. He also provided an update on COVID-19 procedures. Mr. Gibson further stated that he and Mr. Barker were scheduled to give depositions in the IBWC suit during the week of the May Board meeting, in light of which he asked the Board to consider cancelling that meeting, and he responded to Board Member questions.

4. Future Agenda Items: *Region 9 Board members discussed items for possible inclusion on future agendas*

Ms. Dorsey stated that this item is an opportunity for Board Members to suggest future agenda items to staff.

Mr. Strawn requested a briefing on the UCSD Climate Change Action Plan; Chair Abarbanel indicated that he could speak with his colleagues who had prepared that Action Plan to see if they could provide an informational item to the Board. Chair Abarbanel stated that staff should try to have the item on the April Agenda, but to schedule it for August if April is not practicable.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Region 7 Consent Calendar (*Paula Rasmussen*):
- a. Waste Discharge Requirements Amendment: Order No. R7-2020-0003 for United States Marine Corps, Mainside Wastewater Treatment Facility, Twentynine Palms, San Bernardino County. (*Adriana Godinez*)

Motion to approve Order No. R7-2020-0003:

- Mr. Muzik

Second:

- Mr. Satin

MOTION CARRIED:

- (Order No. R7-2020-0003)

Aye:

- Mr. Muzik
- Ms. Powell
- Mr. Satin
- Ms. Wright

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Mr. Davis

Abstain:

- None

- b. Waste Discharge Requirements Renewal: Order No. R7-2020-0007 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Valley Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant, Indio, Riverside County. (*Jose Valle Deleon*)

Motion to approve Order No. R7-2020-0007 with Errata:

- Ms. Powell

Second:

- Mr. Muzik

MOTION CARRIED:

- (Order No. R7-2020-0007)

Aye:

- Mr. Muzik
- Ms. Powell
- Mr. Satin
- Ms. Wright

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Mr. Davis

Abstain:

- None

6. Region 9 Consent Calendar (*David Gibson*):

- a. Waste Discharge Requirement Rescission: Rescission of Order No. 2000-165, Waste Discharge Requirements for Eastern Municipal Water District, Temecula Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility, Riverside County (Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0010). (*Brandon Bushnell*)
- b. Waste Discharge Requirement Rescission: Rescission of Order No. 95-04, Waste Discharge Requirements for Linda and Bruce Birch, Country Creek RV Resort, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0023). (*Sherrie Komeylyan*)
- c. Tentative Resolution: Non-Regulatory Updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2020-0036). (*Michelle Santillan*)
- d. Tentative Order: Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of Administrative Civil Liability Order, in the matter of OHL USA Inc., Temecula, CA (Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0028). (*Rebecca Stewart*)

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar (with Errata to Resolution No. R9-2020-0036):

- Mr. Anderson

Second:

- Mr. Strawn

MOTION CARRIED:

- (Order No. R9-2020-0010)
- (Order No. R9-2020-0023)
- (Resolution No. R9-2020-0036 with Errata)
- (Order No. R9-2020-0028)

Aye:

- Mr. Anderson
- Ms. Blair
- Ms. Cantú
- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Warren
- Dr. Abarbanel

Nay:

- None.

Absent:

- None.

Abstain:

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7. California-Mexico Border Regions: Update Regarding Transboundary Pollution and Impacts on Local Communities, the New River, Imperial and Mexicali Valleys, and the Tijuana River Watershed and Estuary. (*Adriana Godinez, David Gibson*)

Mr. Gibson and Ms. Godinez introduced the item.

The following stakeholders commented on the item:

- Trina Hamby, Imperial County Public Health Department
- Dr. Carlos Herrera (SDSU, Imperial Valley campus)
- Dr. Paul Ganster (SDSU, San Diego campus)
- Dr. Carlos de la Parra (COLEF, Tijuana campus)
- Dr. Alfonso Cortez Lara (COLEF, Mexicali campus)
- Margarita Díaz (PFEA)
- Dr. Jeff Crooks (TRNERR)
- Christopher Peregrin (California State Parks)
- Crystal Benham, County of San Diego

- Brianna Menke, City of San Diego

Chair Wright called a recess at 12:17 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:29 p.m.

8. Updates on Water Board Tribal Activities and Priorities. (*Cynthia Gorham, Maria Davydova*)

Ms. Davydova gave the Region 7 staff presentation, and Ms. Gorham gave the Region 9 staff presentation. Ms. Gorham then introduced Councilmember Laurie Gonzalez from the Rincon Band of Desueño Indians, who gave her presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Wright adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

These minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina Blank
Executive Assistant

David Gibson
Executive Officer