
Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

November 15, 2022, 9:00 a.m. to 9:38 a.m.

In-Person and Zoom Video/Teleconference Meeting

Archived audio and video webcasts of Board meetings are available at the following link:

<https://cal-span.org/static/meetings-RWQCB-COLO.php>

1. Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Jayne Powell, Peter Satin, and Nancy Wright, and Ed Muzik were in attendance. Bea Gonzalez and Vivian Perez attended via Zoom. The Board Clerk stated that a quorum was present.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jayne Powell at 9:00 a.m. on November 15, 2022.

State and Regional Water Board Staff Present

Paula Rasmussen, Cassandra Owens, David Lancaster, Kai Dunn, Jose Cortez, Emma McCorkle, Scot Stormo, Hilda Vasquez, and Dan Mefford.

Public Attendance

There were no public attendees.

Virtual Public Attendance

Margit Chiriaco Rusche, Chiriaco Summit
Heather Garcia, Chiriaco Summit
Eduardo Guevara, P.E., Chiriaco Summit Water District

2. Public Forum

A representative from Earth-Strata, Inc., Geotechnical, Environmental and Materials Testing Consultants, Temecula, CA was present for item 6 on the agenda, but did not speak.

3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the October 11, 2022 Board Meeting.

Motion to adopt with changes to reflect editorial corrections from “vice-chair” to “chair” on Agenda items 5-6: Edward Muzik moved, Nancy Wright seconded, and a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Jayne Powell – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – not present, Peter Satin – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye.

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt the minutes of the October 11, 2022 Board meeting with minor editorial corrections.

4. Consideration and Approval of the 2023 Board Meeting Calendar

Proposed calendar of board meetings for the 2023 calendar year.

Motion to adopt: Edward Muzik moved, Peter Satin seconded, and a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Jayne Powell – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – not present, Peter Satin – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye.

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt the 2023 Board Meeting Calendar.

Contested and Discussion Calendar of Items for Adoption

(Items 5 - 6)

5. Waste Discharge Requirements Order R7-2022-0041 and Monitoring and Reporting Program Chiriaco Summit Water District Staff Contact: Scot Stormo, WRC Engineer

The Chair administered the Oath to those intending to speak on this item. Staff provided information relevant to the proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for Chiriaco Summit Wastewater Treatment and Disposal System. Staff described the facility, permit requirements, and new monitoring requirements. Staff recommended that the Board adopt the proposed order.

Motion to adopt: Nancy Wright moved, Edward Muzik seconded, and a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Jayne Powell – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Peter Satin – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye.

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt Order R7-2022-0041 as presented.

6. Resolution R7-2022-0044 Riverside County Department of Environmental Health Approval of Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) Staff Contact: Reginald Tan

This item was continued to a future meeting.

Information Items

(No Actions on Items 7 – 12)

7. Report from Executive Officer, Paula Rasmussen

Ms. Rasmussen updated the Board on the approval of State Water Board TMDL for Imperial Valley on calendar for the November 15, 2022 State Water Board Meeting. She discussed the WQCC meeting in Sacramento. The theme of the meeting was “Accelerating Climate Change Action” with presenters from Denmark featured. Discussed at the WQCC meeting was the status of the legislative actions to temporarily suspend the Bagley-Keene Public Meetings Act to allow for virtual meetings during COVID. These are set to expire on June 30, 2022.

10. Comments from Board Members

Board member Wright commented on her experiences at the WQCC in Sacramento to include a reminder that personal email address accounts are discoverable under the public records act. The State of California will be identifying climate change more specifically as “hotter and drier environment and is planning pilot projects with the country of Denmark on intelligent, sustainable, and efficient water systems including groundwater management, sewage systems, and wastewater distribution. The new CalEPA Secretary, Yana Garcia, discussed her goals and priorities. Secretary Garcia is very familiar with our region having visited the Salton Sea and New River in the past.

Board member Muzik discussed attending the groundbreaking of the Castro Mobile Home Park in Coachella several weeks ago. The city of Coachella and the Coachella Valley Water District have been working with the Department of Water Resources to connect 45 mobile home units with a safe, reliable supply of drinking water. Regarding the Chair’s call last week, the discussion included the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act with 8 of 20 projects completed and 12 projects remaining. The State Board discussed how they would assist the 12 remaining project entities with the completion of their plans. Also discussed was the Governor’s water supply strategy and a review of topics from the WQCC.

11. Report from Chair, Jayne Powell

Chair Powell mentioned that the PowerPoint presentations from the WQCC Meeting and also the Chair’s call would be made available to the Board Members. The SGMA PowerPoint includes information on a website dashboard that identifies various groundwater basins and brings a lot of information together in an easy-to-find and easy-to-navigate location.

Closed Session

12. Closed Session

There was no closed session held.

Adjournment

The meeting in the Board Room ended at 9:38 a.m.

Next Board Meeting:

December 13, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Palm Desert Regional Water Boards Office