



Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

April 11, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 11:29 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

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Muzik at 9:00 a.m. on April 11, 2023.

Ed Muzik, Peter Satin, Beatriz Gonzalez, and Nancy Wright were present. Jayne Powell and Vivian Perez attended the meeting via Zoom.

The Board Clerk stated that a quorum was present.

State and Regional Water Board Staff Present

Paula Rasmussen, Cassandra Owens, David Lancaster, Kai Dunn, Jose Cortez, Angela Garcia, Mary Castaneda, CJ Jasieniecki, Dan Mefford, Laurel Firestone, Fatima Alrahem, Jose Valle deLeon, Logan Raub, Tom Browne, and Zak Owens.

Public Attendance

Lillian Garcia, United for Justice Inc.
Randy Mayes, Coachella Valley Water District

Remote Public Attendance

Ana Yarezi Garcia Garcia, Salton City Resident (via video)
Deandra Cass, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC
Janet Parrish, USEPA
Amelia Whitson, USEPA
Mehreen Siddiqui, State Board Division of Financial Assistance
Marlee Nelson, Court Reporter
Marc Gutierrez, Interpreter
Jeanette Hernandez, Interpreter

EDWARD MUZIK, CHAIR | PAULA RASMUSSEN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2. Public Forum

Comments were received from the following members of the public:

Lillian Garcia, United for Justice, Inc.

Ana Yaretzi Garcia Garcia, Salton Sea Resident (via video)

3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the March 14, 2023 Board Meeting.

Motion to approve Item 3: Nancy Wright moved, Peter Satin seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

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

The motion was carried unanimously to approve the minutes of March 14, 2023, with correction on page 2.

4. Update from the State Water Resources Control Board Liaison, Laurel Firestone

The State Water Board Liaison, Laurel Firestone, presented an update on State Board actions, strategies for statewide and regional activities, and responded to Board member questions.

Uncontested Calendar of Items for Adoption

(Item 5)

5. Waste Discharge Order R7–2023–0009 Sunlight Storage II, Battery Energy Storage System, Riverside

Staff Contact: Logan Raub, Environmental Scientist

Motion to adopt Item 5: Peter Satin moved, Jayne Powell seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

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

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt Order R7-2023-0009 as presented.

Contested and Discussion Calendar of Items for Adoption

(Items 6-7)

6. Waste Discharge Requirements Order 2023-0013 Coachella Valley Water District Mid-Valley Reclamation Plant No. 4, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA 0104973

Staff Contact: Jose Valle deLeon, WRC Engineer

The Chair administered the Oath to those intending to speak on this item.

Staff provided information relevant to the proposed Order R7-2023-0013, NPDES permit renewal, for the Coachella Valley Water Districts Mid-Valley Water Reclamation Plant No.4. The staff reviewed the facility background information, permit requirements, whole effluent toxicity effluent limitations, new monitoring requirements and addressed comments received. The Discharger expressed their concerns regarding changes to permit requirements. The staff, Assistant Executive Officer, and Legal Counsel responded to comments and questions from the Board members. After a brief discussion, staff recommended that the Board adopt the proposed order.

Speakers: Randy Mayes, Coachella Valley Water District
Amelia Whitson, USEPA

Motion to adopt Item 6: Beatriz Gonzalez moved, Vivian Perez seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

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

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt Order R7-2023-0013 as presented.

****The Chair called for a break: 10:40 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.***

Information Items

(No action on items 7-10)

7. State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance Mehreen Siddiqui

Ms. Siddiqui provided an overview of wastewater funding opportunities through the Division of Financial Assistance. She discussed and highlighted projects that are located within Region 7 and addressed questions from the Board.

8. Report from Executive Office, Paula Rasmussen

The Executive Officer, Paula Rasmussen, presented an update on activities and plans for the region.

9. Comments from Board Members

There were no Board member comments.

10. Report from Chair, Ed Muzik

Chair Muzik reported that he attended a Chair's call with discussion topics including an Executive Officer vacancy in the Central Coast Region, county flood control alerts, and a needs assessment for water and wastewater systems.

Closed Session

(Item 11)

11. Closed Session

There was no closed session held.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Next Board Meeting:

May 9, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Palm Desert Regional Water Boards Office