
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Meeting Minutes
City of Monrovia
Council Chambers
415 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, California 91016

November 14, 2019

Chair Irma Muñoz called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Board member Charles Stringer led the Pledge of Allegiance

Item 1 – Roll Call

Board Members Present: Irma Muñoz, James Stahl, Cynthia Guzman, Charles Stringer and Daniel Tellalian

Board Members Absent: Lawrence Yee

Staff Present: Renee Purdy, Hugh Marley, Jenny Newman, Sophie Froelich, Tamarin Austin, Gerardo Rabelo, Puja Vats, Bobbi Valencia, Brendan O' Sullivan, LB Nye, Russ Colby, Jeong-Hee-Lim, Arthur Heath, Eric Wu, Emily Wong, Veronica Cuevas, Cris Morris, Su Han, Akzayakatl Mexikatzin, Cassandra Owens, Ching To, Bryan Elder, Jamie Johnson, Raul Medina, Ivar Ridgeway, and Ana Townsend

Monrovia City Councilmember Gloria Crudgington welcomed the Board.

Item 2 – Order of Agenda

The EO Renee Purdy stated that the State Water Board liaison was unable to attend and; therefore, there will be no State Water Board liaison report (Item 7).

Presentation of Staff Award: Dr. Arthur Heath presented the Sustained Superior Accomplishment Award to Emily Wong.

Item 3 – Approval if Tentative 2020 Los Angeles Water Board Meeting Schedule.

MOTION: Board member Jim Stahl made a motion to approve the tentative 2020 Los Angeles Water Board Meeting Schedule.

Seconded by: Board member Daniel Tellalian

Motion carried: Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Cynthia Guzman – Yea

Irma Munoz – Yea

James Stahl – Yea

Charles Stringer – Yea

Daniel Tellalian – Yea

Item 4 – Approval of Draft meeting minutes for the October 10, 2019 Board meeting pending two changes discussed.

MOTION: Board member Daniel Tellalian moved to approve the draft meeting minutes with minor corrections.

Seconded by: Board member Charles Stringer

Motion carried: Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Cynthia Guzman - Yea

Irma Munoz - Yea

James Stahl – Yea

Charles Stringer - Yea

Daniel Tellalian – Yea

Item 5 – Board Member Communications

There were no ex parte communication disclosures reported.

Board Member Stahl reported that on October 11th he attended the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project 50th anniversary celebration at the Long Beach Aquarium. On October 17th, he spoke at the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists 2019 Annual West Coast Event, "Climate Change: Water and Wastewater Agencies Adaptation and Resiliency." On October 29th and 30th he attended the Water Boards' Annual Water Quality Coordinating Committee meeting in Sacramento along with the Executive Officer. And, lastly, he attended the second Hyperion Visioning Workshop on November 7th.

Chair Munoz reported on several activities, including a meet and greet with the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Board Chair and an address to the MWD Board. She also participated in the Pacoima Wash stop on the LA River legislative tour organized by Speaker Rendon and other Assembly members, along with Board staff, including Assistant Executive Officer Hugh Marley. During the stop, she spoke about various partnerships, including the Industrial Task Force and the Board's collaboration with

Pacoima Beautiful. Finally, she reported that she participated in a recent workshop held by Water Education for Latino Leaders (WELL) and was the keynote speaker during the Los Angeles County Bar Association 18th Annual Environmental Law Fall Symposium, where Thizar Tintut- Williams, Site Cleanup Program Unit Chief, was a panelist during a session on PFAS.

Item 6 – Executive Officer’s Report

The EO, Renee Purdy, provided a report, including a discussion on the Water Quality Coordinating Committee annual meeting that she attended with Board Member Stahl, an update on Proposition 1 and, specifically, the groundwater remediation grants that have been allocated to projects in the region, including a technical assistance grant to the City of Lynwood. Ms. Purdy also provided an update on the statewide PFAS investigations that are currently going on, including the recent investigative orders sent to 271 chrome platers throughout the state of which 160 are within the Los Angeles Region. Ms. Purdy also followed up on Chair Munoz' report on the LA River Tour, noting that she participated in the Rio Hondo confluence stop on the second day where she gave a presentation on opportunities for collaboration on projects to capture stormwater as a resource to increase local resiliency through the MS4 permit and watershed management programs and enhanced watershed management programs. Lastly, Ms. Purdy announced that that the new Regional Program Section Chief is Dr. LB Nye.

Item 7 – Update State Water Board

No State Water Board liaison was in attendance. This item was not heard by the Board.

Item 8 - Public Forum

There were no speakers during public forum.

Item 9-10 - Uncontested Items include items 9 and 10.

MOTION: Board member Cynthia Guzman made a motion to approve uncontested items 9 and 10.

Seconded by: Board member Charles Stringer

Before the roll call vote, Board Member Stahl shared his perspective that water from groundwater treatment systems should, wherever possible, be directed into treatment plants where it can be treated and reused rather than discharging it to storm drains. He shared his perspective that to discharge it to a storm drain is a waste of a natural resource. This perspective notwithstanding he expressed his support for the two uncontested items, Items 9 and 10.

Motion carried: Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Cynthia Guzman - Yea
Irma Munoz - Yea
James Stahl - Yea
Charles Stringer - Yea
Daniel Tellalian – Yea

Item 11 - Consideration of tentative Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of Simi Valley, Simi Valley Water Quality Control Plant, Simi Valley, CA; NPDES No. CA00055221.

Item 12 - Consideration of tentative Waste Discharge Requirements for the Camarillo Sanitary District Camarillo Water Reclamation Plant, Camarillo, CA; NPDES No. CA0053597.

Item 13 – Consideration of tentative Waste Discharge Requirement for the City of Thousand Oaks, Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plants, Camarillo, CA; NPDES No. CA0056294.

The Chair administered the oath to all speaking on Items 11, 12, and 13. A staff presentation was given by Dr. Jeong- Hee Lim.

Speaker:

- Ashli Desai, Larry Walker Associates, and Lucia McGovern, Camarillo Sanitary District
- Betsy Elfuzon, speaking on behalf of Hill Canyon Treatment Plant
- Al Sexton, Simi Water Quality Control Plant
- Annelisa Moe, Heal the Bay

The Board asked questions of staff and the dischargers and their consultants.

Item 11

MOTION: Board member Charles Stringer made a motion to approve staff recommendation on Item 11.

Seconded by: Board member Daniel Tellalian

Motion carried: Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Cynthia Guzman - Yea
Irma Munoz - Yea
James Stahl - Yea
Charles Stringer - Yea
Daniel Tellalian - Yea

Item 12

MOTION: Board member Charles Stringer made a motion to approve Item 12 with the change sheet per staff recommendation.

Seconded by: Board member Cynthia Guzman
Motion carried: Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Cynthia Guzman - Yea
Irma Munoz - Yea
James Stahl - Yea
Charles Stringer - Yea
Daniel Tellalian – Yea

Item 13

MOTION: Board member Charles Stringer made a motion to approve Item 13 with the change sheet per staff recommendation.

Seconded by: Board member Daniel Tellalian
Motion carried: Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Cynthia Guzman - Yea
Irma Munoz - Yea
James Stahl - Yea
Charles Stringer - Yea
Daniel Tellalian – Yea

Item 14 - Presentation of Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R4-2018-0091 entered into by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board and Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority, now known as San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (Clean Water Act section 301, California Water Code section (CWC) §13376, Clean Water Act section 401 Water Quality Certification No. 11-010 (401 Certification), and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Construction General Permit) Order No. 2009-0009- DWQ and 2012-0006- DWQ as amended by Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012- 0006-DWQ). (Comment submittal deadline was November 1, 2019) [Russ Colby, (213) 620-6375; Barbara Guia, (213) 620-6361).

The Chair read an opening statement, followed by a short introduction by Sophie Froelich, Attorney, of the Advisory Team. A staff presentation was given by Assistant Executive Officer Hugh Marley and Attorney Kailyn Ellison from the Office of Enforcement, for the Prosecution Team.

Speakers:
Mark Christoffels, ACE

MOTION: Board member Charles Stringer made a motion to accept the settlement agreement and authorize the Executive Officer to sign the stipulated administrative civil liability order.

Seconded by: Board member Daniel Tellalian
Motion carried: Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Cynthia Guzman – Yea
Irma Muñoz – Yea
James Stahl – Yea
Charles Stringer – Yea
Daniel Tellalian – Yea

The Chair asked Counsel to announce the Closed Session items. Counsel announced that the Board would be discussing Closed Session Items 17.b. and 17.d.

The Board went into closed session at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened at 1:45 p.m.

Item 15 – Hearing to consider a tentative resolution authorizing referral to the Office of the Attorney General for judicial enforcement against Rev 973, LLC, Mouren-Laurens Oil Company, Estate of Joseph Mouren-Laurens, Estate of Emma Mouren-Laurens, John Mouren-Laurens, and Mireille Mouren-Laurens for alleged violations of Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Clean up and Abatement Order (CAO) Number R4-2014-0117, and against Leach Oil Company, Inc., Patricia Leach, and Leach Property Management for alleged violations of Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board CAO Number R4-2014-0118, both under California Water Code section 13350(g) for imposition, assessment, and recovery of civil liability, injunctive and other appropriate relief. (Comment submittal deadline was October 18, 2019) [Adnan Siddiqui, (213) 576-6812].

The Chair read an opening Statement and administered the oath.

Introductory Remarks regarding the Attorney General Referral were given by Attorney Tamarin Austin from the Advisory Team.

Staff Presentation: Daniel Kippen, State Water Board, Office of Enforcement, and Hugh Marley, Assistant Executive Officer.

Speakers:
Beth Dorris, Counsel for Rev 973, LLC

MOTION: Board member Daniel Tellalian made a motion to approve the tentative resolution to refer the two site cleanup cases to the Office of the Attorney General with the minor modifications made by the Executive Officer to update the date of the hearing from October 10, 2019 to November 14, 2019.

Seconded by: Board member Jim Stahl
Motion carried: Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Cynthia Guzman - Yea
Irma Munoz - Yea
James Stahl - Yea
Charles Stringer - Yea
Daniel Tellalian – Yea

Item 16 - Update on pending issuance of a Regional Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit for Los Angeles and Ventura counties. Staff will provide the Board with a summary of stakeholder engagement, including the employment of a professional facilitator to better understand the interests, needs and perspectives of stakeholders and to explore areas of mutual agreement that could be reflected in the Regional MS4 Permit, and the schedule for release of a tentative Regional MS4 permit.

A staff presentation was given by Assistant Executive Officer Jenny Newman.

Speakers:

- Councilmember Gloria Crudginton, City of Monrovia
- Paul Alva, Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works
- Arne Anselm, Ventura County Watershed Protection District
- Ray Tahir, TECS Environmental, Inc.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. (For more detailed information on any matter at our meetings, you may contact Helen Rowe at (213) 576-6612 or email at: Helen.Rowe@waterboards.ca.gov, and she may provide an electronic copy of the transcript or audio, if available.)

Written and submitted by Puja Vats, then finalized on 01/06/2020



Puja Vats