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## Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

# MINUTES

## NOVEMBER 9, 2022

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) conducted this meeting without a physical location.

### NO PHYSICAL LOCATION

Via Video and Teleconference (Gov. Code § 11133)

#### Water Board Members

Peter C. Pumphrey, Chair, Chalfant  
Amy Horne, Ph.D., Truckee  
Keith Dyas, Rosamond

Kimberly Cox, Helendale  
Essra Mostafavi, Bishop

#### State Water Board

Elizabeth Beryt, Office of Chief Counsel

Nichole Morgan, State Water Board Liaison

#### Water Board Staff

Mike Plaziak, Executive Officer  
Robert Tucker, Sr. WRC Engineer  
Trevor Miller, WRC Engineer  
Anna Garcia, Sr. EG  
Sandra Lopez, AGPA  
Katrina Fleshman, Executive Assistant

Ben Letton, Assistant Executive Officer  
Patrice Copeland, Supervising Engineering Geologist  
Andrew Jensen, Environmental Program Mgr.  
Ghasem Pour-ghasemi, Sr. WRC Engineer  
TJ Middlemis-Clark, Supv WRC Engineer  
Jan Zimmerman, Sr. Engineering Geologist

[View the full Agenda and listen to the audio of this meeting](#)

**REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, November 9, 2022, @ 9:00 a.m.**

### CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Pumphrey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and discussed reason for video/teleconference meeting due to inclement weather. Chair Pumphrey discussed procedures for today's in-person meeting. Chair Pumphrey introduced AGP Video and gave direction to the public in the zoon platform that may wish to speak. Chair Pumphrey introduced the Water Board Members, Water Board staff and State Water Board staff.

## 1. PUBLIC FORUM

Jeffrey Shellito, resident of Truckee.

## 2. MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Member Dyas, seconded by Member Dr. Horne to approve the September 14, 2022, meeting Minutes as presented. Chair Pumphrey called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Dr. Horne	Aye
Member Dr. Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Mostafavi	Aye

[View the adopted September 14, 2022, Meeting Minutes](#)

## 3. REPORTS BY WATER BOARD CHAIR AND WATER BOARD MEMBERS

Member Dr. Horne stated the PPIC is holding a meeting that can be attended online or in-person in Sacramento. They will be discussing “surplus and shortage”, “The science and policies for dry years”, “Strategies for wet years”, and “Finding balance”. Dr. Horne encouraged staff and public to google “PPIC Water Policy Center” and sign up.

Member Dr. Horne gave an update on the WQCC meeting held in Sacramento at the end of October.

Member Chair Pumphrey, gave update on the Water Board Chairs meeting discussions. Chair Pumphrey further indicated information regarding the WQCC meeting can be found on their website.

State Board Liaison, Nichole Morgan, gave update on Water Board funding; spending plans for 2022/2023; performance standards, and State Board Workshops.

## 4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

The Executive Officer, Michael R. Plaziak, provided an update to the Water Board and public on key actions and activities in the Lahontan region, including the items below.

- a. Vacancies and New Hires. Introduced new staff members, Lorien Sanders and Ashley Taylor.
- b. WQCC Update
- c. Climate Change Resolution 2019-0077
- d. November 2-3, 2022 All Staff In-Person meeting and Mono Lake Tour.

## 5. CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) AND WASTE DISCHARGER REQUIREMENTS FOR BASELOAD POWER WENDEL, LLC WENDEL GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT, LASSEN COUNTY

Chair Pumphrey read opening statement and asked those that wish to speak during this hearing to raise their hand and take an oath of their truthful testimony.

The Lahontan Water Board previously held a public hearing on the proposed NPDES permit on June 9, 2022. The Board continued the public hearing to a subsequent date for staff to gather additional information to answer Board questions about the NPDES permit findings.

Water Board staff, Trevor Miller, Water Resource Control Engineer, gave the presentation and asked the Board to consider adoption of the individual NPDES Permit for the discharge of geothermal fluids to a surface water in the Susanville Hydrologic Unit.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Baseload Power Wendel: Gave a PowerPoint presentation

- Michael Roach
- Frank Misseldine
- James Lovekin
- Daniel Pasteris

Stuart Johnson, Renewable Energy Consultant. Gave a PowerPoint presentation.

William and Peggy Butler. Private citizens.

Jerry Salera, CalGEM. Gave PowerPoint presentation.

Tim Swickard, Northern Land and Cattle Co.

## QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

Board members asked clarifying questions. No direction was received from the Water Board members. Member Dr. Horne indicated she appreciated the comments by those from the public and moved this item for a vote.

Motion: Moved by Member Dr. Horne, seconded by Member Dyas to adopt the individual NPDES Permit for the discharge of Geothermal Fluids to surface water in the Susanville Hydrologic Unit. Chair Pumphrey called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Dr. Horne	Aye
Member Dr. Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Essra Mostafavi	Aye

## WATER BOARD TOOK BREAK FROM 12:20PM TO 1:00PM

### 6. SALT AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING STRATEGY

Water Board staff, Anna Garcia, Senior Engineering Geologist Specialist, presented a staff report to guide development of the Water Board's Salt and Nutrient Management Planning Strategy.

Ms. Garcia further explained the Recycled Water Policy and discussed the groundwater basins and sub-basins evaluation process. Ms. Garcia indicated that Lahontan staff expect to complete the basin and sub-basin evaluation and prioritization process by June 30, 2023.

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY THE WATER BOARD**

Member Dyas indicated he is in support of moving forward.

Member Mostafavi asked if we are accounting for recreational uses in the 57 basins with low populations.

Member Dr. Horne suggested reaching out to Holly Alpert for her alternative way to analyze data to identify disadvantaged communities for rural areas like most of the Lahontan region.


Chair Pumphrey stated that salt and nutrient management underlies so many strategies, such as the Governor's Water Supply Strategy, and suggested looking at integrating the salt and nutrient management early in the process. Chair Pumphrey feels it is important for the Water Board to gather the most information possible for this strategy. Chair Pumphrey said to look at the low populated areas as well for impact. Chair Pumphrey is in support of going forward with this strategy.

**7. CLOSED SESSION**

The Water Board did not go into Closed Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Water Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m. on November 9, 2022.

Prepared by:  Adopted: 3/01/2023  
Katrina Fleshman, Water Board Clerk