

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Meeting Minutes

Los Angeles Water Board Meeting
March 6, 2014

City of Culver City
(Council Chambers)
9770 Culver Boulevard
Culver City, California

The meeting was called to Order by Chair Charles Stringer at 9:13 am.

Roll Call.

Board Members Present: Maria Camacho, Fran Diamond, Madelyn Glickfeld, Maria Mehranian, Irma Muñoz, Charles Stringer, and Lawrence Yee

Board Members Absent:

Staff Present: Samuel Unger, Deborah Smith, Paula Rasmussen, Frances McChesney, Jennifer Fordyce, Nicole Kuenzi, Ronji Moffett, Geraldo Rabelo, Susana Lagudis, Renee Purdy, David Hung, Rebecca Chou, Cassandra Owens, Michael Lyons, Russ Colby, Hugh Marley, Elizabeth Erickson, Jau Ren Chen, Chris Lopez, Barbara Guia

Individuals whose Names Appear on the Sign-In Sheet and/or Speaker Cards

Mr. Bruce Hamamoto, L.A. County DPW	Mr. David Kimbrough, Pasadena Water & Power
Ms. Kirsten James, Heal the Bay	Mr. Adan Ortega, CalMutuals
Ms. Amy Maday, Calleguas MWD	Dr. Cathy Chang, Water Replenishment District
Mr. Anthony Arevalo, City of Long Beach	Mr. Richard Watson, Richard Watson & Assoc.
Ms. Liz Crosson, L.A. Waterkeeper	Ms. Mercedes Passanisi, L.A. County Flood
Mr. Ray Tahir, TEC Consultants	Mr. Ken Zimmer, L.A. County Public Works Dept.
Mr. Jared Bauchal	Mr. Russ Bryden, L.A. County Public Works
Ms. Shana Epstein, City of Ventura	Mr. Dino Orbiso, Golden State Water
Ms. Saba Saeed, Valencia Water Company	Ms. Brandy Hancocks, Golden State Water
Ms. Tracy Egoscue, Egoscue Law	Mr. Eric Comard, Petro-Diamond, Inc.
Mr. Richard Mason, Park Water Company	Mr. Antenem Tessare, City of South Pasadena
Dr. Cindy Lin, USEPA Region 9	Ms. Joyce Clark, Metropolitan Water District
Mr. Robert Zaraguza, Naval Base Ventura Co.	Ms. Donna Chen, City of Los Angeles
Mr. Matt Tryon, City of Santa Fe Springs	Ms. Ann Heil, L.A. County Sanitation District
Ms. Sherry Shaw, Walnut Valley Water District	Mr. Ed Castanon, Walnut Valley Water District
Ms. Tatiana Gaur, L.A. Waterkeeper	Mr. John Adriany, Recreational Boaters of CA
Mr. Arthur Sacks, Representing self	Ms. Elaine Barker, Del Rey Yacht Club

Ms. Elaine Jeng, City of Redondo Beach	Mr. Nick Buhbe, Great Ecology
Ms. Vivian Castro, City of Covina	Mr. John Beshay, City of West Covina
Mr. Lou Vargas, City of Alhambra	Mr. Ben Harvey, City of Avalon
Mr. David Clary, City of Avalon	Mr. James Ciampa, Rep. Public Water Agency
Ms. Diana Vernazzu, Department of Justice	Ms. Katherine Rubin, L.A. DWP
Mr. Michael Hanson, L.A. DWP	Mr. David Hollyer
Mr. Matthew Renand, Lawa	Mr. Jim Byerrum
Ms. Angela George, L.A. County DPW	Ms. Maurica Oillataguerra, City of Glendora
Mr. Bernardo Iniguez, City of Bellflower	Mr. John Dettle, City of Torrance
Mr. Shawn Hagerty, City of Avalon	Mr. Jim Thorsen, City of Malibu

2. Order of Agenda.

The Executive Officer, Samuel Unger asked for the following changes:

During the morning session, there were no changes to the Order of Agenda. However, after the closed session, Items 11, and 12 were approved for the Consent calendar.

Uncontested Items calendar:

The Executive Officer stated the Uncontested items as: Items 3, 4, and 5.

- *3. Petro Diamond Terminal Company (Petro-Diamond Marine Terminal), Long Beach; NPDES No. CA0059358
- *4. Eagle Rock Aggregates, Inc. (Maintenance Dredging), Long Beach; File No. 13-026
- *5. Amendment of Delegation of Authority considering a Resolution amending the Regional Board's Delegation of Authority to the Executive Officer (Resolution No. R10-009) to Provide additional authority to the Executive Officer to hold evidentiary hearings and assess mandatory minimum penalties.

MOTION: To approve Items 3, 4, and 5.

First: Board member Lawrence Yee

Second: Board member Madelyn Glickfeld

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

6. Public Forum. (Speakers were as follows):

- Mr. Richard Watson, Richard Watson & Associates (*Discussion of progress report, and water improvement strategy*)
- Ms. Shana Epstein, City of Ventura (*Update of Santa Clarita River Estuary*)
- Mr. Jim Thorsen, City of Malibu (*Update on status of Prohibition area*)
- Mr. Ken Kimmer, L.A. County Flood Control District (*Drought impacts*)
- Mr. Russ Bryden, L.A. County Flood Control District (*Drought impacts*)
- Dr. Cathy Chang, Water Replenishment District (*How the District has been responding to the drought*)
- Mr. John Dettle, City of Torrance

(Board member Maria Mehranian arrived at 10:12 am)

There were questions and discussion on these matters that can be accessed either by transcript or audio.)

Item 7. Approval of draft meeting minutes for February 6, 2014 Board meeting.

(Board member Lawrence Yee abstained because he was not in attendance at the February 6, 2014 meeting.)

MOTION: To approve the February 6, 2014 draft Meeting Minutes.

First: Board member Madelyn Glickfeld

Second: Board member Irma Muñoz

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

Item 8. Board Member Communications.

There was no communication that constituted disclosure.

Item 9. Executive Officer's Report. *(Presented by Executive Officer, Samuel Unger)*

Report and Addendum Report was given to the Board. The Report was posted on the Board's website:

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles>

Item 9.a Enforcement Report by Mr. Hugh Marley, Chief of Enforcement Section.

Mr. Marley gave an update on Enforcement activities, the expedited payment letter process, management of two statewide permits for stormwater, and the Oil and Gas Operations Initiative.

Item 10. Update from State Board. Vice Chair Fran Spivy-Weber discussed issues that are the currently the focus of State Board in addition to the following:

- On April 11, 2014 there will be a Chairs meeting held in Sacramento
- The current drought is the main focus of State Board
- Current drought budget money is \$660.6 million

Closed session break was taken at 12:30. Reconvened at 1:37 pm

Item 13. Informational update from the Office of Enforcement (OOE) and summary on matters of advanced enforcement topics under the enforcement Policy and on OE's Enforcement Priorities for 2014.

Mr. Cris Carrigan, State Board - Office of Enforcement presented the report. *(Mr. Carrigan made, but was not limited to the following points during his presentation):*

- OE strives to assist the Regional Board with attaining their enforcement goals
- OE acts as an advisor to assist the Executive Officers
- The Executive Officer (EO) acts as the Board members advisor on enforcement
- Compliance is an excellent way to assist disadvantaged communities

- OE is anticipating taking on the Drinking Water Program
- Discussed recent successes of the program
- Working on the regulation of marijuana to assist the Regional Boards with developing regulatory programs
- Objectives of OE are to have fair, consistent, and transparent hearings/enforcement

Item 11. Consideration of tentative Waste Discharge Requirements for Calleguas Municipal Water District; Regional Salinity Management Pipeline, Thousand Oaks.

This matter was moved to the consent calendar. Dr. Cindy Lin, USEPA indicated that she is in support of the requirements. There was a motion for approval.

MOTION: To approve the Waste Discharge Requirements.

First: Board member Lawrence Yee

Second: Vice Chair Irma Muñoz

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

Item 12. Consideration of Amendment to Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Recycling Requirements for Leo J. Vander Lans Water Treatment Facility and Alamitos Barrier Recycled Water Project for Water Replenishment District and Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Long Beach.

Dr. Cathy Chang, Water Replenishment District expressed support for the permit, with the Change sheet.

Board Member concerns:

- Commended staff on the Recycled Water permits
- Asked clarification on the Salt and Nutrients and whether or not there is a problem?

MOTION: To adopt the Amended Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Recycling Requirements with the Change sheet.

First: Board member Madelyn Glickfeld

Second: Board member Maria Mehranian

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

Item 14, City of Avalon - Informational Update and Summary by, Counsel for the City of Avalon.

The City provided an overview of the City's efforts to comply with the Cease and Desist order R4-2012-0077 adopted by this Regional Board on April 5, 2012.

Mr. Ben Harvey, City of Avalon gave a report to the Board indicating, but not limited to the following:

- The City has made huge improvements
- Have improved grades from F's to B's
- All sampling stations improved in 2013
- City is committed to water quality and committed efforts to improve water quality

Board questions:

- How is infrastructure coming in to play?
- Commended the City and stated that the board hopes that this effort continues.
- With the City's growing tourism, are there plans for a future treatment plant?
- Heal the Bay was thanked for bringing this information to the Board a couple of years ago.

Item 15, Update on status of efforts by State and Regional Board staff and local water agencies to manage and/or regulate potable water distribution systems and wellheads to surface waters in Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

Mr. Sam Unger, Executive Officer made introductory remarks, indicating that fast, current, and proposed approaches to ensuring water quality protection.

Ms. Deborah Smith, Chief Deputy Executive Officer discussed past, current, and proposed approaches to ensuring water quality protection. *(Ms. Smith made, but was not limited to the following points):*

- *Status of addressing potable water discharges*
- *Discharges from Potable Water Systems (PWS)*
- *Evolution of addressing PWS*
- *Potable water discharges in the context of updated MS4 permits*

Ms. Renee Purdy, Chief Regional Programs section, *made, but was not limited to the following points during her presentation clarifying potable water discharges:*

- *Potable water discharges are non-storm water discharges*
- *These discharges should be carried under a separate NPDES permit*
- *Potable water discharges have conditional exemptions*
- *The MS4 permit acknowledges that some of the discharges need to be covered under a separate NPDES permit*

Mr. David Hung, Chief of Watershed Regulatory section discussed what other Regional boards are doing:

- Other Boards have issued general permits to cover these discharges
- Monitoring is required for oil and grease, TSS, TPA, phosphorus, and nitrogen
- There have been two Stakeholder meetings held on this issue over the past twelve months
- Water purveyors are undecided in their support of a permit

Mr. Adan Ortega, provided an update on Los Angeles County MS4 permit as it applies to Public Water Systems (PWS).

Mr. David Kimbrough, Pasadena Water and Power, *made, but was not limited to the following points during his presentation:*

- *The MS4 permit requires permittees to work with PWS*
- *A Multi-Regional Permit has been under development for over one year*

Speaker cards:

- Mr. Ray Tahir, TEC Environmental *(Expressed that there is no definition of Community Water Systems in the MS4 permit, and that this needs to be clarified.)*

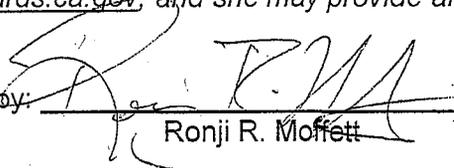
- Ms. Tatiana Gaur, L.A. Waterkeeper (*non Stormwater discharges are prohibited; and the MOU has a lack of transparency*)
- Ms. Angela George, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works *The County has been using the MS4*)
- Ms. Brandy Hancocks, CA-Nevada AWWA (*Have operated under a separate MS4 for fifteen years*)
- Ms. Vivian Castro, City of Covina (*Believe that what is provided in the MS4 is working, and asked the Board to allow the permit to do its job*)

Board questions and concerns:

- Do not understand why we would do separate permits for entities and the MS4 is supposed to make entities work together on this issue
- Member expressed that she believes the MS4 does what is necessary and do not believe the MOU is needed.
- Member expressed the MS4 did not regulate water purveyors and to allow an even playing field, the Board needs to issue water purveyors a separate permit. But, this member thought that it should be a Region 4 NPDES permit, not a multi-region permit for water purveyors

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm. (For more detailed information on any matter at our meetings, you may contact Ronji Moffett at (213) 576-6612 or ronji.moffett@waterboards.ca.gov and she may provide an Electronic copy of the transcript or audio, if available.)

Written and submitted by:


Ronji R. Moffett

then finalized on

05/09/14