

**Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board**

Meeting Minutes

Los Angeles Water Board Meeting  
July 11, 2013

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
700 North Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, California 90017

The meeting was called to Order by Vice Chair Charles Stringer at 9:11 am.

1. Roll Call.

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

Board Members Absent: Lawrence Yee

Staff Present: Samuel Unger, Deborah Smith, Paula Rasmussen, Frances McChesney, Ronji Moffett, Cynthia Miller, Alex Carlos, Renee Purdy, David Hung, Brandi Outwin-Beals, Eric Wu, Cassandra Owens, Michael Lyons, Dr. Arthur Heath, Talitha Crain, Augustine Anijiello, Gensen Kai, Hugh Marley, Russ Colby

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

Ms. Heather Benfield, Tetra Tech, Inc.	Mr. Pauley Sun, Tetra Tech, Inc.
Ms. Kirsten James, Heal the Bay	Mr. Hugo Garcia, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
Mr. Mark Stanley, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	Ms. Christina Walsh, Cleanup Rocketdyne.Org
Mr. Ronald Ziman, M.D.	Ms. Christian Kilkka, West Hills, SSFL CAG Member
Ms. Susan Reyes, Rep. Senator Ed Hernandez	Ms. Jane Williams, CA Communities Against Toxics
Ms. Cynthia Babich, Del Amo Action Committee	Mr. Ray Tahir, TEC Environmental
Mr. Robb Whitaker, Water Replenishment District of Southern California	Ms. Cathy Chang, Water Replenishment District of Southern California
Ms. Marcela Benavides, L.A. County Flood Control District	Mr. Jose Hernandez, EcoVoices@ San Gabriel Discovery Center Project
Ms. June Wheaton, U.S. Navy	Ms. Kim Lopez, EcoVoices@San Gabriel River Discovery Project
Mr. Richard Shope, EcoVoices@San Gabriel River Discovery Center Project	Ms. Shannon Bishop, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Ms. Diana Padilla, Youth Science Center	Ms. Russ Guiney, San Gabriel River Discovery Center
Mr. Andre Ellis Faculty at Cal State L.A.	Ms. Margot Paez, Youth Science Center

MARIA MEHRANIAN, CHAIR | SAM UNGER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Mr. Ken Manning, San Gabriel Valley Water Quality Authority	Mr. Steve Johnson, San Gabriel Valley Water Quality Authority
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2. Order of Agenda.

The Executive Officer, Samuel Unger requested a change of order for the agenda items. He also requested that item 10 be postponed.

Item 3. Approval of draft meeting Minutes for the June 6, 2013 meeting.

MOTION: To approve the draft meeting Minutes for June 6, 2013.

*(Chair Maria Mehranian recused herself from the vote because she was not present for the meeting.)*

First: Board member Fran Diamond  
Second: Board member Charles Stringer  
Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

Item 4. Board Member Communications.

*There was no communication that constituted disclosure.*

Item 5. 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 6. Update from State Board.

*Ms. Fran Spivy Weber gave an update/report to the Board. During her presentation Ms. Weber made, but was not limited to the following points during her presentation:*

- *Indicated that the Budget was approved by the Governor*
- *WQCC meeting will be held in Sacramento October 24-25, 2013, and on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, there will be a field trip*
- *At the WQCC, there will be discussion on Climate and Environmental Justice from a Regional Board perspective*
- *An additional \$800,000 was put into the budget for beaches*
- *There were three new appointments for Region 9, in San Diego*
- *Problems with San Onofre*
- *Next upcoming Funding Fairs will be held in Alhambra, and in Cathedral City*

Public Forum.

- Mr. Robb Whitaker, Water Replenishment District
- Ms. Christina Walsh, Cleanup Rocketdyne.Org
- Dr. Ronald Ziman, M.D., Representing Bell Creek
- Mr. Christian Kilkka, Representing Bell Creek
- Ms. Marcela Benavides, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

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*\*Board, Vice Chair, Charles Stringer recused himself, leaving the hearing room for the Bell Creek presentation by Christina Walsh. He returned when her presentation was finished.*

Uncontested items calendar:

The Executive Officer, Sam Unger asked that the Board consider approval of the Uncontested Items calendar as: Items 8.1, 8.2, and 9

MOTION: To approve the Uncontested Items calendar as Items 8.1, 8.2, and 9.

First: Vice Chair Charles Stringer

Second: Board member Fran Diamond

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

Item 16. Informational item for the San Gabriel River Discovery Center

Staff Report. By Mr. Russ Colby His report provided the following:

- Background on the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP)
- The Settlement Agreement for the SEP was \$2.2 million for development of the Discovery Center at Whittier Narrows
- The SEP contribution can be released only when Discovery Center reaches \$13.5 million funding commitment

Mr. Russ Giani, Director of San Gabriel River Discovery Center *indicated that there are over 1.5 million visitors at the nature center per year, and the land is owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In addition the following points were made:*

- Discussed the Native American history and use of the land
- In 1939 the Audobon Center was created on the land
- In 1970 the L.A. County Nature Center was created and Whittier Narrows Master Plan
- Expressed importance of environmental education, and of recycled water
- Have a strong watershed program

Mr. Mark Stanley, Executive Officer of the Discovery Center concluded the presentation and made, but was not limited to the following points:

- The reasons for moving forward with the Discovery Center are for the purposes of learning, exploring, and education
- Anticipate two years before the construction of the project begins
- The center has not been upgraded since 1939
- The Project design estimate already spent is \$4.5 million
- Still need to raise \$12.2 million
- The center is located on property owned by L.A. County, and controlled by the Army corps of Engineers

Public comment.

- Ms. Kimberly Lopez, EcoVoices @ San Gabriel River Discovery Project (in support)
- Ms. Margot Paez, Youth Science Center (in support)
- Mr. Richard Shope, Dir. EcoVoices Program (in support)
- Ms. Shannon Bishop, L.A. County sanitation (in support)
- M. Diana Padilla, Youth Science Center (in support)

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- Mr. Jose Hernandez, EcoVoices@San Gabriel Discovery Center Project (in support)
- Mr. Russ Guiney, San Gabriel River Discovery Center (in support)
- Mr. Andre Ellis, Faculty at Cal State LA (in support)

Closed Session break at 12:20 pm. Reconvened at 1:28 pm.

Item 12. Information from the Expert Panel represented by Mr. J.R. DeShazo, for the Carousel Tract Cleanup provided a Status Update.

Ms. Paula Rasmussen, Assistant Executive Officer *provided a status update on the indoor air sampling. She indicated that the Regional Board staff plans to provide its comments to Shell by the end of this month. Ms. Rasmussen stated that the Phase I remedial Action Plan will provide proposed cleanup recommendations.*

Mr. J.R. DeShazo made, but was not limited to the following points during his presentation:

- Discussion about the scope of work
- Analysis and concerns that arise when applying review criteria
- Expert Panel is charged with providing technical assistance to the Regional Board to support their decision making
- Approach to Rule 92-49 “Maximum Social Benefits”, clean-up subject to what is “economically and technically feasible”.

Board questions:

- Asked the Center to work with the Native Americans on the process (the Gabriela Indians and to include them in the process)

Public comment.

- Ms. Jane William, California Communities Against Toxics
- Ms. Cynthia Babich, Del Amo Action Committee (offered her assistance as a consultant)

Item 11. Consideration of tentative Waste Discharge Requirements for the United States Navy (San Clemente Island Wastewater Treatment Plant).

Staff Report. Ms. Brandi Outwin-Beals gave the staff presentation, making, but was not limited to the following points:

- Discussed the facility design
- The new tertiary process
- Updated requirements include new dilution ratio, new discharge point, and new tertiary plant
- Summarizing the U.S. Navy comments, indicating they do not believe the Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) Waste Discharge Requirements apply to them
- The U.S. Navy believe that acute toxicity tests are unnecessary and expensive
- The U.S. Navy believe Rec-1 does not apply and that bacteria monitoring should be reduced
- The U.S. Navy believe that effluent limits are based on Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) should be removed

Speaker card:

- Ms. June Wheaton, Representing the U.S. Navy (in support)

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### Board Comment.

- Asked clarification as to why there has been no enforcement with twenty six exceedances over the past year?
- Will there be residual discharge at the new plant?

MOTION: To approve the tentative Waste Discharge Requirements

First: Board member Madelyn Glickfeld

Second: Board Member Irma Muñoz

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

Item 14. Update on submittal of notifications of Intent to Develop Watershed Management or Enhanced Watershed Management Program under the L.A. County MS4 Permit; and Presentation of Project Management Plan for Oversight of the Permit by Regional Board Staff (Order R4-2012-0175).

Staff Report. Ms. Renee Purdy, chief Remedial Programs section gave the presentation. During her presentation, Ms. Purdy made, but was not limited to the following points:

- Gave background
- Discussed Board activities to date
- Key deliverables in years one and two
- Internal work breakdown: EWMPs/WMPs
- Developing a 'Review form' for consistency
- Received requests for Time Schedule Orders as of July 1, 2013
- Thirty-seven Petitions have been received on the L.A. County MS4 Permit
- Request for Stay-Denied
- State Board 30-day Letter issued by State Board July 8, 2013; Regional Board has 4 to 6 weeks to respond
- Hosted three information workshops, and will participate in monthly or bi-monthly meetings
- Eighty-four of eighty-six permittees issued Notices of Intent

### Board comment.

- How will getting together and working on the Administrative record impact the progress of the permit moving forward?
- How is expertise being allocated?
- Have you considered allocating expertise by watershed groups?
- Asked for methodology for permittees to know costs

### Public comment.

- Mr. Ray Tahir, TEC Environmental
- Ms. Kirsten James, Heal the Bay

Item 13. Presentation to highlight challenges facing regional water quality entities operating groundwater treatment facilities designated to produce potable water.

There was a joint-presentation by Mr. Ken Manning, San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority, and Mr. Steve Johnson, Stetson Engineers gave the presentation. During the presentation, the following are some of the points that were made:

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- Gave a summary of five potential discharges in the next 24 months
- Need to discharge 76 million gallons in the next 24 to 60 months
- Currently trying to clean up groundwater; did not create, but trying to clean it
- Discussed possible solutions

Public comment.

\*There were no speakers for this item.

Item 15. Stormwater capture to mitigate urban runoff pollution. The Council for Watershed Health will make a presentation on watershed modeling and regional evaluations of stormwater recharge feasibility and possible applications in the development of Watershed Management and enhanced Watershed Management Programs under the L.A. County MS4 Permit.

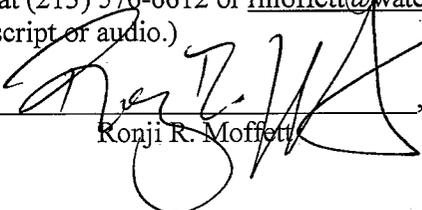
Ms. Nancy Steele, Executive Director, and Mr. Mike Antos, Programs director gave a joint-presentation on this item. The following points were made during their presentation:

- Urban stormwater Runoff is an under-utilized resource
- Discussed the Elmer Avenue Neighborhood Retrofit Program
- Discussed Elmer Paseo Stormwater Improvements
- Valuing Green Infrastructure

Board questions.

- Have you looked at how to bring private capital into these projects?
- Questions about partnership potential

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm. (For more detailed information on any matter at our meetings, you may contact Ronji Moffett at (213) 576-6612 or [rmoffett@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:rmoffett@waterboards.ca.gov) and she may provide an Electronic copy of the transcript or audio.)

Written and submitted by:  then finalized on

Ronji R. Moffett

Sept. 13, 2013