



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region



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MINUTES September 14, 2005

Regular Meeting

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District
Board Chambers
14306 Park Avenue
Victorville, CA

Amy Horne, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on September 14, 2005.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Keith Dyas, Rosamond
Bishop Henry W. Hearn, Lancaster
Amy Horne, Ph.D., Truckee
Eric Sandel, Truckee
Susan J. Van Dam, Barstow

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

John Brissenden, Hope Valley
Jim Chapman, Susanville
Jack Clarke, Apple Valley

LEGAL COUNSEL

Steven H. Blum, State Water Resources Control Board

STAFF PRESENT

Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer	Laurie Applegate, Executive Assistant
Robert S. Dodds, Assistant Executive Officer	Greg Cash, Engineering Geologist
Hisam Baqai, Supervising WRCE	Jehiel Cass, WRCE
Chuck Curtis, Supervising WRCE	Mary Dallavalle, Environmental Scientist
Cindi Mitton, Senior WRCE	Kai Dunn, WRCE
	Eric Shay, Office Technician

ADDRESSING THE BOARD

Barbara Firsick, Roosevelt Rural Town Council
Steve Maguin and Raymond Tremblay, Los Angeles County Sanitation District
Eugene B. Nebeker, Ph.D.
Lewis Trout, Los Angeles World Airport
Thomas Egan, California Native Plant Society
Terry Manning, Sierra Nevada Alliance
Jason Fried, California Wilderness Coalition
John A. Slezak, Iverson, Yoakum, Papiano & Hatch

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OTHER BUSINESS**1. Executive Officer's Report**

Mr. Singer discussed Items 2 through 11 and Items 14 and 15 of the August/September 2005 written report and answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Singer acknowledged the dedication and work of Chris Stetler, Program Manager for Leviathan Mine, over the years. Mr. Singer noted Mr. Stetler recently left the Regional Board for other employment.

Mr. Singer noted the Department of Fish and Game's Silver King Creek rotenone project would not be proceeding this year.

Mr. Singer discussed a concern raised by Mr. Brissenden at a previous Board meeting regarding an agreement between Alpine County and the Department of Fish and Game related to the Silver King Creek rotenone project. Among other things, the Department of Fish and Game agreed to consider unlocking a gate that would increase motor vehicle access to Bagley Valley if Alpine County would withdraw its objection to the rotenone project. Mr. Singer noted Bagley Valley is under the control of the U.S. Forest Service. The U.S. Forest Service completed a restoration project in Bagley Valley a number of years ago and Regional Board staff is concerned that increased vehicle access to the sensitive area could damage recovery and mitigation efforts. Regional Board staff has contacted the U.S. Forest Service regarding these concerns. Mr. Singer will provide an update at the October meeting.

Mr. Singer gave an update regarding proposed development in Martis Valley and staff's efforts to work with Placer County to establish an area-wide monitoring program. Mr. Singer discussed alternatives available to staff to ensure adequate monitoring is provided and noted he will give a recommendation to the Board in the near future.

Mr. Singer noted that the State Water Board's new data management system is currently inoperable affecting reports staff provides to the Board on a monthly basis. The old system cannot be reactivated and it is unknown when the new system will be operable. Data has not been lost; however, the ability to generate reports is not in place at the present time.

Chuck Curtis answered a question from Dr. Horne regarding a matter brought to the Board's attention by several Squaw Valley residents at the Board's June 2005 meeting regarding the effect of pumping on the water quality of Squaw Creek.

Dr. Horne asked for the status of an issue raised by Mr. Gary Guenther, a resident of Mammoth Lakes, at the Board's July 2005 meeting related to the impacts on water quality of grazing and commercial pack stations operating on U.S. Forest Service lands. Mr. Singer noted the matter would be assigned to the nonpoint source unit for follow up.



The afternoon session of the Board meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Regular Meeting, Continued
7:12 p.m., September 14, 2005

Vice Chair Amy Horne called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. Board members present: Keith Dyas, Bishop Henry Hearn, Eric Sandel and Susan Van Dam. Board members absent: John Brissenden, Jim Chapman, Jack Clarke.

3. **PUBLIC FORUM**

- Thomas Egan, representative of the California Native Plant Society, discussed concerns regarding Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposals to allow off-road vehicles in fragile desert streams including Surprise Canyon in the Panamint Mountains and Furnace Creek in Death Valley National Park. Mr. Egan handed two pictures to the Board and asked the Board questions regarding the level of coordination and involvement of the Regional Board with BLM.
- Jason Fried, California Wilderness Coalition and Alliance for Responsible Recreation, concurred with Mr. Egan's comments and concerns. Mr. Fried offered to provide a tour of the areas of concern to the Board. He thanked the Board for submitting comments during the scoping and environmental assessment comment period.
- Terry Manning, President of the Board of Directors, Sierra Nevada Alliance, discussed the mission of the Sierra Nevada Alliance and provided a copy of a report entitled "Planning for the Future – A Sierra Nevada Land Use Index".

OTHER BUSINESS

4. **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13 and 14, 2005 in Bishop**

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Dyas, seconded by Ms. Van Dam and **unanimously carried** to adopt the July 13 and 14, 2005 minutes as proposed. Abstaining: Mr. Sandel and Bishop Hearn.

5. **ADOPTION OF THE UNCONTESTED CALENDAR**

Items 6 and 7 were considered on the uncontested calendar. Staff submitted a revision to Attachment D of Item 6.

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Sandel, seconded by Bishop Hearn and **unanimously carried** to adopt Items 6 (with revision to Attachment D) and 7 on the uncontested calendar.



OTHER BUSINESS**8. Status Report on Compliance of Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14, Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant, with Waste Discharge Requirements (R6V-2002-053) and Cease and Desist Order (R6V-2004-038), Los Angeles County**

Mr. Dyas and Bishop Hearn recused themselves from this item.

Vice Chair Horne announced that with the recusal of members Dyas and Hearn, the Board did not have a quorum. Without a quorum of the Board, the meeting adjourned and continued as a workshop for discussion of Item 8.

Kai Dunn gave the staff presentation.

Steven Blum discussed the Board's responsibility with regard to certifying an environmental document for a Master Reclamation Permit.

Mr. Sandel noted pages 4 and 5 were missing from Dr. Nebeker's submittal to the Board entitled "Irrigation of Alfalfa". Mr. Sandel asked staff to provide the missing pages to the Board.

Addressing the Board: Steve Maguin, Los Angeles County Sanitation District; Dr. Eugene B. Nebeker, Nebeker Ranch; and Barbara Firsick, president of Roosevelt Town Council.

The Board took no action on this item.

9. Status Report on Compliance of Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 20, Palmdale Water Reclamation Plant, with Waste Discharge Requirements (6-00-57) and Cease and Desist Order (R6V-2004-039) and Both the District and Los Angeles World Airports with Cleanup and Abatement Order (R6V-2003-056), Los Angeles County

Board members Dyas and Hearn joined the Board and the meeting reconvened. (Mr. Dyas and Bishop Hearn previously recused themselves from Item 8.)

Jehiel Cass gave the staff presentation. Mr. Cass, Mr. Baqai and Mr. Singer answered questions from the Board. Mr. Baqai handed out a memo he wrote to Mr. Singer dated September 9, 2005 summarizing an April 25, 2005 meeting with Jeff Stone of the California Department of Health Services.

Addressing the Board: Steve Maguin, Los Angeles County Sanitation District; Lewis Trout, Los Angeles World Airport (handout/U.S. Terminal Procedures); Dr. Eugene B. Nebeker, Nebeker Ranch; and John Slezak, Iverson, Yoakum, Papiano & Hatch, legal counsel for LAWA.

The Board took no action on this item.



10. **Workshop on the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program and Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Listings**

Chuck Curtis discussed issues related to the TMDL program and answered questions from the Board.

2. **CLOSED SESSION**

Board members met in closed session on September 14, 2005 from 10:00 p.m. to 10:40 p.m. to discuss items f, l, m and n. Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e).

The Board reconvened in open session at 10:45 p.m.

11. **Reports by Chair and Board Members**

Bishop Hearn noted it would likely be his last meeting because of Section 13388 of the California Water Code. He commented that he enjoyed serving on the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

s/s

Prepared by: _____ Adopted: October 11, 2005
Laurie Applegate, Executive Assistant

