

## Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

### CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 28, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Friday, June 29, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Santa Barbara County Offices  
Planning & Development Hearing Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara

#### Thursday, June 28, 2018, 9:00 a.m.

Chair Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff called the meeting to order on Thursday, June 28, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

#### BOARD BUSINESS

1. Roll Call

[Tammie Olson, Clerk to the Board, 805/549-3140, [Tammie.Olson@Waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Tammie.Olson@Waterboards.ca.gov)]

**Present:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Johnston, and Member Young.

2. Introductions, Staff Recognition, and Awards

[John Robertson, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140, [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Executive Officer John Robertson introduced Stephanie Yu, counsel to the Board; Tammie Olson, clerk to the Board; and section managers Harvey Packard, Thea Tryon, Angela Schroeter, and Chris Rose. He also introduced State Water Resources Control Board liaison Dorene D'Adamo.

3. Approval of May 10-11, 2018 Board meeting minutes

**Motion:** Member Gray  
**Seconded by:** Vice-Chair Hunter  
**Roll Call Vote:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, and Member Johnston  
**Aye:** Member Young  
**Abstain:** Member Young  
**MOTION CARRIED:** 6-0

4. Report by Regional Board Members

- Chair Wolff
  - May 21, 2018, meeting with Cal Poly and California Men's Colony to discuss a consolidation of water treatment plant.
  - May 29, 2018, meeting with Supervisor Bruce Gibson, County of San Luis Obispo, John Robertson, and Harvey Packard to discuss the county's progress on a local agency management program for septic systems.
  - June 13, 2018, meeting with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act group for San Luis Obispo
  - June 21, 2018, meeting with Cal Poly and California Men's Colony follow up discussion.
- Vice-Chair Hunter:
  - Provided update regarding environmental justice activities
- Member Johnston:
  - June 8, 2018 phone conference with Laurel Firestone, co-director of Community Water Center, regarding environmental justice.
- Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, and Member Young
  - Nothing to report

5. Report by State Water Resources Control Board Liaison [Dorene D'Adamo, 916/341-5609]  
Ms. Adamo provided a report on State Water Board activities.

**Uncontested Items**

6. Waste Discharge and Water Recycling Requirements Order No. R3-2018-0002, Woodlands Mutual Water Company, San Luis Obispo County  
[Jennifer Epp, 805/594-6181, [jennifer.epp@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jennifer.epp@waterboards.ca.gov)]
7. Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 99-11, Engel & Gray Regional Compost Facility, Santa Barbara County  
[Ryan Lodge, 805/549-3506, [ryan.lodge@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:ryan.lodge@waterboards.ca.gov)]

There were no questions or discussion on items 6 or 7. Vice-Chair Hunter moved approval of both items as recommended by staff.

**Motion:** Vice-Chair Hunter  
**Seconded by:** Member Gray  
**Roll Call Vote:**  
**Aye:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Johnston and Member Young  
**MOTION CARRIED:** 7-0

8. Blank

**Public Forum**

9. Public forum:

**Speakers:**

- Irv Beiman, Phd, Safe Energy Now – North County
- Larry Bishop, Safe Energy Now – North County
- Noelle McGivern
- Janet Blevins
- Harold Hill, Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Ministry
- Steve Shimek, Otter Project and Monterey Coastkeeper
- Kay Mercer, KMI

### Discussion/Informational Items

10. Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) for Implementation of the State Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) Policy – Status Update and Next Steps  
[Jennifer Epp, 805/594-6181, [Jennifer.Epp@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Epp@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Senior Water Resource Control Engineer Jennifer Epp, the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Program Manager, provided status update on Local Agency Management Programs (LAMPs) for the Central Coast Region. Ms. Epp provided a general overview of the OWTS policy, provided a summary of approved LAMPs and ones that are still in progress, an update on our permitting activities, a brief overview of website updates to help the public understand the permitting requirements, status of the identification of impaired groundwater basins, and how the onsite wastewater permitting work fits in with other WDR program work.

Board members asked general clarifying questions about the OWTS Policy, the tier structure, how accessory dwelling unit (ADU) are permitted, how staff are handling the workload associated with these permits, seepage pits, and supplemental treatment. Several questions were also asked about the groundwater protocol for identifying impaired basins and status of the Los Olivos project. Lawrence Fay, Santa Barbara County Public Health Director, provided an update on the County's LAMP implementation and explained that Los Olivos will likely be sewered in a next couple of years. County of San Luis Obispo staff Ann Gillespie and Cheryl Journey and City of Atascadero staff Ryan Hayes requested that the Water Board consider their local differences in approving their LAMP and not be held to the same standards as the Santa Barbara County LAMP. Hillary Hauser requested we investigate Rincon homes that are still on OWTS. Abby Taylor-Silva also commented that if there is a draft protocol for impaired groundwater basins that the agricultural community would like an opportunity to comment on the protocol.

#### **Speakers:**

- Lawrence Fay, Santa Barbara County Public Health
- Ann Gillespie, Principal Environmental Specialist, County of San Luis Obispo
- Cheryl Journey, Building Official, County of San Luis Obispo
- Ryan Hath Hayes, Deputy Director of Public Works, City of Atascadero
- Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
- Hillary Hauser, Heal the Ocean

11. Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed Agricultural Order - Update  
[Chris Rose, 805/542-4770, [chris.rose@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:chris.rose@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Item 11 was an informational item. Ms. Emel Wadhvani from the Office of Chief Counsel and Mr. Darrin Polhemus from the Division of Drinking Water of the State Water Board presented a summary of the State Water Board's final order on the Eastern San Joaquin Watershed agricultural order (ESJ order). Their presentation focused on the precedential components of the ESJ order, which other regional water board are required to incorporate

into their agricultural orders over the next five years. Topics included field tracking and reporting of nitrogen applied (A) and nitrogen removed (R), the A/R ratio and A-R calculations, water boards' use of this data in regulating agricultural discharges, groundwater target development for nitrogen, drinking water well monitoring, and regional board triennial progress reports to the State Water Board. Oral comment was provided by environmental and agricultural advocates, comments included: aggregation of data in the ESJ order; monitoring requirements without specific targets in the ESJ order; building time in central coast agricultural orders for growers to adjust to new requirements; seizing opportunities for exemptions and time delays as allowed in the ESJ order; including hold-harmless language for certified crop advisors and similar professionals in future central coast agricultural orders, as provided in the ESJ order. The board members engaged the presenters and public commenters. Items discussed included: groundwater protection targets; time frames; implementing follow-up to A-R reporting; the hold-harmless language in the ESJ order found in footnote 103 of the ESJ order; incentivizing the agronomic use of nitrogen rich groundwater.

**Speakers:**

- Kaylee Ellis, Grower-Shipper Assoc.
- Steve Shimek, Otter Project and Monterey Coastkeeper
- Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
- Kay Mercer, KMI

12. Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program –Healthy Soil Projects, Composting and Gleaning Crops

[Chris Rose, 805/542-4770, [chris.rose@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:chris.rose@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Item 12 was an informational item. There were three speakers for this item. Ms. Allegra Roth of the Community Environmental Council spoke on the state's Healthy Soil Initiative, focusing on reduction of carbon emissions, carbon farming, composting, cover cropping and local pilot projects. Mr. Dan Noble of the California Association of Compost Producers presented general information on composting, its benefits, the economics of composting, and the future of composting. Ms. Roxanne Sanders and Ms. Emily Wilson of GleanSLO provided a presentation on food gleaning efforts in San Luis Obispo County and their relationship with the local food bank. Oral comments were provided by agricultural and environmental advocates. Comments included: concern that composting efforts might be mandated through agricultural orders; a request to have agricultural and environmental advocates speak at future board meetings; agreement that gleaning has value to people in need but difficulties persist for growers to allow gleaning due to food and produce safety rules. Board members engaged the presenters and commenters; the discussion largely centered on the value and intent of the presentations, with board members commenting that discussion of climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions is an appropriate topic and that future board meetings should provide opportunity for other viewpoints, prior to discussion of new agricultural order requirements.

Guest Presentations:

- "Healthy Soils, Water and Climate Resiliency – The Big Picture," Allegra Roth, Community Environmental Council
- "Composting and Possibilities of Unharvested Crop Material," Dan Noble, CA Association of Compost Producers
- "Gleaning: Rescuing Unharvested Crops," Roxanne Sanders and Emily Wilson, GleanSLO

**Speakers:**

- Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
- Kay Mercer, KMI
- Steve Shimek, Otter Project and Monterey Coastkeeper

### Administrative Item

13. Executive Officer's Report

[John Robertson, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140, [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Diane Gabriel and Mark Carlo of Montecito Sanitary District gave a presentation and explanation of the events of the January 2018 Montecito debris flow and the sanitary district's response.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

**Friday, June 29, 2018, 9:00 a.m.**

### BOARD BUSINESS

14. Roll Call

[Tammie Olson, Clerk to the Board, 805/549-3140, [Tammie.Olson@Waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Tammie.Olson@Waterboards.ca.gov)]

**Present:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Johnston, and Member Young.

15. Introductions, Staff Recognition, and Awards

[John Robertson, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140, [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Executive Officer John Robertson introduced Stephanie Yu, counsel to the Board; Tammie Olson, clerk to the Board; and section managers Harvey Packard, Thea Tryon, Angela Schroeter, and Chris Rose.

Also introduced: Eileen Sobeck, State Water Board executive director; Yvonne West, Office of Enforcement; and Julie Macedo, Office of Enforcement.

### Public Forum

16. Public Forum:

**No Speaker Cards**

### Discussion/Informational Items

17. Building Environmental Justice Capacity in the Central Coast Region

[Angela Schroeter, 805/542-4644, [Angela.Schroeter@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Angela.Schroeter@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Central Coast Water Board Section Manager Angela Schroeter provided a presentation for Item 17, which was an informational item to update the Board on staff's efforts to increase environmental justice service capacity and improve support to disadvantaged communities in the Central Coast Region. Ms. Schroeter described the challenges facing disadvantaged communities that often lack the necessary technical, managerial, and financial resources and capacity to identify, fund, and implement solutions that will effectively address their drinking water and wastewater issues.

To address these challenges, Ms. Schroeter informed the Board that staff released a request for proposals (RFP) to establish a regional program to increase environmental justice service capacity to assist low-income, disadvantaged individuals and communities in obtaining access to clean, safe, and affordable drinking water. RFP submittals were due by July 20, 2018 at noon. The Board expressed interest in participating in the review of the RFP submittals and formed a subgroup to provide individual input to staff. The subgroup includes Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Johnston, and Member Gray.

In addition, Susana De Anda, Co-Executive Director of the Community Water Center, also provided a presentation to the Board to share lessons learned from their environmental justice efforts in the central valley region.

**Speakers:**

- Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
- Claire Wineman, Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties
- Lawrence Hinkle, Grower-Shipper Association

**Enforcement**

18. Supplemental Environmental Project Criteria and Priorities

[John Robertson, Executive Officer 805/549-3140, [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Central Coast Water Board Senior Water Resources Control Engineer Matthew Keeling provided an overview presentation to affirm Water Board settlement funding priorities (i.e., disadvantaged community assistance and regional monitoring) and associated third-party supplemental environmental project (SEP) administrator management structure. In addition, staff informed the Board about staff's coordination efforts with the State Water Board Office of Enforcement to draft a resolution for State Water Board approval of the Groundwater Assessment and Protection (GAP) Program as the Central Coast Water Board's preapproved third-party administered SEP per the State Water Board's recently revised SEP Policy.

Office of Enforcement Director Yvonne West provided some clarifying comments regarding the revised SEP Policy with respect to increased transparency and accountability, the Water Board's approval of preapproved third-party administered SEPs, and the pending coordination process. The Board discussed the merits of aggregating SEP funds for the implementation of a limited number of preapproved priority projects versus the implementation of a larger number of first or third-party SEPs. Some members expressed that they support some additional focus on environmental justice and climate resiliency related projects. Executive Director Sobeck indicated that the Water Board must also be mindful of how we administer preapproved SEPs to mitigate the perception of incentivizing or directing SEP funds to Water Board "pet projects." Matthew Keeling and Yvonne West closed the discussion by stating that they would begin the coordination process to develop a resolution for State Water Board consideration.

**Administrative Item**

19. Board Calendar 2019

[John Robertson, Executive Officer 805/549-3140, [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov)]

**Speakers:**

- Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
- Claire Wineman, Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties

**Motion:** Motion to adopt only the dates and not the locations proposed in the staff report for the 2019 Board calendar  
Member Johnston

**Seconded by:** Member Gray

**Motion:** Motion to amend motion to adopt both dates and locations  
Vice-Chair Hunter

**Roll Call Vote:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, and Member Young

**Aye:**

**Nay:** Member Johnston

**MOTION CARRIED:** 6-1

**Roll Call Vote on Amended Motion:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Johnston and Member Young

**Aye:**

**Nay:**

**MOTION CARRIED:** 7-0

Chair Wolff adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:35 p.m.



Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff, Chair

