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## Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

### MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

June 27, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 10.24 a.m.

In-Person and Zoom Video/Teleconference Meeting

Archived audio and video webcasts of Board meetings are available at the following link:  
<https://cal-span.org/static/meetings-RWQCB-COLO.php>

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### **Introductory Matters**

#### **1. Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Muzik at 9:00 a.m. on June 27, 2023.

Ed Muzik, Peter Satin, Beatriz Gonzalez, and Jayne Powell were present. Vivian Perez attended the meeting via Zoom, and Board member Nancy Wright was absent.

The Board Clerk stated that a quorum was present.

#### **State and Regional Water Board Staff Present**

Paula Rasmussen, Cassandra Owens, David Lancaster, Kai Dunn, Jose Cortez, Mary Castaneda, CJ Jasieniecki, Dan Mefford, Zakary Owens, Jose Valle deLeon, Reginald Tan, Logan Raub, Michael Perez, and Naomi Rubin attended via Zoom.

#### **Public Attendance**

Luis Polanco, CYRQ Energy  
Joe Bannon, CYRQ Energy  
Bob Stadum, Hi-Desert Water District  
Marco A. Resendiz, Seeley County Water District  
Gary Thornburg, Seeley County Water District  
Amado Ramirez, Seeley County Water District  
Lillian Garcia, United for Justice, Inc.

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EDWARD MUZIK, CHAIR | PAULA RASMUSSEN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## **Remote Public Attendance**

Lidia Sierra, Salton City Resident  
Guadalupe Valenzuela, National Border Patrol Council Local 2554  
Aaron Garcia, Seeley County Water District  
Alphonso Andrade, Imperial County Public Health Department  
Danny Friend, Mission Springs water District  
Marlee Nelson, Court Reporter

## **2. Public Forum**

Comments were received from the following members of the public:  
Lidia Sierra, Salton Sea Resident  
Guadalupe Valenzuela, National Border Patrol Council Local 2554

## **3. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the June 27, 2023 Board meeting.

Motion to approve Item 3: Jayne Powell moved, Peter Satin seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Ed Muzik – Aye, Peter Satin – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Jayne Powell – Aye, Nancy Wright – Absent

The motion was carried unanimously to approve the minutes of June 27, 2023.

## **4. Update from the State Water Resources Control Board Liaison, Laurel Firestone**

This Agenda Item was skipped because Ms. Firestone was not in attendance.

## **Uncontested Calendar of Items for Adoption**

Per the Meeting Notice and Agenda, the Uncontested Calendar only consisted of Agenda Item 5:

## **5. Waste Discharge Requirements Order R7–2023–0012 Hudson Ranch Power I LLC, Geothermal Power Plant I, Imperial County (Staff Contact: Zakary Owens Engineering Geologist)**

The Board Chair first noted that Board staff had submitted two separate Change Sheets for Agenda Item 5. The Board Chair further stated that any motion to adopt Agenda Item 5 would necessarily include those revisions specified in the Change Sheets. There were no objections.

Prior to the Board's vote to adopt the Uncontested Calendar, Board member Jayne Powell had questions and comments for Agenda Item 5. These questions and comments

were addressed by Board staff (Zakary Owens), the Discharger's representative (Luis Polanco, CYRC Energy) and the Board's counsel (David Lancaster). Prior to addressing the Board, Board staff and the Discharger's representatives took the Oath, which was administered by the Board Chair.

Agenda Item 5 was not removed from the consent calendar, notwithstanding Board Member Powell's questions.

Next, the Board Chair then requested a motion to add Agenda Item 8 for adoption as part of the Uncontested Calendar. Jayne Powell moved, Peter Satin seconded, roll call vote taken.

Roll Call Vote to Move Agenda Item 8: Ed Muzik – Aye, Peter Satin – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Jayne Powell – Aye, Nancy Wright – Absent

The motion was carried unanimously to move Agenda Item 8 to the Uncontested calendar. As a result, the Uncontested Calendar also consisted of the following item:

**8. Resolution 2023-0026 Approving Local Agency Management Program for Imperial County Public Health Department, Imperial County (Staff Contact: Reginald Tan, WRC Engineer)**

The Board Chair asked for a motion to adopt the Uncontested Calendar consisting of Agenda Items 5 and 8 (subject to the two Change Sheets for Agenda Item 5). Peter Satin moved, Jayne Powell seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote on Uncontested Calendar: Ed Muzik – Aye, Peter Satin – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Jayne Powell – Aye, Nancy Wright – Absent

The Motion to Adopt Agenda Item 5 (WDRs Order R7–2023–0012) and Agenda Item 8 (Resolution 2023-0026) was passed unanimously.

**Contested and Discussion Calendar of Items for Adoption (Items 6 – 9)**

**6. Waste Discharge Requirements Order 2023-0003 and Monitoring and Reporting Program for Seeley County Water District, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Imperial County (NPDES Permit No. CA0105023)**

Staff Contact: Jose Valle deLeon, WRC Engineer

The Chair administered the Oath to those intending to speak on this item.

Staff provided information relevant to the proposed Order as it pertains to the NPDES permit renewal for the Seeley County Wastewater Treatment Plant. This included a review of the facility background information, permit requirements, whole effluent toxicity effluent limitations, and new monitoring requirements. Staff and Legal Counsel responded to comments from the Discharger and questions from the Board. After a brief discussion, staff recommended the Order for adoption by Board, subject to the Change Sheet with certain specified revisions therein.

Board member Gonzalez conveyed her concerns regarding the discharge issues at the facility and the time limits.

Speaker: Aaron Garcia, Seeley County Water District

The Chair asked for a motion to adopt Item 6, subject to the Change Sheet discussed above.

Motion to adopt Item 6 with the Change Sheet: Jayne Powell moved, Peter Satin seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Ed Muzik – Aye, Peter Satin – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Jayne Powell – Aye, Nancy Wright – Absent

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt Item 6 (WDRs Order R7-2023-0003) with changes as discussed.

**7. Waste Discharge Requirements Order 2023-0015 and Monitoring Reporting Program for Poe Colonia (Cady Subdivision), Community Subsurface Wastewater Disposal System, Imperial County**

Staff Contact: Adriana Godinez, WRC Engineer

The Chair administered the Oath to those intending to speak on this item.

Staff provided background information and relevant updates to reflect current operations, and implementation of the current laws and regulations. This included a detailed description of the Facility, the processes and operations, and effluent characterization over the last five years. In addition, new monitoring requirements have been implemented that require a groundwater investigation to determine the background water quality for parameters and constituents of concern in the vicinity of the facility and disposal area. Comments received were addressed in the staff's response to comments. Staff and Legal Counsel responded to questions and comments from the Board.

The Chair asked for a motion to adopt Item 7, subject to a Change Sheet with specified revisions to the tentative order.

Motion to adopt Item 7, subject to the Change Sheet: Peter Satin moved, Jayne Powell seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Ed Muzik – Aye, Peter Satin – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Jayne Powell – Aye, Nancy Wright – Absent

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt Item 8 (WDRs Order R7-2023-0015) with noted revisions.

**9. Rescission and Substitution Order 2023-0025 Various Facilities**

Staff Contact: Cassandra Owens, Assistant Executive Officer

The Chair administered the Oath to those intending to speak on this item.

The Assistant Executive Officer provided an overview of the Rescission and Substitution Order that implements administrative changes that are necessary to the existing permits listed in this Order and applicable to Region 7. The changes included rescissions, change of ownership, and facility name changes.

The Chair asked for a motion to adopt Item 9, subject to the revisions specified in a Change Sheet submitted by Board staff.

Motion to adopt Item 9 subject to the Change Sheet: Beatriz Gonzalez moved, Vivian Perez seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Ed Muzik – Aye, Peter Satin – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Jayne Powell – Aye, Nancy Wright – Absent

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt Item 9 (Rescission and Substitution Order R7-2023-0025), subject to the Change Sheet.

### **Information Items**

No actions were taken on these items.

#### **10. Report from Executive Office, Paula Rasmussen**

The Executive Officer, Paula Rasmussen, presented an update on activities and plans for the region.

#### **11. Comments from Board Members**

There were no Board member comments.

#### **12. Report from Chair, Ed Muzik**

Chair Muzik reported that he attended a Chair's meeting with discussion topics including Nutrient Plan updates and presentations from each of the Regions, the Dairy Industry, and Waters of the US and their relative permanence. He stated that Board members are now required to attend future Board meetings in person with Zoom participation no longer an option, and he thanked Executive Officer Paula Rasmussen for the presentation she provided at the Chair's meeting.

### **Closed Session (Item 13)**

There was no closed session held.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.