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## Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

### MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

November 12, 2024, 2:05 pm to 4:25 pm

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 Satin at 2:05 am on November 12, 2024.

The Board Clerk conducted a roll call of Board Members physically present at the meeting. Peter Satin, Vivian Perez, Azucena Beltran-Serrano, Beatriz Gonzalez, Ed Muzik, and Nancy Wright.

The Board Chair determined that a quorum was physically present at the meeting location.

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

Michael Placencia, Paula Rasmussen, Cassandra Owens, David Lancaster, Mary Castaneda, Dan Mefford, Kai Dunn, Logan Raub, Jose Cortez, Adrian Lopez, Michael Perez, Monica Aragon-Guzman, and Fatima Alrahem and Laurel Firestone participated remotely via Zoom.

##### **Public Attendance**

Kristine Kim, Riverside County Department of Environmental Health  
Camille Wasinger, Intersect Power  
Grace Nelson, Intersect Power  
Alan Davis, Cabazon Water District

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PETER SATIN, CHAIR | PAULA RASMUSSEN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## **Remote Public Attendance**

Nancy Sansonetti, County of San Bernardino  
Brandon Bushnell, Regional Water Quality Control Board – Region 9  
Marlee Nelson, Court Reporter

### **2. Recognition of Paula Rasmussen**

The Board recognized outgoing Executive Officer Paula Rasmussen for her dedication and distinguished service. The Board wished her well in her retirement.

### **3. Public Forum**

There were no Public Speakers.

### **4. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of November 12, 2024, Board meeting.

Motion to approve Item 3: Ed Muzik moved, Vivian Perez seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Peter Satin – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Azucena Beltran-Serrano- Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez, Ed Muzik – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye.

The motion was passed to approve the minutes of November 12, 2024.

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

The State Water Board Liaison, Laurel Firestone, presented an update on State Board actions, and strategies for statewide and regional activities

### **6. Selection of 2025 Board Meeting Dates**

This item was continued to the next Board meeting, December 10, 2024.

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

(Item 7)

### **7. Waste Discharge Requirements Order R7- 2024-XXXX**

Parties:	County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Works
Subject:	National Trails Highway at 10 Bridges Projects
Location:	San Bernardino County
Staff Contact:	Logan Raub, Senior Environmental Scientist ( <a href="mailto:Logan.Raub@waterboards.ca.gov">Logan.Raub@waterboards.ca.gov</a> )

Motion to approve Item 5: Nancy Wright moved, Vivian Perez seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Peter Satin – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Azucena Beltran-Serrano- Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye.

The motion was passed to approve Uncontested Order Item 7 as presented.

**Contested and Discussion Calendar of Items for Adoption** (Items 8-9)

**8. Waste Discharge Requirements Order R7- 2024-XXXX**

Parties: Easley LLC, IP Easley II, LLC, and IP Easley III, LLC  
Subject: North Cathedral City Regional Stormwater Project  
Location: Riverside County  
Staff Contact: Logan Raub, Senior Environmental Scientist  
([Logan.Raub@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Logan.Raub@waterboards.ca.gov))

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

Staff provided background information about the tentative Order and the Project. This included Order purpose, a description of the Easley Renewable Energy Project, Project location, avoidance and mitigation measures, impacts, compensatory mitigation for permanent impacts, and public comment period for the tentative Order. Staff recommended adoption of the tentative order with changes to the hearing date from December 10, 2024 to November 12, 2024. The staff and Permittee Representative addressed Board questions and comments.

Chair Satin inquired about the 1 to 1 compensatory mitigation ratio, and whether the mitigation land is on-site or off-site.

Member Muzik asked where the excess power generated would go. and the timeframe for the construction.

Speaker: Camille Wasinger, Intersect Power

Motion to approve Item 5: Beatriz Gonzalez moved, Ed Muzik seconded.  
The roll call was paused for further discussion.

A brief discussion was held with Board staff, Legal Counsel, and Camille Wasinger. Permittee Representative, who pointed out that the mitigation ratio is actually 2 to 1. Legal Counsel recommended a short break be taken to discuss the mitigation ratio further.

*Break: A short break was taken at 2:44 pm. – 2:54 pm.*

Chair Satin reconvened the hearing. Legal Counsel proposed changes to Section VIII, page 5 and Section H.1.a on page 18 of the tentative Order to add the words “at least” before 1:1, to reflect the testimony by the Permittee.

Revised Motion to approve (subject to the changes on pages 5 and 18, as discussed above): Peter Satin moved, Beatriz Gonzalez seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Peter Satin – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Azucena Beltran-Serrano- Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye.

The motion was passed to approve Item 8 with additional changes on pages 5 and 18 as discussed above.

**9. Resolution R7- 2024-XXXX**

Parties: Approving Revision to Local Agency Management Program  
Location: Riverside County  
Staff Contact: Adrian Lopez, WRC Engineer  
([Adrian.Lopez@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Adrian.Lopez@waterboards.ca.gov))

Staff provided background information and relevant updates to the County of Riverside Local Agency Management Program (LAMP). This included a detailed description of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS), the State Policy for OWTS, and the County of Riverside’s LAMP. Staff also summarized the revision to the LAMP, specifically the minor change in Chapter 5 - Design Requirements for Conventional Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems. Additionally, comments received and responses to comments were reviewed in the presentation. Staff and the County of Riverside representative responded to questions and comments from the Board.

Speaker: Kristine Kim

Motion to approve Item 9: Ed Muzik moved, Nancy Wright seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Peter Satin – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Azucena Beltran-Serrano- Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye.

Motion passed to approve Item 9 as presented.

**Informational Items**

(No Actions on Items 10-13)

**10. Site Cleanup Program Update**

Staff provided an overview of the regulatory sites under the Site Cleanup (SCP), Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) and Department of Defense (DOD)

Programs. She discussed how regulatory activities are conducted in accordance with Policy 92-49, the Basin Plan and the Water Code, as well as UST regulations and State Water Board Resolution 2012-0016, also known as the Low Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy (LTCP). Additionally, staff ensure that equity goals are met while keeping potentially affected public including disadvantaged communities informed of contaminated site activities nearby and of the Regional Water Board oversight of the cleanup activities.

#### **11. Report from Executive Officer, Michael Placencia**

The newly appointed Executive Officer, Michael Placencia introduced himself and provided a summary of his water quality background and related experience. He gave an update on activities for the region, including a settlement agreement he approved with Rancho Mirage High School. He also mentioned that Phase 1 of the office renovation is almost complete, and staff continues to work remotely.

Board Member Ed Muzik asked about Table 1 of the Executive Officer's Report. Specifically, Member Muzik asked about how the violations (as identified in one column) translate to the total penalties (as identified in another column). Member Muzik also asked about how long settlement discussions should take. David Lancaster, the Board's counsel, responded that although settlement communications were privileged, the Prosecution Team would be able to explain the typical timeline that settlement discussions follow. Mr. Lancaster further explained that, due to separation of functions, neither he nor the Executive Officer could answer Member Muzik's questions.

#### **12. Comments from Board Members**

Member Wright welcomed Michael Placencia as the new Executive Officer to the Regional Board.

#### **13. Report from Board Chair, Peter Satin**

There were no updates to report.

#### **Closed Session**

#### **14. Closed Session**

No closed session was held.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Next Board Meeting:  
December 10, 2024 at 9:00 am