
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

MINUTES

September 16, 2020

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board)
conducted this meeting using
Video and Teleconference as shown below:

Video and Teleconference Meeting Only
No Physical Meeting Location
(Authorized by and in furtherance of
Executive Orders N-29-20 and N-33-20.)

Water Board Members

Peter C. Pumphrey, Chair, Chalfant
Amy Horne, Ph.D., Truckee
Keith Dyas, Rosamond

Don Jardine, Vice-Chair, Markleeville
Eric Sandel, Truckee
Kimberly Cox, Helendale

State Water Board

Elizabeth Beryt, Office of Chief Counsel

Leslie Loudon, Division of Financial Assistance

Water Board Staff

Mike Plaziak, Acting Executive Officer
Scott Ferguson, Supervising WRC Engineer
Cindy Wise, Water Resource Control Engineer
Ben Letton, Supv. Engineering Geologist
Michelle Avilla, Acting Executive Assistant

Daniel Sussman, Sr. Environmental Scientist
Patrice Copeland, Supervising Engineering Geologist
Sandra Lopez, Board Clerk
Michael Suglian, Scientific Aid

REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, September 16, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

[View the full Agenda and listen to the audio of this meeting](#)

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Pumphrey called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and discussed procedures to adhere to the Governor's Executive Order during this COVID-19 emergency, the meeting will be video and teleconference only with no in person attendance. Chair Pumphrey introduced Bob Lloyd with AGP Video and asked Mr. Lloyd to give direction to the public that wish to speak. Mr. Pumphrey then introduced the Water Board Members, Water Board staff and State Water Board staff.

1. CLOSED SESSION

The Water Board did not discuss closed session.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

No public Comment

3. MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Member Keith Dyas, seconded by Member Amy Horne to approve the June 10, 2020, Minutes as presented. Chair Pumphrey called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Jardine	Aye
Member Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Sandel	Aye
Member Dr. Horne	Aye

[View the adopted June 10, 2020, Meeting Minutes](#)

4. REPORTS BY WATER BOARD CHAIR AND WATER BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Amy Horne called Board attention to PPIC Water Quality Center's article Making the Most of Water for the Environment. She wrote a report for the members and read it. Dr. Horne said she would email it to the Executive Assistant for distribution to the Board Members.

Vice-Chair Don Jardine, no report but looks forward to reading Dr. Horne's report.

Chair Peter Pumphrey reported that Executive Officer, Patty Kouyoumdjian, has retired and there will be a resolution read for her once Ms. Kouyoumdjian has joined the Water Board meeting. Mr. Pumphrey also mentioned the WQCC meeting is set for October 27-28, 2020 and encouraged staff to attend.

Dr. Horne asked Chair Pumphrey if he would speak to the content of the Closed Session held on September 15, 2020. Chair Pumphrey reported that the Vacancy announcement and Duty Statement was approved by Sacramento.

5. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Water Board staff, Mike Plaziak, Acting Executive Officer, provided an update to the Water Board and public on standing items and activities in the Lahontan Region, including the items below.

- Personnel Matters
- Regional Grazing Status
- Leviathan Mine
- Triennial Review
- Tahoe Keys
- Cannabis Unit update
- Barstow Perchlorate update

Dr. Horne asked if on bate stamp 5-72 SWAMP program, could the Water Board add more resources to the bioassessment monitoring and less resources towards using chemistry. Water Board staff Ben Letton, Supervising Engineering Geologist, answered that due to the Data Set it makes it challenging. Water Board staff Dan Sussman, Senior Environmental Scientist, added that the Data that they use comes from SWAMP work and they would like to retain it. Dr. Horne wanted to add that on bate stamp 5-85, she is glad that Former George Air Force has agreed to install more monitoring wells on the TCE plume. Dr. Horne indicated she is thrilled to get an update on the Palmdale plume, and is glad to hear that things are moving along with the Bartsow Perchlorate.

Member Sandel asked about the 400 new acres for disposal in Bishop. Member Sandel inquired if they have adequate storage for the winter. Mr. Plaziak responded that he believes they have some storage but feels it is not adequate. Mr. Plaziak indicated to Member Sandel that he would give him a more definite answer at a later date.

Water Board staff, Scott Ferguson, Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer, gave an update to the First Quarter Violations Report for 2020. This report is also included in the July 2020 Executive Officer Report.

QUESTIONS BY THE WATER BOARD

Member Sandel indicated he is looking at the attachment "B" of the ACL Complaint, and nobody is listed as party for the focus of investigation on the West Walker River in Mono County. Mr. Sandel asked who is responsible for the West Walker River in Mono City. Mr. Ferguson replied that it is a property owner that manages the property and that is who is responsible for violations on that.

WATER BOARD TOOK A BREAK FROM 10:05AM TO 10:15AM

After the Break, Chair Pumphrey indicated he will be reading a Resolution which is an addition to Item #4, "*Reports by Water Board Chair...*".

Former Executive Officer, Patty Kouyoumdjian, joined the Water Board Meeting for the reading of the Resolution. Water Board Chair Pumphrey read the Resolution pertaining to the former Executive Officer, and her many accomplishments.

6. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LAHONTAN REGION (BASIN PLAN) ADDING DEFINITIONS FOR THREE NEW BENEFICIAL USES - TRIBAL TRADITION AND CULTURE (CUL), TRIBAL SUBSISTENCE FISHING (T-SUB), AND SUBSISTENCE FISHING (SUB)

Water Board staff, Cindy Wise, Water Resource Control Engineer, gave a presentation on the proposed amendment to incorporate into the Basin Plan the definitions for the three new beneficial uses of CUL, T-SUB, and SUB. Ms. Wise explained this amendment is a first step toward completing a Basin Plan Triennial Review priority to protect Tribal cultural practices and traditional uses of waters by California Native American Tribes, subsistence fishing by California Native American Tribes, and subsistence fishing by other communities and individuals. Ms. Wise asked the Water Board to consider the amendment, then affirm, reject, or modify the proposed Basin Plan amendment, or postpone a decision to a future Board meeting. Ms. Wise suggested a change to The Proposed Resolution, Bates Stamp 6-8, paragraph #8 to read "Video and Teleconference" not "South Lake Tahoe".

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY THE WATER BOARD

Attorney, Elizabeth Beryt, indicated that there are two revisions for this item. The first revision is in the Proposed Resolution, Bates Stamp 6-8, paragraph #8, to read “Video and Teleconference” not “South Lake Tahoe”.

Attorney Beryt also indicated there is a second change on the Resolution on the second page under the wording “*Therefore it be resolved that...*” at item #1, that reads “*Pursuant to Water Code section 13240, et seq., ..., adopts the amendment to the Basin Plan as set forth in Enclosure 1.*” Ms. Beryt requested that a change be made to remove the “1” and replace with “3”.

Motion: Moved by Member Sandel and seconded by Member Dr. Horne to amend and affirm, the proposed Basin Plan amendment with the added changes per Attorney Beryt. Chair Pumphrey called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Jardine	Aye
Member Cox	Absent
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Sandel	Aye
Member Dr. Horne	Aye

7. OVERVIEW OF DFA FUNDING PROGRAMS

State Water Resource Control Board, Leslie Laudon, Deputy Director with the Division of Financial Assistance, gave an overview of the various water quality and drinking water financial assistance programs provided by the State Water Board’s Division of Financial Assistance.

QUESTIONS BY WATER BOARD

Dr. Horne asked what the criteria for a DAC is used to be considered a small DAC. Ms. Laudon replied they are different for each program. Such as, on the small community wastewater side, it is 20,000 people and the drinking water side is 3300 connections or 10,000 people.

Dr. Horne inquired if there are any of these pots (funds) that Lahontan region can take more advantage of? Ms. Laudon indicated that as a region, Lahontan has done very well, particularly with some on the Nonpoint Source, Stormwater and Groundwater Programs. Much of the focus of the Drinking Water Programs has been the Central Valley. The State Water Board is conducting a Needs Analysis which includes looking at small water systems and domestic wells, which the Water Board doesn’t regulate. Funding for these small systems and domestic wells would help more rural areas. As the Water Board rolls this program out, they will be doing more outreach and getting more information out to the Lahontan region.

Member Dyas mentioned that Ms. Laudon’s presentation indicated the Tahoe Public Utilities District received funding for water meter replacement and he wonders if other communities are eligible for such funding. Ms. Laudon indicated yes.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Water Board, the meeting adjourned at _____ p.m. on September 16, 2020.

Prepared by: _____/S/_____ Adopted: November 18, 2020
Katrina Fleshman, Board Clerk, for
Sandra Lopez, Acting Board Clerk