

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
Board Meeting Room
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 108
San Diego, California

MINUTES OF MEETING
JUNE 21, 2017

At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Abarbanel called to order the meeting of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) at the Board Meeting Room, 2375 Northside Drive, Suite 108, San Diego, California.

Item 1 - Roll Call and Introductions:

Board Members present: Henry Abarbanel, Eric Anderson, Tomas Morales, Betty Olson, and Gary Strawn.

Absent: Stefanie Warren.

Staff present: Dave Gibson, David Barker, Chris Blank, Rachel O'Donovan, Cynthia Gorham, Lori Costa, Craig Carlisle, Barry Pulver, John Anderson, John Odermatt, Alex Cali, Brandon Bushnell, Deborah Jayne, Jeremy Haas, Chad Loflen, Laura Samrad, Laurie Walsh, Debbie Woodward, Sarah Mearon, Eric Becker, Chiara Clemente, Ben Neill, Alan Monji, Kelly Dorsey, Fisayo Osibodu, Emily Trevino, Vicente Rodriguez, Wayne Chiu, Kristin Schwall, Frank Melbourne, Brandi Outwin-Beals, Helen Yu, Tino Gamboa, Tom Alo, Melissa Valdovinos, Joann Lim.

Remote Attendance: Sean McClain, Christina Arias, Betty Fetscher, Jody Ebsen, Christopher Means, Brian McDaniel, Cleo Munoz, Whitney Ghoram, Sherrie Komeylyan, Kimberly McMurray-Cathcart.

Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board: State Water Resources Control Board - Catherine Hagan, Adriana Nuñez. California Court Reporting – Marlee Nelson.

Public Attendance: Kelly Tait, Karen Holman, Rafael Castellanos, Jason Giffen, *San Diego Unified Port District*; Mark Russell, *Fox General Dynamics*; Todd Snyder, Melanie Tylke, David Norgard, Jill Baukston, Yideland Assau, Tony Sawyer, Goldy Herbon, Matthew Walsh, Tom Deale, *County of San Diego*; Oscar Romo, *Alter Terra*; Clem Brown, Drew Kleis, Rachel Davenport, Paz Gomez, Denice Garcia, *City of San Diego*; Corey Shendy, Brenda Stevens, AMEC; Bryn Evans, *Dudek*; Lance Rodgers, *ARK Environmental*; Andy Yuen, *San Diego National Wildlife Refuge Complex, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*; Bob Scott, *Haley & Aldrich*; Amber Craig, *U.S. Border Patrol*; Chris Harris, *Local 1613 National Border Patrol Council*; June Wheaton, *U.S. Navy, DoD*; Jennifer Hazard, *Rural Community Assistance Corp.*; Michael Welch, *Michael R. Welch Consulting*; Elizabeth King, *CalEPA*; Ken DaRosa, *CalRecycle*; Mike Palmer, *De Maximus*; Kelly Richardson, *Latham & Watkins*; Leah Cogan, Ty Sterns, *Urban Corps of San Diego County*; Dan McKirnan, *Environmental Health Coalition*; Doug Liden, *USEPA*; Julia Chunn-Heer, Gabriela M. Torres, *Surfrider*; Megan Whelan, Raina Fulton, *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*; Ruth Martin, *City of San Diego District 8*; Jeff Crooks, Kristen Goodrich, *Tijuana River National Estuary Research Reserve*;

Mary Johnson Powell, *Tijuana River Valley Equestrian Association*; Beth Zein, Robert Stone, *Ozone Plus*; Ana Molina, *Office of Senator Ben Hueso*; Paola Guzman, *Office of Congressman Juan Vargas*; Blair Crossman, *WiLDCOAST*; Steve Smullen, *U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission*; Jim Smythe, Mark Hatcher, *Sweetwater Authority*; Meredith Osborne, *California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife*; Chris Peregrin, *California State Parks*; Ben McCue, *Outdoor Outreach*; Serge Dedina, *City of Imperial Beach*; Adam Luke, *UC Irvine*; Ezra Neale, *River Partners*.

Item 2 - Public Forum

There were no items for the Public Forum.

Item 3 - Minutes of Board Meeting: April 12, 2017.

Mr. Anderson moved to approve the minutes, and Dr. Olson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and Board Members Abarbanel, Anderson, Morales, Olson, and Strawn voted "aye." The motion passed.

Item 4 - Chairman's, Board Members', State Water Board Liaison's, and Executive Officer's Reports. These items are for Board discussion only. No public testimony will be allowed, and the Board will take no formal action.

Mr. Morales provided a report on the Environmental Justice Symposium on June 10, 2017, and he thanked Ms. Jayne for her work on it.

Mr. Gibson introduced new Engineering Geologist Laura Samrad. He also stated that the final Outreach meeting will occur on July 18 in Temecula, and he invited one of the Board Members to attend that meeting. Mr. Gibson further stated that the Water Board is working with the Santa Margarita Water District to convene a Water Reliability Summit on August 15.

Item 5 - Future Agenda Items: Board members may discuss items for possible inclusion on future agendas (*David Gibson*)

Chair Abarbanel requested an information item to discuss the results of the Environmental Justice Symposium held on June 10, 2017. He also requested an information item to discuss issues related to the San Diego Unified Port District.

Consent Calendar: Items 6 and 7 are considered non-controversial issues. (NOTE: If there is public interest, concern, or discussion regarding any consent calendar item or a request for a public hearing, then the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after all other agenda items have been completed.)

Item 6 – WDR Amendment: San Marcos Landfill, County of San Diego (Tentative Addendum No. 1 to Order No. R9-2003-0003). (*Alex Cali*)

Item 7 – WDR Amendment: Sycamore Landfill, Sycamore Landfill Inc., a Subsidiary of Republic Services Inc. (Tentative Addendum No. 5 to Order No. 99-74). (*Alex Cali*)

Mr. Morales moved to approve the Consent Calendar, and Dr. Olson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and Board Members, Abarbanel, Anderson, Morales, Olson, and Strawn voted “aye.” The motion passed.

Remainder of the Agenda (Non-Consent Items):

Chair Abarbanel took Item 9 out of order.

Item 9 – Information Item: Introduction to the San Diego Unified Port District. (*David Gibson*)

Rafael Castellanos, Vice Chairman of the Board of Port Commissioners, introduced the item and responded to Board Member questions and comments.

Jason Giffen, Assistant Vice President for Planning and Green Port, and Karen Holman, Principal Engineer for Planning and Green Port, gave their presentation and responded to Board Member questions and comments.

Chair Abarbanel called a recess at 10:08 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:17 a.m.

Item 8 – Information Item: Update on the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team Five-Year Action Plan. (*Melissa Valdovinos*)

Mr. Gibson introduced the item, and Ms. Valdovinos gave the staff presentation and introduced the speakers.

Chair Abarbanel called a recess at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

The following stakeholders gave presentations and responded to Board Member questions and comments:

- Clem Brown, Program Manager, City of San Diego, Transportation & Storm Water Department
- Raina Fulton, Plan Formulation Branch Chief, Army Corps of Engineers
- David Norgard, Parks Project Manager, County of San Diego, Department of Parks & Recreation
- Chris Peregrin, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve Manager, California State Parks
- Serge Dedina, Mayor, City of Imperial Beach
- Amber Craig, Supervisory Border Patrol Agent and Public Lands Liaison, U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- Chris Harris, Director of Legislative & Political Affairs, Local 1613 of the National Border Patrol Council
- Steve Smullen, San Diego Area Operations Manager, U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission
- Doug Liden, Environmental Engineer, USEPA

- Jeff Crooks, Research Coordinator, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve
- Andy Yuen, Project Leader, San Diego National Wildlife Refuge Complex, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Adam Luke, Ph.D. Candidate and Researcher, UC Irvine
- Ezra Neale, Restoration Ecologist, River Partners
- Jennifer Hazard, Rural Development Specialist, Rural Community Assistance Corp.
- Oscar Romo, Director, Alter Terra
- Ken DaRosa, Chief Deputy Director, CalRecycle
- Elizabeth King, Border Affairs Program Analyst, Office of the Secretary (CalEPA)

Chair Abarbanel recessed for lunch and Closed Session at 12:33 p.m. Ms. Hagan indicated that the Board would discuss Agenda Item 14 during Closed Session. Chair Abarbanel reconvened the public meeting at 1:30 p.m.

The following stakeholders commented on the information presented in Item 8:

Ben McCue, Executive Director, Outdoor Outreach

Julia Chunn-Heer, Policy Director, San Diego Surfrider

Item 10 – Information Item: The California Ocean Science Trust State of the California South Coast: Findings from Baseline Monitoring of Marine Protected Areas. (*David Gibson*)

This item was postponed until August.

Item 11 – NPDES Permit Reissuance: Waste Discharge Requirements for the Sweetwater Authority, Richard A. Reynolds Desalination Facility Discharge to the Lower Sweetwater River Basin (Tentative Order No. R9-2017-0020, NPDES No. CA0108952). (*Vicente Rodriguez*)

Chair Abarbanel made opening remarks and administered the oath.

Mr. Rodriguez gave the general staff presentation and Ms. Outwin-Beals reviewed the revised errata sheet; both responded to Board Member questions and comments.

Jim Smythe, General Manager of the Sweetwater Authority, and Mark Hatcher gave the discharger presentation and responded to Board Member questions and comments.

Chair Abarbanel made a motion to approve Tentative Order No. R9-2017-0020 with revised errata, and Mr. Morales seconded the motion. A roll call vote was

taken, and Board Members Abarbanel, Anderson, Morales, Olson, and Strawn voted “aye.” The motion passed.

Item 12 – Information Item: Presentation of an Alternative Analysis of Fish Consumption Data from San Diego Bay. *(Tom Alo)*

This item was postponed until August.

Item 14 – *Closed Session* – Consideration of Initiation of Litigation or Discussion of Significant Exposure to Litigation. The San Diego Water Board may meet in Closed Session to initiate or consider initiating litigation concerning matters within its jurisdiction or to discuss significant exposure to litigation [Authorized under Government Code Section 11126(e)]. *(David Gibson)*

This Closed Session was announced by counsel and held during the lunch break.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

These minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina Blank
Executive Assistant

David Gibson
Executive Officer