

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 14, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Celeste Cantú opened the meeting June 14, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Hearing Room, 2375 Northside Drive, Room 108, San Diego, California 92108.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members present:

Celeste Cantú, Board Chair; Betty H. Olson, Ph.D., Vice Chair; Eric Anderson, Gary Strawn, and Stefanie Warren.

Board Members absent:

Megan Blair

Staff present:

David Gibson, Kelly Dorsey, Chris Blank, Kristin Schwall, Frank Melbourn, Wayne Chiu, Fisayo Osibodu, Amy Grove, Jody Ebsen, Sarah Mearon, Laurie Walsh

Remote attendance:

Sean McClain, Tanya Clark, Vicente Rodriguez, James Chhor, Regan Morey, Melissa Liotta, Dulce Romero, Joann Lim, Hiram Sarabia, Brandi Outwin-Beals

Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board

Vincent Vu, Alex Sauerwein, Kailynn Ellison, Office of Chief Counsel; Nichole Morgan (remote), State Water Resources Control Board.

Public Attendance:

Present:

Michael Welch <i>Michael Welch Consultants</i>	Ken Meddock <i>Rancho Guejito</i>
Keli Balo, Kris McFadden, Tom Rosales, Kelsey Hall <i>City of San Diego</i>	Alicia Appel <i>Encina Wastewater Authority</i>
Elaine Maher, Tim Bennett <i>Port of San Diego</i>	

Remote attendance:

Cristina Torres, Mia Gil <i>Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians</i>	

BOARD MEETING

Public comments on agenda items were limited to 3 minutes or otherwise at the discretion of the Board Chair

Chair Cantú opened the meeting with a tribute to Board Member Henry Abarbanel, who passed away on May 26, 2023. Board Members also shared their memories of Mr. Abarbanel

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the public forum.

BOARD BUSINESS

Item 1 – Minutes of Board Meeting: May 10, 2023

Motion to adopt the May 10, 2023 minutes:

- Dr. Olson

Second:

- Mr. Strawn

Aye:

- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Warren
- Chair Cantú

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- Mr. Anderson

Item 2 – Chairman’s, Board Members’, State Water Board Liaison’s, and Executive Officer’s Reports. *These items were for Board discussion only. Public testimony was not allowed, and the Board took no formal action.*

Nichole Morgan, the State Board liaison, provided an update on recent State Board actions and priorities, and she responded to Board Member questions.

Mr. Gibson welcomed new Environmental Scientist, Melissa Liotta, and he congratulated Christopher Means for his move from the Compliance Assurance Unit to

the Wetland and Riparian Protection Unit and provided updates regarding the USMCA funds allotted to border water quality. He also responded to Board Member questions.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**Items on the consent calendar may be removed at the request of any Board member or person. If an item is removed from the uncontested items calendar, it will only be voted on at this meeting if the Board accepts the staff recommendation for the agenda item. Otherwise, the item will be continued to a subsequent board meeting to allow input by interested persons.*

Item 3 – Waste Discharge Requirement Rescission: Rescission of Order No. 94-119, Waste Discharge Requirements for Vernon and Jane Shears, Twin Lakes Resort, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0040). (*Mahsa Izadmehr*)

Mahsa Izadmehr and Ben Neill responded to Board Member questions regarding this item.

Motion to adopt the Consent Calendar:

- Mr. Strawn

Second:

- Mr. Anderson

Aye:

- Mr. Anderson
- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Warren
- Chair Cantú

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- None

ACTION ITEMS:

Item 4 – Waste Discharge Requirements for Rancho Guejito Corporation, Rockwood Domestic Water System, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0005) (*Brandon Bushnell*)

Chair Cantú gave an opening statement and administered the oath. Brandon Bushnell gave the staff presentation and responded to Board Member questions. Ben Neill, Roger Mitchel, David Gibson, and Ken Meddock from Rancho Guejito also responded to Board Member questions.

Motion to approve Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0005:

- Ms. Warren

Second:

- Mr. Strawn

Aye:

- Mr. Anderson
- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Warren
- Chair Cantú

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- None

Items 5 and 6 were taken together, with separate votes for each item.

Item 5 – Tentative Cease and Desist Order: Consideration of Adoption of Stipulated Cease and Desist Order No. R9-2023-0016, City of San Diego Sanitary Sewer System (Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0016) (*Christina Arias*)

Item 6 – Tentative Administrative Civil Liability Order: Consideration of adoption of Stipulated Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R9-2023-0017 with Supplemental Environmental Projects, related to City of San Diego April 2020 Sanitary Sewer Overflow. This item may be heard concurrently with Item 6 (Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0017) (*Christina Arias*)

Chair Cantú gave an opening statement and administered the oath. Christina Arias gave the staff presentation and responded to Board Member questions. Dave Gibson and Chiara Clemente also responded to Board Member questions.

Chair Cantú called a recess at 10:37 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Kris McFadden, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, and Tom Rosales, Assistant Director of Public Utilities Department, presented on behalf of the City of San Diego and responded to Board Member questions. Keli Balo, Interim Deputy Director, also responded to Board Member questions.

Chair Cantú called a recess at 12:21 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:26 p.m.

Kelsey Hall, Associate Planner for the City of San Diego, presented an overview of the City of San Diego's Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) and

responded to Board Member questions. Tim Bennett from the Port of San Diego also responded to Board Member questions.

Chair Cantú closed the public hearing and asked for Board discussion.

Motion to approve Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0016:

- Ms. Warren

Second:

- Dr. Olson

Aye:

- Mr. Anderson
- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Warren

Nay:

- Chair Cantú

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- None

Motion to approve Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0017:

- Mr. Strawn

Second:

- Dr. Olson

Aye:

- Mr. Anderson
- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Warren

Nay:

- Chair Cantú

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- None

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS

Item 7 – Future Agenda Items: Recommended Course of Action and Estimated Staff Hours to Address Action Items from the May 2023 Board Meeting. In addition, Board Members may discuss items for possible inclusion on future agendas. *(Kelly Dorsey)*

Dr. Olson requested that the Board address the City Council to express their concerns regarding the City's sanitary sewer overflows, either in a letter or at a future Board Meeting.

There being no further business, Chair Cantú adjourned the meeting at 1:05 PM.

These Minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina A. Blank
Executive Assistant

David W. Gibson
Executive Officer

DRAFT