

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Celeste Cantú opened the meeting February 14, 2024, 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; Megan Blair, Gary Strawn, and Stefanie Warren.

Staff present:

David Gibson, Chris Blank, Laurie Walsh, Jeremy Haas, Cailynn Smith, Erin Schmitt, Josh Hufferd, Frank Melbourn, Abigail Pashina, Nicholas White, Kate Buckley, Amy Grove, Chiara Clemente, Roger Mitchell, Ben Neill, Wayne Chiu, Cynthia Gorham, Jody Ebsen, Mahsa Izadmehr, Brandon Bushnell, Mireille Lecourtois, Chad Loflen, Melissa Liotta

Staff remote attendance:

Kelly Dorsey, Vicente Rodriguez, Regina Coughlin, Brandi Outwin-Beals, Erica Ryan, Debbie Woodward, Jessica Taylor, James Chhor. Christina Arias, Kimberly McMurray-Cathcart, Eric Becker, Elizabeth Nguyen, Tanya Clark, Cleo Muñoz, Sean McClain, Carey Kowalski, Hiram Sarabia, Sasha Smirensky, Joann Lim, Dulce Romero, Michelle Santillan,

Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board

Dorene D'Adamo (remote; joined at approximately 9:58 a.m.), State Water Resources Control Board; Vincent Vu, Alex Sauerwein, Office of Chief Counsel; Julie Macedo, Office of Enforcement; Elise Hicks (remote), California Reporting.

Public Attendance:

Present:

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|--|---|
| Eric Anderson, Mary Anderson | Warner Racabaron, Karen Wood, Steve Hales <i>Friends of Loveland</i> |
| John Allen, Russell Walsh, Carolyn McGavock, Sean Walsh, Jesus Arreola, Mary Hicks | Michael R. Welch <i>Michael Welch Consultants</i> |

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|---|---|
| <i>Loveland Advocates</i> | |
| Daniel Schurman, Jeff Richer, Stephen Ramsey, Andrew Entinch <i>Camp Pendleton</i> | Kelly Tait <i>Port of San Diego</i> |
| Troy Fasura <i>Contech</i> | Amber Baylor <i>South Orange County Wastewater Authority</i> |

Remote attendance:

| | |
|--|---|
| Allison Paap <i>American AgCredit</i> | Scott Swaaley <i>Loveland Advocate</i> |
| Bob Lloyd <i>AGP Video</i> | 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

PUBLIC FORUM

The following people addressed the Board regarding Loveland Reservoir:

- Carolyn McGavock
- Sean Walsh
- Warner Racabaron
- Robert Hatton
- Russell Walsh
- Mary Davis
- John Allen
- Karen Wood
- Jesus Arreola
- Scott Swaaley

Eric Anderson briefly addressed the Board regarding Blue Baby Syndrome, Loveland Reservoir, and Lake Hodges.

BOARD BUSINESS

Item 1 – Minutes of Board Meeting: December 13 and 18, 2023

Motion to adopt the December 13 and 18, 2023 minutes:

- Ms. Olson

Second:

- Mr. Strawn

Aye:

- Ms. Blair
- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn

- Ms. Warren
- Chair Cantú

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- None

Abstain:

- None

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 was unable to attend, but she did provide a written report. Dorene D’Adamo joined the meeting at approximately 9:58 a.m., when she provided updates that did not appear in the written report and responded to Board Member questions and comments.

Mr. Gibson provided updates that were not in the written Executive Officer’s Report and responded to Board Member questions and comments. He then congratulated Kristin Schwall on her retirement after 34 years of service to the Board, and he welcomed Scientific Aides, Heidi Fletcher and Vanessa Cacayan, to the Mission Services Support Unit. He also reported that Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Ben Neill has accepted a new position leading the Stormwater Management Unit; and Water Resource Control Engineer, Fisayo Osibodu, has moved to the Water Sustainability and Protection Unit.

Chair Cantú took the following Item out of order:

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS

Item 8 – Future Agenda Items: Recommended Course of Action and Estimated Staff Hours to Address Action Items from the December 13 and 18 2023 Board Meetings. In addition, Board Members may discuss items for possible inclusion on future agendas. *(Kelly Dorsey)*

Mr. Strawn requested updates on homeless counts in the Regional watersheds.

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 consent 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 – NPDES Permit Amendment: Amendment of Order No. R9-2022-0005 as amended by Order No. R9-2024-0005, NPDES No. CA0107433, Waste Discharge Requirements and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit for the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Discharge to the Pacific Ocean through the San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0005). *(Joann Lim)*

Item 4 – Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements: Rescission of Order No. 86-22, Waste Discharge Requirements for the Discharge of Gemstone Polishing Wastewater to Percolations Ponds by Craftstones, Ramona, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2024-0006). *(Brandon Bushnell)*

Motion to adopt the Consent Calendar:

- Mr. Warren

Second:

- Ms. Strawn

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- None

Abstain:

- None

Chair Cantú called a brief recess at 10:20 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS:

Item 5 – Second Revised Cease and Desist Order No. R9-2024-0008 (Tentative) United States Marine Corps., Las Pulgas Landfill, United States Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, San Diego County (Order No. R9-2024-0008). (*David Gibson, Alex Sauerwein*)

Chair Cantú gave an opening statement and administered the oath.

Frank Melbourn gave the Prosecution Team presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Captain Jeff Richer, Regional Engineer for the Marine Corps, introduced the Discharger Team. Commander Robert (Stephen) Ramsey, Public Works Officer for Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, gave the Discharger presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Roger Mitchell provided closing remarks for the Prosecution Team.

Chair Cantú requested public comments on the item; no public comments were offered.

Chair Cantú closed the public hearing and called for a motion and a second to approve the Cease and Desist Order.

Motion to adopt Tentative Order Order No. R9-2024-0008:

- Ms. Warren

Second:

- Mr. Strawn

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- None.

Item 6 – Election: Election of the 2024 Regional Board Chair and Vice Chair. (*David Gibson*)

David Gibson introduced the item and asked the Board Members to nominate a Regional Board Chair for 2024.

Dr. Olson nominated Chair Cantú to continue as Board Chair, and Chair Cantú nominated Dr. Olson to continue as Board Vice Chair.

Motion to nominate Celeste Cantú as Regional Board Chair for 2024:

- Dr. Olson

Second:

- Mr. Strawn

Aye:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- None

Abstain:

- None

Motion to nominate Betty H. Olson, Ph.D. as Regional Board Vice Chair for 2024:

- Chair Cantú

Second:

- Ms. Blair

Aye:

- Ms. Blair
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Warren
- Chair Cantú

MOTION CARRIED

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- None

Abstain:

- None

Item 7 – Tentative Resolution: A Resolution Honoring the Service of Eric T. Anderson (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2024-0014). *(David Gibson)*

David Gibson introduced the item, and Chair Cantú called for a motion and a second to approve the Resolution.

Motion to approve Tentative Resolution No. R9-2024-0014:

- Ms. Olson

Second:

- Mr. Blair

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- None

Abstain:

- None

There being no further business, Chair Cantú adjourned the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

These Minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina A. Blank
Executive Assistant

David W. Gibson
Executive Officer