

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Celeste Cantú opened the meeting December 13, 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. (remote), Vice Chair; Eric Anderson, Gary Strawn, and Stefanie Warren. (Mr. Anderson left the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m. prior to consideration of Item 7).

Board Members absent:

Megan Blair

Staff present:

David Gibson, Chris Blank, Kelly Dorsey, Brandon Bushnell, Chiara Clemente, Amy Grove, Erin Schmitt, Josh Hufferd, Roger Mitchell, Abby Pashina, Cailynn Smith, Jeremy Haas, Ben Neill, Melissa Liotta, Brandi Outwin-Beals, Sean McClain, Wayne Chiu, Christina Arias, Laurie Walsh, Cynthia Gorham, Kate Buckley, Mahsa Izadmehr

Staff remote attendance:

Brian McDaniel, Tanya Clark, James Chhor, Erica Ryan, Jody Ebsen, Carey Kowalski, Cleo Muñoz, Jessica Taylor, Debbie Woodward, Alan Monji, Chad Loflen

Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board

Nichole Morgan, State Water Resources Control Board; Vincent Vu, Alex Sauerwein, Office of Chief Counsel.

Public Attendance:

Present:

Kyle Morgan, Nicki Branch, Stephanie Roman <i>City of Escondido</i>	Michael R. Welch <i>Michael Welch Consultants</i>
Holly Aasen, Neil Mohr, Marco Cervantes <i>Republic Services</i>	

Remote attendance:

Casey McCarthy	Mia Gil <i>Viejas Tribal Government</i>

BOARD MEETING

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

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the Public Forum.

BOARD BUSINESS

Item 1 – Minutes of Board Meeting: November 8, 2023

Motion to adopt the November 8, 2023 minutes:

- Ms. Warren

Second:

- Mr. Anderson

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

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, provided a report on her participation in a policy delegation to Denmark to learn about their water quality policy and recycled water facilities. She also provided an update about recent State Board actions and priorities, and she responded to Board Member questions and comments.

Chair Cantú presented Christina Arias with a Certificate of Achievement for her outstanding work with the Compliance Assurance Unit

Mr. Gibson welcomed new Environmental Scientist, Kate Buckley, to the Compliance Assurance Unit, provided updates that were not in the written Executive Officer's Report, and responded to Board Member questions.

Item 3 – Tentative Resolution: Resolution in Support of the Proposed 2024 Board Meeting Schedule (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2023-0208). *(David Gibson)*

Motion to adopt Resolution No. R9-2023-0208:

- Dr. Olson

Second:

- Mr. Anderson

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- None

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 4 – Rescission of Order No. 95-15, Waste Discharge Requirements for Ms. Sue Latimer and Mr. Jim Shafer of Sallows-Sun Island Club Near Harbison Canyon (Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0103). *(Mahsa Izadmehr)*

Item 5 – Rescission of Order No. 93-47, Waste Discharge Requirements for County of Orange, Joplin Youth Center, Orange County (Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0042). *(Mahsa Izadmehr)*

Motion to adopt the Consent Calendar:

- Mr. Strawn

Second:

- Ms. Warren

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- None

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 November 2023 Board Meeting. In addition, Board Members may discuss items for possible inclusion on future agendas. *(Kelly Dorsey)*

Chair Cantú requested that staff look into the number of “blue baby” births in the San Diego Region.

Mr. Anderson asked about using dynamic modeling for water demand.

ACTION ITEMS:

Item 6 – Waste Discharge Requirements Amendment: Addendum No. 5 to Order No. 90-09, Waste Discharge Requirements for the Otay Annex Landfill, Otay Landfill Inc. – Republic Services, San Diego County, and Tentative Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2023-0095 for Republic Services, Otay Landfill, Inc., Otay Annex Sanitary Landfill, San Diego County. *(Erin Schmitt)*

Erin Schmitt gave the staff presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Neil Mohr presented on behalf of Republic Services and responded to Board Member questions.

Motion to adopt Amendment No. 5 and Order No. R9-2023-0095:

- Mr. Strawn

Second:

- Mr. Anderson

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Mr. Anderson gave a statement recusing himself from the next item and left the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Chair Cantú called a brief recess at 10:33 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

Item 7 – Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of Escondido Membrane Filtration/Reverse Osmosis Facility, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0131. *(Brandon Bushnell)*)

Brandon Bushnell gave the staff presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Stephanie Roman, Chief Engineer for Utilities Construction and Engineering presented on behalf of the City of Escondido and responded to Board Member questions. Michael R. Welch, consultant to the City of Escondido, also responded to Board Member questions.

Board Member Eric Anderson read a recusal statement, left the meeting, and did not participate in this item.

Motion to adopt Order No. R9-2023-0131:

- Dr. Olson

Second:

- Ms. Warren

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Recused / Absent:

- Mr. Anderson

There being no further business, Chair Cantú adjourned the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

These Minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina A. Blank
Executive Assistant

David W. Gibson
Executive Officer