

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Date Distributed: February 27, 2019

MINUTES
January 16, 2019

Regular Meeting

The Water Board conducted this meeting using teleconference equipment that permitted Water Board members to participate at two locations shown below:

Mojave Water Agency
13846 Conference Center Drive
Apple Valley, CA 92307

Lahontan Water Board Annex, Hearing Room
971 Silver Dollar Avenue
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Board Members Participating at Mojave

Peter C. Pumphrey, Chair, Bishop
Keith Dyas, Rosamond
Kimberly Cox, Helendale

Board Members Participating at Lahontan

Eric Sandel, Truckee
Amy Horne, Ph.D., Truckee

Board Members Absent

Don Jardine, Vice Chair, Markleeville

Legal Counsel

Elizabeth Beryt, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board

Regional Board Staff Participating at Mojave

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer
Douglas Smith, Assistant Executive Officer
Scott Ferguson, Supervising WRCE
Jan Zimmerman, Senior Engineering Geologist
Jennifer Watts, Environmental Scientist
Dan Sussman, Sr. Environmental Scientist
Tiffany Steinert, Engineering Geologist
Rob Tucker, Senior WRC Engineer
Patrice Copeland, Sup. Engineering Geologist
Katrina Fleshman, Executive Assistant
Sandra Lopez, AGPA

Regional Board Staff Participating at Lahontan

Jeff Brooks, Senior Engineering Geologist
Douglas Cushman, Senior WRC Engineer
Ed Hancock, Environmental Scientist
Amber Wike, Mgmt Services Technician

To view the full Agenda and listen to the audio of this meeting [CLICK HERE](#)

REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 1:02 p.m.**Call to Order and Introductions**

Chair Pumphrey called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. on January 16, 2019, and introduced Water Board Members. Ms. Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, introduced Legal Counsel and Water Board Staff.

1. Public Forum

None

2. Minutes

Motion: Moved by Member Cox, seconded by Member Dyas to approve the November 2018 Minutes as presented. Chair Pumphrey called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion *carried* per the following votes:

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

Click here to view adopted [January 2019 Minutes](#).

5. FREMONT VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN SALT AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Water Board staff, Tiffany Steinert, Engineering Geologist, gave an overview of the Fremont Valley Groundwater Basin Salt and Nutrient Management plan (SNMP), and asked the Water Board to consider adopting the Final Fremont Valley Groundwater Basin SNMP. Ms. Steinert focused on the following points:

- Regional Planning Efforts
- Outreach and Communication
- Groundwater Levels
- Groundwater Quality
- Mixing Model
- Loading Analysis and Results
- Objectives and Projects
- Monitoring Program

Ms. Steinert indicated the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) listed the Fremont Valley as a low priority groundwater basin. However, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires the formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for basins designated as medium to high priority at this time. Therefore, Ms. Steinert requested the Water Board consider adopting the Final Fremont Valley Groundwater Basin SNMP as presented.

NO QUESTIONS BY THE WATER BOARD

Chair Pumphrey asked Legal Counsel to speak to the Water Board regarding the Water Quality laws governing SNMP.

Elizabeth Beryt, Legal Counsel, provided a short overview of the Regional Water Board's authority and the scope of this item. Counsel Beryt explained the Water Board is tasked with the regulatory responsibility for protecting the Lahontan Region's water quality, which includes groundwater.

Counsel Beryt indicated that some public comment was received regarding Water Rights and she wanted to make the public aware that water rights is a responsibility of the State Water Resources Control Board. The Water Board is primarily responsible for the protection of Water Quality and ensuring that Water Quality standards are being met.

Brian Dietrick, Senior Environmental Engineer, Woodard and Curran, discussed more about the SNMP, the groundwater model and the modeling parameters used to project water quality over the planning period. Mr. Dietrick shared some of the comments received by the public and discussed the methods used to the stakeholders.

Mr. Dietrick indicated he is working with the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Groups to identifying additional means of reaching out to stakeholders, and that is just one part of the IRWM plan. Mr. Dietrick explained that this SNMP and the Groundwater Management Plan, will allows us to seek funds under Proposition 1.

QUESTIONS BY THE WATER BOARD

Member Dr. Horne inquired about the direct rainfall/rainfall runoff and if Mr. Dietrick accounted for evapotranspiration. Mr. Dietrick indicated that evapotranspiration was included in part of the water balance.

Member Dr. Horne inquired about climate change and if Mr. Dietrick considered the increase in temperature, and the effects the increase would have on the amount of water needed to recharge Groundwater. Mr. Dietrick indicated that they used the modeling to address increases or decreases and it was determined to be in small amounts.

Mr. Dietrick proposed to add “dealing with temperature” to the SNMP document. Member Dr. Horne indicated that she would like the document to be clear in regard to considering the effects of temperature.

Member Sandel concurred with Dr. Horne’s comments.

Member Dyas felt this SNMP was well written and in compliance with the State Water Board requirements and would like to go ahead and make the motion to accept the staff recommendation. Member Cox concurred with Member Dyas.

Dr. Horne requested to have a minor edit to the document, in the section dealing with climate change, to read “temperature was considered, and found to be de-minimised and is detailed in the IRWMP document”.

Counsel Beryt indicated because all the stakeholders are in the room today, we can make that change, unless one of the stakeholders does not agree with this change.

Mr. Bee Coy, General Manager of Mojave PUD, stated he agrees with the recommendation of Dr. Horne’s change to the document.

Member Dyas altered his motion to accept the staff recommendation with the one minor revision. Member Cox seconded that motion

Motion: Moved by Member Dyas to adopt the Final Fremont Valley Groundwater Basin SNMP with the added sentence “temperature was considered and found to be de-minimized and is detailed in the IRWMP document”. Motion seconded by Member Cox to approve the Fremont Valley Groundwater Basin SNMP to add Climate Change language. Chair Pumphrey called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion *carried* per the following votes:

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

6. Amendment to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and Priority Pollutant Monitoring Requirements for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife; Fish Springs Fish Hatchery

Water Board staff, Robert Tucker, Senior WRC Engineer, gave overview of the request for Amendment to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and the Priority Pollutant Monitoring Requirements for the Fish Springs Hatchery. Mr. Tucker asked the Water Board to consider adopting an Amendment to Fish Springs Fish Hatchery’s NPDES Permit altering the reporting limits for Priority Pollutant Metals. Mr. Tucker explained that the permit is being opened only to amend the PPM monitoring requirements and no other part of the Order will be considered with this Amendment.

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

COMMENTS BY THE WATER BOARD

Member Cox inquired about the chart, (Table J-1 List of Required Priority Pollutant Metals) in the Criterion Concentration column “Chromium (VI), MCL shows at 10”. Member Cox asked if this should be “50”, and what the water quality results are now. Mr. Tucker indicated that the values were not requirements, but screening requirements done once every five years.

Member Cox indicated that when discussing the SNMP, it shows the chromium standard at 50. Member Cox also indicated she is not comfortable adopting the amendment without the correct MCL. Ms. Patty Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, indicated that the correct MCL for Chromium (VI) is 50. Mr. Tucker indicated that the Order amendment shows the correct MCL for Total Chromium as 50.

Dr. Horne requested that the chart located at Bate Stamp 6.11 (Table J-1) be corrected to “50”.

The Water Board took a break from 2:13pm to 2:20pm to allow staff to discuss the Total Chromium and Chromium (VI) numbers listed on the chart.

Chair Pumphrey indicated that staff have a proposed resolution.

Mr. Tucker proposed edits to the Table J-1 to address the Water Board’s concerns as follows:

At Batestamp 6.11, Table J-1, at Chromium (VI), deleting the words “Primary MCL” and put in its place, the words “Screening Level”. At the bottom of the same page, in the footnote #2 after the word “SIP” we add the words “except for Chromium VI”.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Pumphrey closed the hearing and asked for a vote on the Amendment with the one change as indicated above.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Horne with amendment to Table J-1, seconded by Member Sandel to approve the Amendment to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and Priority Pollutant Monitoring Requirements for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife; Fish Springs Fish Hatchery as presented. Chair Pumphrey called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion *carried* per the following votes:

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

7. Workshop - Draft Basin Plan Amendment for Mojave River Hydrologic Unit Beneficial Use Designations

Water Board staff, Jennifer Watts, Environmental Scientist, presented the key elements of, and basis for a draft Basin Plan Amendment that would add two beneficial use designations (BIOL and RARE) to specific reaches of the Mojave River and its tributaries and removes the COLD beneficial use designation for the Mojave River below the Lower Narrows. Ms. Watts gave a presentation on the history of the Mojave River basin Plan topics; a summary of the Basin Plan Amendment elements; an overview of the Mojave River Basin; explained the basis for the Basin Plan Amendment elements, and reviewed the schedule regarding the Basin Plan Amendment for Mojave River Hydrologic Unit Beneficial Use Designation as follows:

- April 2018 – Scoping
- May 2018 – Tribal Consultation Begins
- January 2019 – Water Board Workshop
- Winter 2019 - Public Review (Draft Basin Plan Amendment and CEQA)
- April 2019 – Hearing Notice and Proposed Document Release
- June 2019 – Hearing and Consideration
- Fall 2019 – State Board Consideration
- Fall 2019 – Transmittal to OAL, USEPA

NO QUESTIONS BY THE WATER BOARD

PUBLIC SPEAKER

Lance Eckhart with the Mojave Water Agency, provided comments on the importance of considering local plans

8. Election of 2017 Chair/Vice Chair

Motion: Member Sandel moved to nominate Member Pumphrey as Chair. Member Sandel asked that the motion be amended to add Dr. Horne as Vice-Chair. The motions by Member Sandel was seconded by Mr. Dyas. The motion carried unanimously by an oral vote. Member Jardine was absent from vote.

3. Reports by Water Board Chair and Water Board Members.

There were no Reports by Water Board Members.

4. Executive Officer's Report

Water Board staff, Patty Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, provided an update to the Water Board and public on key actions and activities in the Lahontan region, including the items below.

- Personnel Report
- South Tahoe Y PCE Cleanup
- USFS – Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
- Great Golf Ball Cleanup
- Leviathan Mine update
- Lake Tahoe Nearshore Report
- PG&E Bankruptcy
- Governor Newsom's Budget FY 2019 – 2010
- Forestry/Wildfires – Governor Newsom's Executive Orders/Budget (N-05-19 & N-04-19)
- Federal Government Shut Down Impacts to Region 6

9. Closed Session

None.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Water Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m. on January 16, 2019.

Prepared by:  Adopted: 3/13/2019
 Katrina Fleshman, Executive Assistant

LAHONTAN WATER BOARD MEMBERS

California Water Code Section 13201 provides for the Governor to appoint seven members to the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Each member shall reside or have a principal place of business within the region. Appointments are subject to confirmation by the state Senate.

Name	From	Term Expires
Peter C. Pumphrey, Chair	Bishop	9/30/19
Don Jardine, Vice Chair	Markleeville	9/30/19
Kimberly Cox	Helendale	9/30/22*
Keith Dyas	Rosamond	9/30/20
Amy Horne, PhD.	Truckee	9/30/22*
Eric Sandel	Truckee	9/30/21
Vacant		9/30/17

*Pending Senate Approval

LAHONTAN WATER BOARD CONTACTS

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer
 Doug Smith, Assistant Executive Officer
 Elizabeth Beryt, Counsel to the Water Board
 Katrina Fleshman, Clerk of the Water Board, Executive Assistant

To reach the Executive Officer, please contact her Executive Assistant, Katrina Fleshman, via email at katrina.fleshman@waterboards.ca.gov or call 530-542-5414.