

State of California  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, November 14, 2013, 9:16 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region  
Board Room  
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

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The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, was called to order by Chair Ellen Way at 9:16 a.m. on November 14, 2013, at Palm Desert, California.

Roll Call (Board Members Only)

**Regional Board Members Present:**

Tom Davis, Jeff Hays, Edward Muzik, Ellen Way, Nancy Wright.

**Regional Board Member Buford Crites arrived at 9:47 a.m.**

The Board Liaison stated that a quorum was present.

**Regional Water Board Counsel:** Tom Vandenberg

**State Water Board Liaison:** Vice-Chair Fran Spivy-Weber

**Regional Board Staff Present:**

Robert Perdue, Jose Angel, Soni Wells, Mary Castañeda, John Carmona, Kai Dunn, Joan Stormo, Doug Wylie, Nadim Shukry-Zeywar, Liann Chavez, Maria Davydova.

**Others Present:**

Jennifer A. Henk, Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District  
Roger Mayes, President, Board of Directors, Hi-Desert Water District  
Katie Ruark, DWA/CVRWVG  
Kevin Bryan, ERM-City of Calexico  
Steve Bigley, Coachella Valley Water District  
William Maitland, ARMTEC  
Nick Servin, Public Works Director, City of Calexico  
Araceli Vasquez, Office of Assemblyman V. Manuel Perez  
Curt Sauer, Unknown Affiliation  
Eduardo Garcia, Office of State Senator Ben Hueso – 40<sup>th</sup> District

## **MINUTES**

1. Minutes of September 19, 2013 Board Meeting

**MOTION:** Ed Muzik moved, Tom Davis seconded, and motion carried unanimously that the Minutes be adopted as amended.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

No Speakers

## **UNCONTESTED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

3. R7-2013-0039 Waste Discharge for Niland Sanitary District, Owner/Operator, Emergency Standby Basins, Niland, Imperial County

**MOTION:** Jeff Hays moved, Tom Davis seconded, and motion carried unanimously Order No. R7-2013-0039 be adopted.

4. R7-2013-0063 Revised Waste Discharge Requirements for ARMTEC Defense Products, Owner/Operator, 85-901 Avenue 53, Coachella, Riverside County

**MOTION:** Jeff Hays moved, Tom Davis seconded, and motion carried unanimously Order No. R7-2013-0063 be adopted with errata.

5. R7-2013-0067 Waste Discharge Requirements for City of Palm Springs, Owner, Veolia West Water Operating Services, Inc., Operator, Palm Springs Wastewater Treatment Facility, Palm Springs, Riverside County

**MOTION:** ITEM WAS PULLED

## **RESOLUTION**

6. R7-2013-0072 Resolution to honor Arthur Swajian, the first RB7 Executive Officer

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Nancy Wright seconded, and motion carried unanimously Resolution R7-2013-0072 be adopted.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

7. Information item regarding a request from the City of Calexico for Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) Funding to Implement Recommendations of the New River Improvement Project Strategic Plan (NRIPSP), Calexico, Imperial County – Nick Servin, P.E., Calexico Public Works Director/City Engineer

Mr. Servin provided a PowerPoint presentation in support of the City's request for CAA funds. The City's proposed project consists of conducting studies to evaluate the effectiveness of ozonation and to design and determine where to locate a trash screen for New Riever in the Calexico area.

The Regional Board received several letters from elected officials expressing support for the City's request, including letters from Imperial County Supervisor John Renison, Assemblyman V. Manuel Perez, and Congressman Juan Vargas. Also, Ms. Araceli Vasquez (Office of Assemblyman Perez), and Coachella Mayor Eduardo Garcia (on behalf of Senator Ben Hueso) spoke in support of the City's request.

Mr. Angel pointed out that the City's proposal was not an implementation project, and therefore not a good fit to receive CAA funds.

The Regional Board directed staff to work with the New River Committee and City of Calexico to explore whether Cleanup and Abatement funding is appropriate for the proposed Project.

8. Schedule of Board Meetings for Calendar Year 2014

January 16, 2014

March 20, 2014

May 8, 2014

June 19, 2014

September 18, 2014

November 13, 2014

The Schedule was accepted with the following changes: The March 20, 2014 Meeting will be held in Brawley, and the June Meeting will be held in Yucca Valley, with the remainder of the meetings held in Palm Desert.

9. Information Update from the SWRCB Office of Enforcement –

Chris Carrigan, Director of the SWRCB Office of Enforcement (OE) gave an overview of the SWRCB Enforcement Policy. OE works with the Regional Boards' staff in the development and investigation of cases of noncompliance. OE's goals include deferring harmful conduct by encouraging the regulated community to anticipate, identify and correct violations. Director Carrigan explained the process for calculating Administrative Civil Liabilities and alternatives for settlement of the assessed liabilities through payments to the Cleanup Fund or funding of Supplemental Environmental Projects.

10. Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group Outreach

Katie Ruark, Desert Water Agency Public Information Officer, informed the Board of activities of the Coachella Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (CVIRWMP) Group funded and managed by Coachella Valley Water District, Indio Water Authority, Mission Springs Water District and Desert Water Agency. Ms. Ruark explained that within the Colorado River Region there are three IRWMP's - Mojave, Imperial and Coachella – competing for the \$36 million allocated to the Region.

The Coachella Valley IRWMP has a number of goals including developing a Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, completing a Torres-Martinez Water Supply Connection Project and addressing drinking water supply issues faced by the East Valley disadvantaged communities, particularly those caused by naturally occurring high concentrations of Arsenic. In the short term Arsenic treatment utilizes residential and small centralized filtration systems. Longer term goals involve running municipal water lines and sewer lines to these communities, if economically feasible.

11. Informational Update: State Water Resources Control Board Activities— FSW, TV

SWRCB liaison Vice-Chair Fran Spivey-Weber provided an update on priority issues. Ms. Spivey-Weber emphasized the need for the Waterboards to consider controls for climate

change in our RB actions, particularly in reducing energy use. The Vice Chair noted the positive impact of renewables in RB7 and the need for wind, solar and geothermal projects to remain a priority in 2014. Ms. Spivey-Weber also emphasized the need for a robust Public Outreach program at the Waterboards. She described the ongoing work at SWRCB to integrate the Drinking Water Program, which presently resides within the California Department of Public Health. Finally, the Vice Chair reported on the Governors Water Action Plan which is being finalized with input from the SWRCB and other state agencies. Elements of the Water Action Plan will be used to shape the upcoming Governors Budget.

12. Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer's Report  
Combined with 13 below.

13. Colorado River Basin Water Board Member Comments  
On October 24 and 25, 2013, RB7 Board Members Tom Davis, Nancy Wright and Ed Muzik along with EO Robert Perdue attended the Water Quality Coordinating Committee held in Sacramento at CalEPA. Of particular note was a presentation by CDPHS Drinking Water and SWRCB staff addressing how to transfer a large number of CDPHS staff into the SWRCB organization. CDPHS and SWRCB staff emphasized that the operational mechanics of how a large division presently functioning under a separate administrative agency will integrate into the quasi-judicial waterboard culture. These mechanics will be worked through following the transfer of the program from CDPHS to the SWRCB. Discussions during the WQCC also concerned Disadvantaged Communities, Environmental Justice, and Groundwater.

14. Colorado River Basin Water Board Chair's Report  
The Chair thanked the RB7 members for attending the October WQCC and requested fellow RB7 members rotate covering the Chairs' monthly conference calls.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

15. Chair announced that there were no closed session items to be considered.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: 9:00 a.m., THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2014, PALM DESERT, CA.**

**ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING 12:05 p.m.**