

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

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

June 29, 2005
City Council Chambers
City of La Quinta
78-495 Calle Tampico
La Quinta, CA 92253

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, was called to order by Chair Gary Johnson at 10:00 a.m. on June 29, 2005, in the City Council Chambers, City of La Quinta, California.

1. Board Member Roll Call

Present: Marie Barrett, Jeffrey Hays, Gary Johnson, Leon Lesicka, Maurice Martinez, Gregory Pettis, Ellen Way, and Nancy Wright

2. Staff Present

Adnan Al-Sarabi, Jose Angel, John Carmona, Liann Chavez, Jose Cortez, Kristie Garcia, Abdi Haile, Cecilia Irwin, Kirk Larkin, Michele Ochs, Robert Perdue, Judy Reed, Jonathan Rokke, Charles Springer, David Virginia and Doug Wylie

3. Others Present

Allison Allen, Imperial County Farm Bureau
Steve Bigley, Coachella Valley Water District
Sergio Cabanas, Heber Geothermal/Second Imperial Geothermal
Doug Eberhardt, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
Diana Garcia, Senator Jim Battin's Office
Catherine George, State Water Resources Control Board – OCC
David Guillen, Heber Geothermal/Second Imperial Geothermal
Joe Harrington, Arcadis G&M, Inc.
Al Kalin, Imperial County Farm Bureau
Eldon Lee, City of Coachella
Lavelle Lesicka, Private Citizen
Mike Lopanec, Valley Sanitary District
Michael Mizumoto, Imperial Irrigation District
Monica Swartz, Coachella Valley Water District
Larry Turner, MK Resources/Castle Mountain
R. Zaebst, Viceroy Gold Corp.

4. Minutes

Meeting of May 4, 2005

MOTION: Ms. Way moved, Mr. Lesicka seconded, and motion carried unanimously that the Minutes be approved as submitted.

5. Public Forum

Doug Eberhardt, USEPA, expressed thanks to Regional Board staff for the timely update of expiring NPDES Permits. He stated that USEPA supports the new standard NPDES Permit format.

6. Uncontested Waste Discharge Requirements

- R7-2005-0016 Imperial Irrigation District, Owner/Operator, Grass Carp Hatchery – El Centro, Imperial County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA7000004)
- R7-2005-0021 City of Brawley, Owner/Operator, City of Brawley Wastewater Treatment Plant – Brawley, Imperial County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA0104523)
- R7-2005-0065 Second Imperial Geothermal Company and Ormat Nevada Inc., Owner/Operator, Geothermal Power Generating Facility – Imperial, Imperial County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA000003)
- R7-2005-0066 Heber Geothermal Company and Ormat Nevada Inc., Owner/Operator, Geothermal Power Generating Facility – Heber, Imperial County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA0104965)
- R7-2005-0078 Imperial Valley Resource Recovery Co., LLC, Owner, and Primary Power International, Operator, Power Generating Facility – Imperial, Imperial County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA0105066)
- R7-2005-0081 Valley Sanitary District, Owner/Operator, Valley Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant – Indio, Riverside County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA0104477)
- R7-2005-0082 Coachella Valley Water District, Owner/Operator, Mid-Valley Water Reclamation Plant – Thermal, Riverside County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA0104973)
- R7-2005-0083 Coachella Sanitary District, Owner/Operator, Coachella Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant – Coachella, Riverside County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA0104493)

- R7-2005-0092 United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Land Owner, Castle Mountain Venture, Owner, Viceroy Gold Corporation, Operator, Castle Mountain Project – Ivanpah, San Bernardino County (Updated Order)
- R7-2005-0097 County of San Bernardino, Owner/Operator, Lucerne Valley Waste Management Facility, Class III Sanitary Landfill – Northeast of Lucerne Valley, San Bernardino County (Updated Order)
- R7-2005-0099 Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements
- CS 97-119 Sunline Transit Agency

MOTION: Mr. Martinez moved, Ms. Wright seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Board Orders No. R7-2005-0016, R7-2005-0065, R7-2005-0066, R7-2005-0078, R7-2005-0081, R7-2005-0083, R7-2005-0092, R7-2005-0097 and R7-2005-0099, including the errata, be adopted.

NOTE: Proposed Order No. R7-2005-0021 was removed from the consent calendar due to lack of a quorum of Board Members.

Proposed Order No. R7-2005-0082 was removed from the consent calendar to be considered at a future Board Meeting.

- R7-2005-0084 City of Imperial, Owner/Operator, City of Imperial Water Pollution Control Plant – Imperial, Imperial County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA0104400)
- R7-2005-0085 City of Calipatria, Owner/Operator, City of Calipatria Wastewater Treatment Plant – Calipatria, Imperial County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA0105015)

MOTION: Ms. Way moved, Mr. Martinez seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Board Orders No. R7-2005-0084 and R7-2005-0085, including the errata, be adopted.

NOTE: Ms. Barrett recused herself from participating in or voting on adoption of Proposed Orders No. R7-2005-0084 and R7-2005-0085.

7. Update on Alamo and New Rivers Sediment TMDL Compliance and Enforcement

Doug Wylie, Regional Board staff, provided an update on TMDL enforcement actions.

Allison Allen, Imperial County Farm Bureau, reported on the progress of the Farm Bureau’s Voluntary TMDL Compliance Program. She also raised concerns about TMDL enforcement.

Jose Angel, Regional Board Assistant Executive Officer, reported staff is working with Farm Bureau staff to fine tune TMDL implementation and enforcement.

8. Uncontested Waste Discharge Requirements

R7-2005-0021 City of Brawley, Owner/Operator, City of Brawley Wastewater Treatment Plant – Brawley, Imperial County (Updated Order) (NPDES No. CA0104523)

MOTION: Ms. Wright moved, Mr. Martinez seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Board Order No. R7-2005-0021, including the errata, be adopted.

NOTE: Ms. Barrett and Mr. Lesicka recused themselves from participating in or voting on adoption of Proposed Order No. R7-2005-0021.

9. Informational Update on Border Pollution

Mr. Angel reported on the progress of wastewater treatment plant projects in Mexicali, Mexico.

10. Informational Update on State Water Resources Control Board Activities

Catherine George, SWRCB-OCC, announced that Public Participation Training was provided for Regional Board staff.

11. Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer's Report

Robert Perdue, Regional Board Executive Officer, stated he would issue a Mandatory Minimum Penalty in excess of \$100,000 to the City of Niland.

Mr. Perdue reported his attendance at a groundbreaking ceremony for Coachella Sanitary District's wastewater treatment plant expansion. Also in attendance were Executive Director Celeste Cantu, Board Member Jeff Hays, Assistant Executive Officer Jose Angel and Regional Board staff members.

Mr. Angel reported that Mission Springs Water District's Groundwater Protection Project is currently in the third phase of implementation and will initiate the fourth phase when funding commences.

Liann Chavez, Regional Board staff, reported that the Ft. Mojave Tribe filed a lawsuit against PG&E, DTSC, and Metropolitan Water District (MWD) for allegedly violating the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The lawsuit contends the Tribe was inadequately consulted prior to construction of a groundwater treatment plant near portions

of the Topock Maze, which will treat groundwater contaminated with chromium as part of cleanup of the Topock site.

12. Colorado River Basin Water Board Chair's Report

Mr. Johnson reported the SWRCB would arrange monthly conference calls for Regional Board Chairs to discuss pertinent issues.

Mr. Johnson stated a WQCC Meeting is scheduled for September 2005, in Sacramento.

13. Colorado River Basin Water Board Member Comments

Ms. Wright expressed appreciation to Regional Board staff for the timely update of NPDES Permits.

14. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.