

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

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 17, 2012, 9:00 a.m.
Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
Board Room
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, was called to order by Chair Ellen Way at 9:03 a.m. on May 17, 2012 at Palm Desert, California.

Roll Call (Board Members Only)

Board Members Present:

Buford Crites, Tom Davis, Jeff Hays, Edward Muzik, Ellen Way.

The Board Secretary stated that a quorum was present.

Staff Present:

Jose Angel, Terry Barnes, John Carmona, Kai Dunn, Robert Perdue, Jennie Snyder, Doug Wylie

Others Present:

Steve Bigley, Coachella Valley Water District
Ann Carroll, State Water Board, Office of Enforcement (via teleconference)
Roger Mayes, Hi-Desert Water District
Michael Pollack, GSWC
Ed Smith, Palo Verde Irrigation District
Anna Rodriguez, Riverside County EDA
Tom Vandenberg, State Water Board, Office of the Chief Counsel
Jeremy Wittie, Coachella Valley MVCD

MINUTES

1. Minutes of March 15, 2012 Board Meeting

MOTION: Buford Crites moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that the Minutes be adopted.

PUBLIC FORUM

2. No comments from the public.

UNCONTESTED NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMITS AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

3. R7-2012-0008 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for **Coachella Valley Water District, Mid-Valley Water Reclamation Plant No. 4**, Thermal – Riverside County

MOTION: Ed Muzik moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2012-0008 be adopted.

4. R7-2012-0026 Waste Discharge Requirements Board Order R7-2012-0026 for **Riverside County Economic Development Agency**, Owner; CSA 122 Ripley, Operator; Blythe Airport Water System Class II Surface Impoundments, Blythe – Riverside County

MOTION: Ed Muzik moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2012-0026 be adopted.

5. R7-2012-0032 Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements, **Black Meadow Landing**, North of Parker Dam – San Bernardino County

MOTION: Ed Muzik moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2012-0032 be adopted.

ENFORCEMENT

6. R7-2012-0016 Administrative Civil Liability Order R7-2012-0016 in the matter of the Seeley County Water District Wastewater Treatment Plant, Seeley – Imperial County
Ann Carroll, SWRCB Office of Enforcement, participated via teleconference.

MOTION: Jeff Hays moved, Tom Davis seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2012-0016 be adopted.

RESOLUTION

7. R7-2012-0027 Adoption of the FY 2012/2013 Emergency, Abandoned, Recalcitrant (EAR) Account Site List

MOTION: Jeff Hays moved, Ed Muzik seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2012-0027 be adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS

8. Informational Update on Enforcement Activities and Competitive Grant Funding.
— DW

Doug Wylie, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, reported on recent payments of administrative civil liability by the City of El Centro, Valley Sanitary District and Imperial Irrigation District for effluent violations of NPDES Permits under the Clean Water Act.

Additionally, Mr. Wylie reported on a \$340,000 grant awarded under the SWRCB competitive Clean Water Act 319(h) program to Desert Wildlife Unlimited, Inc., to complete construction of the Alamo River Treatment Wetlands near Brawley.

Finally, Mr. Wylie informed the Board that letters concerning the Yucca Valley Septic Tank Prohibition were being mailed to owners of property whose residences are located within the prohibition area.

9. Informational Update on Waiver for Agricultural Wastewater Discharges in Palo Verde Valley and Palo Verde Mesa — JA

Jose Angel, Assistant Executive Officer, reported that on April 16, 2012, staff held a CEQA Scoping Meeting for a proposed Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for agricultural discharges of wastes in the Palo Verde Valley and the Palo Verde Mesa areas. The meeting was held at the Palo Verde Irrigation District (PVID) Headquarters in Blythe. He mentioned that the meeting was attended by representatives from PVID, CVWD, Riverside County Farm Bureau, and several farmers among others. During the meeting staff informed the participants about the State Water Resources Control Board directive to the Regional Board about adopting WDRs or a Waiver of WDRs to deal with agricultural discharges and answered questions about fees for the Waiver.

10. Informational Update on State Water Resources Control Board Activities — TV

(See hand-out)

11. Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer's Report — RP & JLA

Robert Perdue, Executive Officer, discussed ongoing legislative activities concerning the structure of the Regional Boards and possible changes to the present ex parte rules for individual Board Members. Mr. Perdue also discussed implementation of the Onsite Wastewater Treatment (Septic Tank) Policy following adoption by the State Water Resources Control Board.

Jose Angel, Assistant Executive Officer, on May 9, 2012, represented the Board at the official inauguration of the new Brawley wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Angel also informed the Board that he will attend the Imperial County Farm Bureau's annual drainsheds meetings in Brawley, Holtville and El Centro. Additionally, Mr. Angel stated the California-Mexico Border Relations Council will be meeting on May 25, 2012, in Calexico to consider adoption of the Strategic Plan for the New River Improvement Project.

12. Colorado River Basin Water Board Member Comments

The Board thanked the Regional Board staff presenters for pursuing balanced settlements of administrative civil liability and working to clear the EAR account.

13. Colorado River Basin Water Board Chair's Report — EW

Regional Board Chair, Ellen Way, stated she had attended the March 26, 2012 Water Boards Chairs' meeting via teleconference. Additionally, Chair Way requested a Regional Board staff report on upcoming priority Basin Plan activities.

CLOSED SESSION

14. At any time during the regular session, the Board may adjourn to meet in closed session to consider evidence received in an adjudicatory hearing and deliberate on a decision to be reached based on that evidence [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(c)(3)]; to discuss significant exposure to litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(B)(i)]; to discuss whether to initiate litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(C)(i)]; or to discuss initiated litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)]. Discussion of litigation is within the attorney-client privilege and may be held in closed session [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)].

No closed session items were discussed.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, June 21, 2012,
10:00 a.m., in Yucca Valley**

Adjournment: 10:10 a.m.

MOTION: Jeff Hays moved, Tom Davis seconded, and motion carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.