

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LAHONTAN REGION**

**MEETING OF JUNE 10-11, 2015  
BISHOP**

**ITEM: 11**

**SUBJECT: MINUTES**

**DISCUSSION: THE WATER BOARD WILL CONSIDER ADOPTING THE  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF  
MARCH 11-12, 2015 and MAY 13-14, 2015, HELD IN SOUTH  
LAKE TAHOE, CA.**

## Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

# MINUTES

## March 11-12, 2015

### Regular Meeting

California Regional Water Quality Control Board-Lahontan Region  
South Lake Tahoe Office, Annex Hearing Room  
971 Silver Dollar Avenue  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150;

### Board Members Participating

Kimberly Cox, Chair, Helendale  
Keith Dyas, Vice Chair, Rosamond  
Don Jardine, Markleeville  
Eric Sandel, Truckee

### Board Member Absent

Amy Horne, Ph.D., Truckee  
Peter C. Pumphrey, Bishop

### Legal Counsel

Kimberly Niemeyer, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board

### State Board Staff

Andrew DiLuccia, Public Information Officer, Office of Public Affairs

### Regional Board Staff Participating

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer  
Lauri Kemper, Assistant Executive Officer  
Mike Plaziak, Sup. Engineering Geologist  
Douglas Smith, Sup. Engineering Geologist  
Scott Ferguson, Sup WRCE  
Alan Miller, Senior WRCE  
Doug Cushman, Senior WRCE

Rich Booth, Senior Engineering Geologist  
Patrice Copeland, Senior Engineering Geologist  
Rob Tucker, WRCE  
Robert Larsen, Senior Environmental Scientist  
Dan Sussman, Environmental Scientist  
Ghasem Pour-Ghasemi, WRCE  
Sue Genera, Executive Assistant

### **REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, March 11, 2015- 7:00 p.m.**

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

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Cox called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. on March 11, 2015, and introduced Board Members.

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, introduced Legal Counsel, State Board and Regional Water Board staff.

#### 1. **PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### 2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 11, 2015, held via teleconference in five locations:

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Sandel, seconded by Mr. Jardine, to approve the Minutes as presented. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion ***carried*** per the following votes:

Ms. Cox	aye
Mr. Dyas	aye
Dr. Horne	absent
Mr. Jardine	aye
Mr. Pumphrey	absent
Mr. Sandel	aye

Click here to view the adopted [February 11, 2015 Minutes](#)

#### **RENEWAL OF NPDES PERMITS**

#### 3. \*Renewal of Waste Discharge Requirements and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit for Cycle Power Partners, LLC, Wineagle Geothermal Power Plant

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Sandel, seconded by Mr. Jardine, to approve the Uncontested Calendar as presented. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion ***carried*** per the following votes:

Ms. Cox	aye
Mr. Dyas	aye
Dr. Horne	absent
Mr. Jardine	aye
Mr. Pumphrey	absent
Mr. Sandel	aye

Click here to view adopted [Board Order R6T-2015-0010](#)

#### **REPORTS**

#### 4. **Reports by Water Board Chair and Board Members**

Chair Cox reported that the Mojave Water Agency is scheduling another Mojave Tour in June 3, 2015 and encouraged those Board members who have not attended to go.

## 5. Executive Officer's Report

Ms. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, presented the [March Written Report](#) and gave additional updates on:

- a. Taylor Currier has accepted a limited term Environmental Scientist position in the South Lake Tahoe office;
- b. Vehicle theft of the South Lake Tahoe "Green Jeep";
- c. R6 Electronic Content Management (ECM) conversion on May 1, 2015; and
- d. Historical UST case closure.

Scott Ferguson, Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer, presented the Annual Enforcement Summary and the Quarterly Violations Report.

## OTHER BUSINESS

### 6. Discussion of Water Board Accomplishments and Priorities

Executive Office Kouyoumdjian and Assistant Executive Officer Kemper, presented this Item to the Board. In their presentation they gave an overview of:

- Organizational Structure and Funding Challenges
- Performance Targets and Accomplishments
- Regional Board Key Efforts
- Statewide Policies
- Future Workshops
- Guiding Principals

Chair Cox asked if thought was given to naming conventions for files moving into ECM and if we had the staff resources to handle the transition. Ms. Kemper responded that Region 6 is the last Region to transition into ECM and that a lot of troubleshooting has already been done statewide. Both South Lake Tahoe and Victorville Offices have admin staff that will triage incoming data. Mr. Sandel asked if the ECM system has a good search engine. Ms. Kemper stated that when talking to an employee at the State Board they relayed that the search engine could be slow and challenging.

Mr. Dyas asked when the deadline was for Local Area Management Plans. Ms. Kemper stated that they are due to the Regional Board May 2016 and that staff have been performing outreach with local governments.

Chair Cox requested that staff consult with Dr. Horne and Mr. Pumphrey on their preference to the order or priority given to 2015-16 Workshops. Mr. Dyas asked what the water quality connection was in the *Storm Water Strategic Initiative*. Ms. Kouyoumdjian stated that the State Water Board was having similar policy discussions. Mr. Jardine asked how *Flow Requirements to Protect Water Quality* relates to Alpine Meadows Creek. Ms. Kouyoumdjian did not know the answer but stated that this is a difficult issue and that she did not feel the State Board would try to adjudicate it until it was vetted through other regions first. Mr. Sandel stated that *Leviathan Mine* and *Riparian and Wetland Projects* could be moved farther down on the priority list and that Squaw Creek should be addressed when discussing *Flow Requirements to Protect Water Quality*. Mr. Jardine requested that water rights issues pertaining to County of Origin be addressed at some point.

Chair Cox added to the Guiding Principles discussion stating it is important for the Board to set the cultural expectations for staff and that the Board should help set priorities. Mr. Dyas commended staff on the consistent respect shown to dischargers and the rights of dischargers and would like it added to the list if it was not already captured. Mr. Sandel thought that *Train and Empower Water Board staff* should be moved to the top of the list. Ms. Kouyoumdjian committed to sharing the Guiding Principles with staff to get their suggestions.

The Executive Officer offered the Board the opportunity to get more involved with any of the Workshops or Policy Discussions that they had a particular interest in.

7. **CLOSED SESSION\*\***

None.

Note: The water Board recessed at 8:53 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, March 12, 2015 – 8:30 a.m.**

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Cox called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. on March 12, 2015, and introduced Board Members.

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, introduced Legal Counsel, State Board and Regional Water Board staff.

8. **PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

9. **Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) Implementation Status Reports**

Rich Booth addressed the Board and gave a Power Point presentation summarizing the six TMDLs in the Lahontan Region. Chair Cox asked that staff identify in announcements what effect or benefit the activity might have on a homeowner/public, in hopes of soliciting greater public participation.

10. **Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load Program Update**

Robert Larsen provided the Board with a summary of implementation efforts for the 65-year plan to restore Lake Tahoe's deep water transparency. The TMDL requirements focus on reducing pollutants from urban storm water runoff, as it contributes more than 70% of the fine sediment particle load. Other significant pollutant sources include runoff from disturbed undeveloped forest lands, stream channel bed and bank erosion, and atmospheric deposition. While Lake Tahoe TMDL implementation is still in its infancy, positive progress has been made.

Note: The Board took a break from 10:05-10:15 a.m.

### 11. **An Emergency Conditional Waiver of Statutory Requirements to File a Report of Waste Discharge and to Adopt Waste Discharge Requirements for Management and Disposal of Solid Wastes from Wildfires**

Patrice Copeland, Senior Engineering Geologist in the Victorville Office gave a presentation on current Waste Discharge Requirements for the management and disposal of solid waste from wildfires. In her presentation she highlighted the locations of landfills in the Lahontan Region and what types of debris they accept. She detailed the concentrations of hazardous waste debris contains following a structural fire and the capacity of landfills to accept various types of waste.

Board member Sandel asked how debris is handled if the Governor does not declare the site a natural disaster. Ms. Copleand responded that the debris would not be required to be taken to a lined landfill (Class III). Mr. Dyas asked if a Class III landfill was mandated to accept the waste if the Governor declares the site a natural disaster. Legal Counsel responded that the landfill is not mandated to accept the waste but that the important information is that the disposal of the materials would be exempt from the CEQA process. Mr. Dyas also asked if debris could be taken to a landfill in another region. Ms. Kouyoumdjian stated that it could if the landfill operator agreed to take it.

The Executive Officer presented an alternate resolution for the Board to consider that would expand the waiver to capture not only solid wastes from wildfires but all emergencies and disasters.

#### Public Comment

Mr. Todd Thalhammer with CalRecycle, addressed the Board in support of the waiver. He stated that if the soil under the debris and ash is taken to an unlined landfill it would help to expedite site cleanup.

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Dyas, seconded by Mr. Sandel, to approve the alternative Emergency Conditional Waiver Resolution as presented by the Executive Officer during the meeting. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion **carried** per the following votes:

Ms. Cox	aye
Mr. Dyas	aye
Dr. Horne	absent
Mr. Jardine	aye
Mr. Pumphrey	absent
Mr. Sandel	aye

Click here to view adopted [Resolution R6T-2015-0009](#)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m. on March 12, 2015.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sue Genera, Executive Assistant

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## Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

# MINUTES

## May 13-14, 2015

### Regular Meeting

California Regional Water Quality Control Board-Lahontan Region  
South Lake Tahoe Office, Annex Hearing Room  
971 Silver Dollar Avenue  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150;

### Board Members Participating

Keith Dyas, Vice Chair, Rosamond  
Amy Horne, Ph.D., Truckee  
Don Jardine, Markleeville  
Peter C. Pumphrey, Bishop  
Eric Sandel, Truckee

### Board Member Absent

Kimberly Cox, Chair, Helendale

### Legal Counsel

Kimberly Niemeyer, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board

### Regional Board Staff Participating

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer  
Lauri Kemper, Assistant Executive Officer  
Mike Plaziak, Sup. Engineering Geologist  
Douglas Smith, Sup. Engineering Geologist  
Cathe Pool, Senior WRCE

Alan Miller, Senior WRCE  
Rich Booth, Senior Engineering Geologist  
Tom Gavigan, Senior Engineering Geologist  
Robert Larsen, Senior Environmental Scientist  
Sue Genera, Executive Assistant

### **REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, May 13, 2015- 7:00 p.m.**

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

### INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Dyas called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. on May 13, 2015, and introduced Board Members.

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, introduced Legal Counsel and Regional Water Board staff.

**1. PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

**OTHER BUSINESS****2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 11-12, 2015, held South Lake Tahoe**

This item was postponed until June

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

Board Member Jardine, who is on the Board of Directors for the Carson Water Subconservancy District, stated that they will be presenting a video of the Leviathan Mine Superfund site at their next Board Meeting.

**4. Executive Officer's Report**

Ms. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, presented the [April and May Written Reports](#) and gave additional updates on:

- a. June 1, 2015 Mojave Tour with State Board Member Felicia Marcus and CalEPA Undersecretary, Gordon Burns;
- b. Tour of Mammoth Creek Restoration Projects during the June Board Meeting in Bishop;
- c. Tour of Truckee River Watershed Restoration during the July Board Meeting in South Lake Tahoe;
- d. Upcoming 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Tahoe Summit with U.S. Senator Heller hosting August 24; 2015
- e. Cathe Bumgardner-Pool has joined the Tahoe staff as a Senior Water Resource Control Engineer in charge of the Enforcement and Special Projects Unit;
- f. The Jeep that was stolen was found in Las Vegas, it will be retired from service and the Tahoe office will be getting a new vehicle;
- g. The Victorville office continues to search for a new larger office space;
- h. As of May 1 Region 6 has joined the rest of the Water Boards using an electronic filing system called ECM;
- i. The Crystal Geysers facility in Olancho, Ca, has been issued a Notice of Violation and an Amended Investigative Order. Additionally, they are proposing to open a new facility just north of their Olancho facility;
- j. There will be a General Compost Oder workshop held on July 7, 2015 in Sacramento by the State Board; and
- k. The Lahontan Water Board is funding \$200,000 from the State Lands account for a contract with USGS to determine the cause of increased algae growth on the Tahoe nearshore.

**OTHER BUSINESS****5. Underground Storage Tank Program Workshop**

Tom Gavigan, Senior Engineering Geologist and Chief of the Cleanup and Site Investigation Unit, gave a presentation on the underground storage tank program.

In his presentation, he discussed the progression of the program over 30 years which has largely addressed a significant pollution problem through investigation and cleanup, and improved fueling system equipment. He then went on to give an overview of current UST case load, management of cases, and highlighted successes and challenges.

**6. Delegating Water Board Authority to the Executive Officer Workshop**

Robert Larsen, Senior Environmental Scientist presented this item to the Board. Mr. Larsen summarized the six existing delegations and presented three courses of action the Board could take to resolve the redundancy and conflicting policies in the current delegations. The Board agreed that rescinding the six existing delegations and replacing them with a simple resolution delegating all Water Board authorities to the Executive Officer should be done. Additionally a memorandum will be drafted to give the Executive Officer and staff guidance as to what types of items should be brought before the Board for approval. A draft resolution and memorandum will be circulated for public comment and brought before the Board at a later Board Meeting for approval.

Note: The Water Board recessed at 9:28 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, May 14, 2015 – 8:30 a.m.**

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Vice Chair Dyas called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. on May 14, 2015, and introduced Board Members.

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, introduced Legal Counsel and Regional Water Board staff.

**7. PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

**REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

**8. Vail Resorts and USFS-Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Heavenly Mountain Resort, El Dorado and Alpine Counties**

Bud Amorfini, Engineering Geologist, presented this item to the Board. Mr. Amorfini highlighted the scope of the project and discussed the resolved concerns. Jeff Marsolais, Forest Supervisor, addressed the Board in favor of the project and expressed his appreciation for all of the work and collaboration that has gone into this project. Andrew Strain, Heavenly's vice president of planning and governmental affairs gave an overview on Resort's plans to expand their summer programs which will bring nature to the public in an accessible way. He also thanked staff for all of their efforts in bringing this item forward to the Board.

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pumphrey, and seconded by Dr. Horne, to certify the Environmental Impact Report and adopt the updated waste discharge requirements as presented with two date changes on bates pages 8-23 and 8-41 from May 13<sup>th</sup> to May 14<sup>th</sup>. The Vice Chair called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion **carried** per the following votes:

Ms. Cox	absent
Mr. Dyas	aye
Dr. Horne	aye
Mr. Jardine	aye
Mr. Pumphrey	aye
Mr. Sandel	aye

Click here to view adopted [Board Order No. R6T-2015-0021](#)

Note: The Board took a break from 9:10 to 9:22 a.m.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **9. Status Report on Climate Change Adaptation Workshops**

Doug Smith, Supervising Engineering Geologist, began his report with a synthesis of the 400 ideas that had been captured during the November 2014 and January 2015 Climate Change Workshop brainstorm sessions. He presented a conceptual model that identified climate changes, negative impacts, and existing tools. Mr. Smith discussed the timeline to submit the final Action Plan to the State Board in 2016. Ms. Lauri Kemper, Assistant Executive Officer, helped facilitate a discussion with the Board to develop and implement this action plan.

There was a robust discussion by the Board and several key needs were discussed:

- Acknowledging a climate change subcommittee may be needed
- emphasizing wetland restoration
- Holding more workshops to collaborate with other agencies on implementing climate change policy
- Limiting floodplain expansion and protecting groundwater recharge areas
- Engaging and assisting Disadvantaged Communities (DAC's)
- Creating a strategy to identify the highest priorities and next steps
- Retaining aquifer capacity
- Identifying what policies are easy to change, politically controversial, and the cost
- Prioritizing what is the biggest threat to water quality
- What areas do we need more information on
- Finding where we can overlap policies to cover gaps

Mr. Smith thanked the Board for their direction and an update on progress will be presented to the Board in July.

#### **10. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m. on May 14, 2015.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sue Genera, Executive Assistant

*Draft*