

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Lahontan Region



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MINUTES

March 8-9, 2006

Regular Meeting

Lancaster City Council Chambers 44933 Fern Avenue Lancaster, CA 93534

Chair Horne called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. on March 8, 2006.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Brissenden, Hope Valley Jack Clarke, Apple Valley Keith Dyas, Rosamond Amy Horne, Ph.D., Truckee Eric Sandel, Truckee Susan J. Van Dam, Barstow

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Chapman, Susanville

LEGAL COUNSEL

David Coupe, State Water Resources Control Board

STAFF PRESENT

Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer Robert S. Dodds, Assistant Executive Officer Chuck Curtis, Supervising WRCE Cindi Mitton, Senior WRCE Laurie Applegate, Executive Assistant Jehiel Cass, WRCE Kai Dunn, WRCE Curt Shifrer, WRCE

Eric Shay, Office Technician

ADDRESSING THE BOARD

Garry Cope

Barbara Firsick, Roosevelt Rural Town Council

Desmond Kester

Steve Maguin and Raymond Tremblay, Los Angeles County Sanitation District

Chris McEnaney, Desert Aire Golf Course

Eugene B. Nebeker, Ph.D., Nebeker Ranch

John A. Slezak and Lewis Trout, Los Angeles World Airports

Marta Williamson-Kester, Old Town Homeowners Group



1. <u>CLOSED SESSION</u>

Board members met in closed session on March 8, 2006 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. to discuss items h, i and j. **Authority**: Government Code Section 11126(e).

The Board reconvened in open session at 5:00 p.m. and adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Regular Meeting, Continued 7:30 p.m., March 8, 2006

Chair Horne called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Board members present: John Brissenden, Jack Clarke, Keith Dyas, Eric Sandel, and Susan Van Dam. Board member absent: Jim Chapman,

2. PUBLIC FORUM

• Garry Cope, resident of Palmdale, asked the Board to look into the safety of drinking water provided by the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK). He commented that members of his family have become ill after drinking water provided by AVEK. Mr. Cope also inquired about the outcome of a court order he thought had been issued to the Lahontan Water Board approximately four years ago concerning water contamination in or near Air Force Plant 42 along Avenue M. He noted Mr. Walter Ranger raised the issue at several meetings of the Air Force Plant 42 Environmental Restoration Advisory Board but no one at the meeting knew the outcome of the court order.

Mr. Singer responded to Mr. Cope's concerns. He noted the Lahontan Water Board does not regulate AVEK and suggested Mr. Cope contact the Department of Health Services about the quality of his drinking water. Regarding the court order, Mr. Singer suggested that Mr. Cope leave his phone number with staff and a meeting will be scheduled with Cindi Mitton to discuss the issue.

- Chris McEnaney, operator of the Desert Aire Golf Course, read a prepared statement asking the Board to schedule a workshop about the litigation regarding water rights in the Antelope Valley. She indicated that the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau recently conducted a workshop on this issue and thought that a similar format would be informative for the Water Board.
- Lewis Trout, Los Angeles World Airports, concurred with Ms. McEnaney's request for the Board to schedule a workshop.

Mr. Singer asked the Board members if they would like to hold a workshop as suggested by Ms. McEnaney and Mr. Trout. Board members discussed the matter and it was the consensus of the Board to schedule the workshop. Mr. Coupe suggested the workshop focus primarily on water quality issues.



Minutes - 3 -

OTHER BUSINESS

3. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 8 and 9, 2006 in Kings Beach, California

Mr. Sandel noted he had recused himself from Item 12. He asked that page 6 of the minutes be amended to reflect that he did not vote on Item 12.

• Motion: Moved by Mr. Dyas, seconded by Mr. Clarke and unanimously carried to adopt the February 8 and 9, 2006 minutes as amended by Mr. Sandel.

NEW WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

4. Master Water Recycling Requirements, Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14 (Lancaster) Disinfected Tertiary Recycled Water, Los Angeles County

Mr. Dyas recused himself from this item.

Curt Shifrer gave the staff presentation. Cindi Mitton discussed late revisions to the Order and comments received.

Addressing the Board: Raymond Tremblay, Los Angeles County Sanitation District, and Desmond Kester.

In response to a request that staff post recycling requirements on the Board's website, Mr. Singer commented that the Department of Health Services (DHS) is responsible for setting the criteria for recycled water. He noted the Regional Board could provide a link to the DHS website. Mr. Singer also discussed monitoring and reporting requirements and encouraged interested groups to contact Regional Board staff if interested in obtaining further information regarding monitoring reports.

• <u>Motion</u>: Moved by Mr. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Sandel and <u>unanimously carried</u> to adopt the Order with the revisions suggested by staff. Note: Mr. Dyas did not vote.

STATUS REPORTS

5. Status Report on Compliance of Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14, Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant, with Waste Discharge Requirements (R6V-2002-053) and Cease and Desist Order (R6V-2004-038), Los Angeles County

Mr. Dyas recused himself from this item.

Kai Dunn gave the staff presentation.

Addressing the Board: Steve Maguin, Los Angeles County Sanitation District; Marta Williamson-Kester, Old Town Homeowners Group; Barbara Firsick, Roosevelt Rural Town Council; Desmond Kester; and Dr. Eugene B. Nebeker, Nebeker Ranch.

The Board took no action on this item.



Minutes - 4 -

6. Status Report on Compliance of Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 20, Palmdale Water Reclamation Plant, with Waste Discharge Requirements (6-00-57), Cease and Desist Order (R6V-2004-039) and Cleanup and Abatement Order (R6V-2003-056), Los Angeles County

Jehiel Cass gave the staff presentation.

Addressing the Board: Steve Maguin, Los Angeles County Sanitation District; Garry Cope; Marta Williamson-Kester, Old Town Homeowners Group; Lewis Trout, Los Angeles World Airports; John Slezak, Los Angeles World Airports; and Dr. Eugene B. Nebeker, Nebeker Ranch.

The Board took no action on this item.

The evening session adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting, Continued 9:00 a.m., March 9, 2006

Chair Horne called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present: John Brissenden, Jack Clarke, Keith Dyas, Eric Sandel, and Susan Van Dam. Board member absent: Jim Chapman.

OTHER BUSINESS

7. Executive Officer's Report

Mr. Singer discussed the March 2006 written report.

The Squaw Creek TMDL is scheduled for consideration at the Board's April Board meeting. The document is over 150 pages and will be sent to the Board members earlier than usual to give the Board additional review time.

Mr. Dyas requested additional information regarding the State Water Board efforts to develop water quality standards for chlorine disinfection byproducts (THMs) and the applicability of these standards to groundwater (Item 1 in the Executive Officer's Report). Mr. Singer indicated he would look into this and report back to the Board.

Mr. Brissenden expressed concern regarding the possible removal of regulations on airborne particulate pollution. He noted the impact of such pollution on water quality and suggested the Board submit comments to the Environmental Protection Agency by the deadline of April 17.

Mr. Clarke discussed the increasing use of classified injection wells in the Victor Valley and expressed concern regarding their potential to pollute the aquifer. He noted the activity is not being regulated and suggested the Regional Board consider a means for doing so. Mr. Singer concurred with Mr. Clarke's concern and discussed approaches the Board could take, such as adopting a Basin Plan prohibition or addressing the issue in the implementation plan.



Minutes - 5 -

Mr. Singer discussed issues related to PG&E in Hinkley. Regional Board staff will be conducting a public workshop in Hinkley on May 3.

Dr. Horne asked about the status of a request from Senator Runner's office in May 2005 asking for a breakdown of grant funding between the northern and southern portions of the Region. Mr. Singer noted that staff responded to Senator Runner's initial request and could follow-up with a phone call to see if the Senator is still interested in following the issue.

Mr. Singer noted the Searles Valley Minerals Operations Compliance Status is currently scheduled for bi-monthly reporting to the Board and asked if the item could be scheduled for semi-annual reporting. The Board concurred.

Dr. Horne inquired about the status of an issue brought to the Board's attention by Mr. Gary Guenther at the July 2005 meeting in Bishop. Mr. Guenther showed pictures related to the impact on water quality of grazing and commercial pack stations operating on Forest Service lands. Mr. Singer noted staff issued a Notice of Violation to the Forest Service and the Forest Service has been responsive. Further information will be provided to the Board at the next Board meeting. Dr. Horne suggested Mr. Singer include an update in the Executive Officer's Report when the Board meets in Bishop.

Mr. Singer discussed the status of the State Water Board's reporting system.

Mr. Singer handed out the following:

- Priority 1 Bill Report from the State Water Board's Office of Legislative Affairs dated March 6, 2006.
- Memo from Alan C. Lloyd, Agency Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), dated February 27, 2006 regarding Phase 2 of the Cal/EPA Enforcement Initiative.

9. Request to the State Water Resources Control Board for Emergency Funds for Leviathan Mine

Chuck Curtis gave the staff presentation and recommended the Board adopt the Resolution as proposed.

• <u>Motion</u>: Moved by Mr. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Dyas and <u>unanimously carried</u> to adopt the Resolution as proposed.

8. Reports by Chair and Board Members

Mr. Dyas thanked the City of Lancaster for use of the Council Chambers.

Minutes - 6 -

Dr. Horne suggested that individual Board members select general topics of interest to them and provide periodic updates to the full Board as a means of maximizing the Board's understanding of issues. Board members concurred. Following is a chart listing general topics of interest selected by Board member:

Board Members	Topics		
John Brissenden	Regional Board budget		
	Roads		
Jim Chapman	Nonpoint source pollution		
_	Regional Board budget		
	Timber harvesting		
Jack Clarke	Groundwater overdraft and recharge		
	Stormwater management		
Keith Dyas	Disposing waste using large-scale agriculture		
-	Groundwater overdraft and recharge		
	Groundwater pollution and cleanup		
Amy Horne	Lake Tahoe		
	Monitoring		
	Nonpoint source pollution		
	Timber harvesting		
	TMDLs		
Eric Sandel	Lake Tahoe		
	Wastewater recycling		
Susan Van Dam	Dairies		

10. ADJOURNMENT OF FORMAL MEETING

With no further business to come before the Board, the formal meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

11. WORKSHOP

At 10:15 a.m., the Board adjourned to a workshop to discuss the Lahontan Water Board budget. The workshop adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

	"Original Signed by"		
Prepared by:		Adopted:	April 12, 2006
	Laurie Applegate, Executive Assistant	•	•