

**State of California
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
Board Meeting Minutes of
April 22, 2016**

**City of Loma Linda
Council Chambers
25541 Barton Road
Loma Linda, CA 92354**

1. Board Chair Ruh called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

Board Members Present

William Ruh, Chair
Tom Rivera
William P. von Blasingame
James Famiglietti

Board Members Absent

Linda Ackerman, Vice-Chair

Staff Members Present

Kurt V. Berchtold, Executive Officer
David Rice, Regional Board Counsel
Hope A. Smythe, Division Chief
Mark E. Smythe, Chief of Basin Planning – Inland Waters
Ann Sturdivant, Chief of Groundwater and Regulatory Division
Milasol Gaslan, Chief of Permitting and Compliance
Chuck Griffin, Enforcement Coordinator
Susan Beeson, Sanitary Engineering Associate
Mary Bartholomew, Environmental Scientist
Kevin Heinemann, Senior Information Systems Analyst
Daniel Mefford, Assistant Information Systems Analyst
Felipa Carrillo, Executive Assistant

Public in Attendance

Janet Anderson, Quail Valley
Carol Scarcello, Quail Valley
Joe Mouawad, EMWD
Colin McNie, City of Menifee
John Watkins, Riverside County
Michelle Diamond, Tetra Tech, Inc.
Gregg Berge, Citizen

Nancy Horton, Elsinore Valley MWD
Judy Bingham, Beaumont Citizen
Jayne Joy, EMWD
Letisia Vasquez
Carole & Rick Masson, QV Citizens
Michael R. Erickson, Citizen
Colin Kelly, OC Coastkeeper

2. Public Forum

Judy Bingham, City of Beaumont resident, commented on the City of Beaumont's continuing financial problems. She expressed concern that the City has not completed upgrades to their wastewater treatment plant or completed their Title 22 Engineering Report as a result of City financial actions. Ms. Bingham also noted that the City has not provided a response to the Regional Board's November 2015 letter asking for the City's plan to address capacity issues at the wastewater treatment plant.

Mr. Berchtold commented that Ms. Bingham had raised a variety of concerns in the past, which also had to do with financial management issues with the City of Beaumont. He said the financial issues were outside this Board's jurisdiction; however, a number of those issues including the City's operation of their wastewater treatment plant, salt management and implementation of recycled water programs were within this Board's jurisdiction. Mr. Berchtold noted that the City is not meeting their commitments under their maximum benefit program including implementation of water recycling programs and offered to schedule an information item at a future meeting to provide the Board more detailed information.

The Board agreed to have this topic scheduled as an information item at a future meeting.

3. State Water Resources Control Board Liaison Report

None.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 11, 2016

Motion: It was moved by Board Member Rivera, seconded by Board Member von Blasingame, and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of March 11, 2016 as presented.

5. Consideration of Consent Calendar Items

None.

Board Chair Ruh announced that Items 6 and 7 had been postponed to a later date, and that items, 8 and 9 on the agenda would be taken out of order.

6. Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Agricultural Operations in the Watersheds of the San Jacinto River and its Tributaries, Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore and their Tributaries, Collectively, "The San Jacinto River Watershed", Riverside County and Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration – Order No. R8-2016-0003.

Postponed

7. Stipulated Settlement and Cleanup and Abatement Order for City of Ontario, City of Upland, and Inland Empire Utilities Agency, for Former Ontario-Upland Sewage Treatment Plant (Regional Recycling Plant No. 1), City of Ontario – CAO No. R8-2016-0016.

Postponed

9. Quail Valley Septic System Waste Discharge Prohibition (Information Item)

(Information pertaining to this item is contained in a verbatim transcript of the proceedings)

Mr. Chuck Griffin, Enforcement Coordinator, provided additional information as a follow-up to the March 11, 2016 Quail Valley presentation. Mr. Griffin discussed the following: activities conducted by the Regional Board, the City of Menifee and Eastern Municipal Water District since the adoption of the Quail Valley Prohibition in 2006; Quail Valley and Canyon Lake water quality sampling results as current as 2016; and a summary of

options to the Prohibition, including benefits and drawbacks of each option. Also discussed were the requirements needed if the Prohibition is revised through a Basin Plan Amendment, as well as a timeline for moving a potential Basin Plan Amendment forward. Staff answered questions from the Board.

Speakers:

Joe Mouawad, Senior Director of Engineering, EMWD. Mr. Mouawad provided the Board with an update of actions taken by EMWD to provide sewer service to Quail Valley. He added that they have been and are actively trying to secure grant funding to complete the project.

Mr. Mouawad answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Berchtold informed the Board that he had contacted State Board staff about available funding programs, and was informed that they have been working very closely with EMWD staff, and that EMWD had thoroughly investigated every available funding source.

Comments were provided by:

Colin McNie
Nancy Horton
Janet Anderson
Letisia Vasquez
Spencer Scarcello
Millard Blancaflor
Gregg Berge
Michael Erickson

Mr. Berchtold provided closing comments, noting that it was clear that the Prohibition had been in place for a long time with limited progress made in providing a sewer system to the residents of Quail Valley, and that based on EMWD's presentation and their limitation on obtaining grant funding for sewers, it would likely be a long time before sewer service is provided to all of Subareas 4 and 9. Mr. Berchtold's suggestion would be for staff to begin work on amending the Prohibition to allow for septic systems in Subareas outside of 4 and 9 to be consistent with either Option 2a or Option 2b.

Comments were provided by several of the Board Members, who directed staff to proceed with amending the Prohibition.

8. Appeal of Staff's Determination Regarding Applicability of the Quail Valley Waste Discharge Prohibition – Carole Masson, Montana Street, Menifee, Riverside County, APN 350-031-001 and 350-031-002.

(Information pertaining to this item is contained in a verbatim transcript of the proceedings)

Ms. Smythe, Division Chief, presented this item before the Board. She asked the Board to provide input regarding staff's approach to Ms. Masson's request of installation of septic systems on two parcels in Quail Valley. She specifically asked if Regional Board staff, consistent with how septic system requests had been handled at the time the Prohibition was adopted and became effective, had appropriately determined that Ms. Masson's actions taken before the Prohibition became effective in 2007 were inadequate to enable her to proceed with the installation of septic systems on her properties.

Comments were provided by:
Michael Erickson
Gregg Berge
Carole Masson

There was a discussion between Board Members, staff and Ms. Masson.

Mr. David Rice, Regional Board Counsel, said that the Board would be making a decision based on a very specific set of facts and suggested that they include those specific facts when making their decision.

Executive Officer Kurt Berchtold stated that based on the Board's decision, staff would communicate this information to the City and County.

Motion: It was moved by Board Member Rivera, seconded by Board Member von Blasingame and was unanimously carried to grant Ms. Masson's request for use of subsurface disposal systems, with the condition that she follow all current procedures and standards specified by the County/City.

10. Regional Board Member and Executive Officer Communications
None.

15. Closed Session
None.

Adjournment

The Board meeting was adjourned at 12:05 P.M. to the regular Board meeting of June 10, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

KURT V. BERCHTOLD
Executive Officer

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