

State of California
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

Minutes of January 23, 2009 Board Meeting
25541 Barton Road
Loma Linda, CA

1. Chair Beswick called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Board Members Present

Board Members Absent

Carole Beswick, Chair
Seymour Van Gundy, Vice-Chair
Fred Ameri
Steven PonTell
Richard A. Freschi

William Ruh

Staff Members Present

Gerard J. Thibeault, Executive Officer
Kurt V. Berchtold, Assistant Executive Officer
Joanne Schneider, Environmental Program Manager
David Rice, Regional Board Counsel
Hope Smythe, Chief of Basin Planning (Inland Waters)
Jun Martirez, Chief of Permitting
Mark G. Adelson, Chief of Regional Planning
Pavlova Vitale, Environmental Scientist
Kevin Heinemann, Staff Information Systems Analyst
Felipa Carrillo, Executive Assistant

Public Attendance

Scott Koken, Southern California Gas Co.
Tim Moore, Risk Sciences
Shaun Stone, Cucamonga Valley WD
Gary Stockwell, Cucamonga Valley WD
J.R. Rivas, Cucamonga Valley WD
Amanda Carr, County of Orange
Joe LeClaire, Wildermuth Environmental

Don Lee, Tetra Tech
Ivan Karnezis, Caltrans
Chandra Johannesson, City of Riverside
Kevin Street, City of Riverside
Jessica Chin, City of Riverside
Greg Woodside, OCWD
Eric Lindberg, Wildermuth Environmental

2. Public Forum
There were no speakers.
3. State Water Resources Control Board Liaison Report
None.
4. Approval of Minutes

Action: It was moved by Member Van Gundy, seconded by Member PonTell, and unanimously approved that the Minutes of November 21, 2008 Board Meeting be approved as presented.

Abstain: Member Freschi – not present at last board meeting.

Agenda Update: It was noted that due to the lack of a quorum to hear the matter, Item No. 6, the General Waste Discharge Requirements for de minimus discharges, would be removed from the consent calendar and considered at a later date. Board member Freschi is a member of the Serrano Water District, which holds one of the subject permits, and he recused himself from this item.

Mr. Koken said that Southern California Gas Company supports the vast majority of the water quality initiatives and regulations that are proposed, but suggests that flexibility should be allowed. He concluded by indicating that the Southern California Gas Company is in agreement with the permit and errata sheet, as presented.

5. Consent Calendar

*7. Amendment of General Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R8-2008-0059, NPDES No. CAG648001 – Order No. R8-2009-0004

*8. Rescissions – R8-2009-0016

*9. Big Bear Lake Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Task Force Agreement – Resolution No. R8-2009-0011

Action: It was moved by Member PonTell, seconded by Member Ameri, and unanimously approved that the Board adopt Orders No. R8-2009-0004, R8-2009-0016, and R8-2009-0011

10. Basin Monitoring Task Force (information item; no action was taken)

Mr. Thibeault made some introductory comments concerning basin monitoring, as information for new board members. He explained how the revised Basin Plan and Salt Management Plan for the region provides the basis for Water Quality activities in the region. The N/TDS Task Force was started in 1994 under the management of SAWPA and facilitation by Tim Moore, and it was our initial stakeholder task force process.

Eric Lindberg, Senior Scientist for Wildermuth Environmental, gave Board Members a brief background of how the Basin Monitoring Task Force re-calculated basin quality. He said the Task Force utilized data results for a 20-year period, and he discussed some of the methods used to gather and evaluate that data. He said ambient water quality is re-calculated by the task force every three years, as mandated by the 2004 Basin Plan Amendment. The re-calculation uses the same methodology as the original basin plan amendment, and this is very important for data comparison purposes.

He specifically mentioned the Orange County management zone, which showed an increase of TDS, and stated that new wells have been drilled to monitor water quality near the Orange County seawater intrusion barrier project. The study demonstrated that the noted increase in TDS in the Orange County basin is the result of more data being available, rather than an actual change in water quality.

11. Workshop on Clean Water Act Section 305(b) Integrated Report/Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies (information item; no action was taken)

Pavlova Vitale, staff environmental scientist, began with a presentation of the 2008 Integrated Report for the Santa Ana Region. She provided a brief background of Clean Water Act Sections 303(d) and 305(b). She explained that a Water Quality Standard for a waterbody includes the beneficial uses and the water quality objectives necessary to protect the beneficial uses. She further explained that the Integrated Report includes the List of Impaired Waterbodies (per CWA

Section 303(d)) and that it categorizes waterbodies into five non-overlapping categories. She went over each of the different categories in the Integrated Report and explained how the list was developed. She said each Regional Board will be developing their respective Integrated Reports, and that these will be submitted to the State Board after Regional Board consideration. Ms. Vitale indicated that there will be at least two more stakeholder meetings before comments are due at the end of February, and then a public hearing in April 2009 will follow.

Speakers:

Tim Moore explained that the State's links to the waterbody listing policy and the TMDLs are limited, and the links do not work.

Ms. Vitale said that the SWRCB database is able to access actual data reviewed from the dischargers, which include detection limits, concentrations, units, and location, and will be available as soon as the links are fixed.

12. Regional Board Member and Executive Officer Communication

Due to the furlough days declared by the State, there were changes made to the 2009 board meetings scheduled for March and April. The Board members indicated that they would be available for meetings on March 27 and April 24.

Three Board Members indicated that they would attend the SAWPA conference in Ontario on January 29th, and all would attend the upcoming WQCC at Inland Empire Utilities Agency.

13. Nomination and Election of Regional Board Officers for 2009

Member PonTell, on behalf of the nominating committee, recommend that Chair Beswick continue as the Board Chair and Member Van Gundy as Vice-Chair.

Action: It was moved by Member PonTell, seconded by Member Ameri and unanimously approved to accept the nominating committee's recommendation for Carole Beswick to remain as the Board Chair and Seymour Van Gundy as Vice-Chair.

Chair Beswick announced that her term, as well as Member Van Gundy's, will end in September 2009.

14. Closed Session

There was no closed session.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m. to the regular Board Meeting of March 27, 2009 at 9:00 a.m., at the Loma Linda City Council Chambers, 25541 Barton Road, Loma Linda, CA.

Respectfully submitted:



GERARD J. THIBEAULT
Executive Officer

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