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Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 11, 2020 9:00 a.m.  
**Video and Teleconference Meeting Only**  
**No Physical Meeting Location**  
(Authorized by and in furtherance of  
Executive Orders [N-29-20](#) and [N-33-20](#))

Video and teleconference recordings of the meeting are currently available on the following website: <https://cal-span.org/static/meetings-RWQCB-CC.php>

**Friday, December 11, 2020, 9:00 a.m.**

Chair Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff called the meeting to order on Friday, December 11, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

**Board Business**

6. Roll Call

[Harvey Packard, section manager]

**Present:** Chair Wolff, Vice Chair Gray, Member Hunter, Member Johnston, and Jeff Young

7. Introductions, Staff Recognition, and Awards

[Matthew Keeling, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140,  
[Matt.Keeling@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Matt.Keeling@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Executive Officer Keeling introduced:

- Harvey Packard, section manager acting as clerk to the Board; Stephanie Yu, legal counsel; Thea Tryon, assistant executive officer; and section managers Chris Rose and Angela Schroeter.
- State Water Resources Control Board Liaison Dorene D'Adamo.

**Announcements**

- Greg Bishop introduced new staff member Dillon Kass, licensed professional geologist in the underground storage tanks and site cleanup programs.
- Diane Kukul announced the sustained superior accomplishment award to Katie McNeill.

8. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for September 25, 2020

Motion: Member Johnston moved to approve minutes

Seconded by: Member Hunter

Roll Call Aye: Chair Wolff, Vice Chair Gray, Member Hunter, Member Johnston  
and Member Young

Motioned Carried: 5 to 0

9. Reports by Regional Board Members

Chair Wolff:

- October 13, 2020, virtual meeting with Organic Authority Association
- October 16, 2020, Board meeting brief
- October 19, 2020, call with Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
- October 22-23, 2020, Board hearing on ag order
- October 27-28, 2020, Water Quality Coordinating Committee
- October 28, 2020, conversation with Steve Shimek, Otter Project and Coastkeeper
- November 5, 2020, conference call with Source Global
- November 19, 2020, conversation with Kristi Stauffacher and Kristin Peer of the Governor's office and the Executive Officer
- November 20, 2020, attended homelessness workshop update
- December 1, 2020, conference call with legal counsel

Vice Member Gray:

- October 27-28, 2020, Water Quality Coordinating Committee
- October 30, 2020, conversation with Clara McBane with SOURCE and CURES
- October 20, 2020, conversation with Tess Dunham and Abby Taylor-Silva
- Vice chair Gray reported out on the IRWM summit she is organizing with all of the IRWM regions in the central coast as well as Ventura county. The topic will be on Watershed health and people experiencing homelessness. She will provide more detail as the event develops.

Member Johnston:

- October 16, 2020, Discussion regarding ag order with Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California; Gail Delihant, Western Growers Association; and Tess Dunham, Agricultural Association Partners
- October 21, 2020, conversation with Steve Shimek, Otter Project and Coastkeeper
- October 27-28, 2020, Water Quality Coordinating Committee
- November 3, 2020, phone call with Clara McBane of CURES

Member Hunter:

- October 27-28, 2020, Water Quality Coordinating Committee

- December 2-3, 2020, Cal EPA climate change conference organized by the office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
- December 2-3, 2020, participated in the State Water Board's racial equity dialogue; invited to make the opening statement.

Member Young:

- October 27-28, 2020, Water Quality Coordinating Committee

10. Report by State Water Resources Control Board Liaison [Dorene D'Adamo, 916/641-5609]

State Board Vice Chair D'Adamo provided an overview of a number of statewide issues including: the use of homelessness related data and metrics to inform statewide efforts and coordination; Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) program advisory committee and associated efforts; Governor Newsom's Executive Order regarding water shutoffs, Water Quality Coordinating Committee meeting; Water Boards' Racial Equity initiative, State Water Board precedential MS4 Order; annual performance report; State Water Board approved Toxicity Provisions; release of proposed statewide General Winery Order; hexavalent chrome MCL, workshops; release of preliminary draft Construction General Stormwater Order; water loss standards; emergency response lessons learned workshops; etc. Members Gray, Young and Chair Wolff commented on or otherwise inquired about homelessness, the toxicity provisions, and the need for improved Water Board information and technology functionality, respectively.

## **Public Forum**

11. Public Forum:  
No speakers

## **Uncontested Items**

12. Consideration of proposed Order No. R3-2020-0100, Termination of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2003-0008 for the City of Salinas Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant  
[[Kristina Olmos](mailto:Kristina.Olmos@waterboards.ca.gov), 805/549-3121, [Kristina.Olmos@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Kristina.Olmos@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Mr. Keeling introduced the item.

Adoption of order as proposed:

Motion: Member Young moved to approve the item

Seconded by: Member Hunter

Aye: Chair Wolff, Vice Chair Gray, Member Hunter, Member Johnston  
and Member Young

Motioned Carried: 5 to 0

## **Discussion/Informational Items**

### 13. Grants Program Update

[[Katie McNeill](#), 805/549-3336, [Katie.McNeill@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Katie.McNeill@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Grants Program Manager Katie McNeill presented an overview of funding criteria, internal regulatory program coordination, and highlights of several successful projects and recent awards.

Board members discussed the importance of the grant projects related to the following: fostering good relationships with local agencies and regulated entities; engaging the community in conservation science; leveraging financial resources; addressing climate change impacts associated with wildfires, extreme drought, and sea level rise; and demonstrating water quality outcomes so projects can be duplicated. Ms. McNeill responded to Board members' questions about grants related to post-fire recovery, irrigated agriculture, and fish habitat.

Board members asked questions and engaged in dialogue about disseminating grant project information to the public, such as the timely publicizing of project-specific outcomes, funding awards, and events aimed at specific geographic areas. Mr. Keeling and Ms. McNeill answered questions. Mr. Keeling will follow up with the State Board's Office of Public Affairs about State Board's issuing press releases on behalf of the Central Coast region.

### 14. Wildfire Prevention and Recovery Activities Update

[[Mike Sandecki](#), 805/549-3372, [Michael.Sandecki@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Michael.Sandecki@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Water Board staff provided this information item concerning evolving activities in wildfire prevention, emergency response, and post-fire recovery. Board members asked about fuel reduction methods used in the region, including herbivory and prescribed burning, and discussed carbon emissions and sequestration related to wildfire and vegetation management. Staff described the unpredictable nature of wildfire occurrence and the need to shift priorities from core program activities to focus on emergency response and post-fire recovery. No public comment.

## **Enforcement**

### 15. Enforcement Report

[[Thea Tryon](#), 805/542-4776, [Thea.Tryon@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Thea.Tryon@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Thea Tryon provided a brief overview of the enforcement actions taken between May 1, 2020, through September 30, 2020. Ms. Tryon highlighted that many enforcement actions were still issued despite Covid-19 restrictions. Ms. Tryon explained CalEPA and the Water Boards' have taken the position that it continues to

be important to address non-compliance issues during Covid-19. She also highlighted that inspections are more involved now due to social distance and disinfection requirements. Ms. Tryon briefly summarized status of the enforcement actions described in tables 1 and 2 and explained that a more detailed status update on the Monterey Mushrooms supplemental environmental project is forthcoming at a future Board meeting.

### **Administrative Items**

16. Executive Officer's Report

[[Matthew Keeling](mailto:Matt.Keeling@waterboards.ca.gov), Executive Officer, 805/549-3140,  
Matt.Keeling@waterboards.ca.gov]

Mr. Keeling summarized the written report.

Chair Wolff adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m. The total number of webcast viewers for the meeting was 77.

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Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff, Chair

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