
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 30, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Friday, January 31, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Central Coast Water Board Offices

895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101, San Luis Obispo

Thursday, January 30, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Chair Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff called the meeting to order on Thursday, January 30, 2020, at 9:05 a.m.

Board Business

1. Roll Call

[Tammie Olson, Clerk to the Board, 805/549-3140,
Tammie.Olson@waterboards.ca.gov]

Present: Chair Wolff, Vice Chair Gray, Member Delgado, Member Hunter, Member Johnston, and Member Young.

2. Introductions, Staff Recognition, and Awards

[John Robertson, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140,
John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov]

Executive Officer John Robertson introduced Stephanie Yu, legal counsel; Matthew Keeling, assistant executive officer; Tammie Olson, clerk to the Board; and section managers Harvey Packard, Chris Rose, Angela Schroeter, and Thea Tryon.

Phil Hammer introduced Alejandra Celio, Student Assistant-Engineering & Architectural Sciences, NPDES and WDR programs

3. Elections of Chair and Vice Chair

[John Robertson, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140,
John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov]

Motion: Member Johnston nominated Jean-Pierre Wolff to serve as board chair.
Seconded by: Member Hunter

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

Motion Carried: 6-0

Motion: Member Hunter nominated Vice Chair Gray to serve as Vice Chair.

Seconded by: Member Young

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

Motion Carried: 6-0

Discussion/Informational Items

4. Annual Update of Environmental Justice Activities in the Central Coast Region
[Angela Schroeter, 805/542-4644, Angela.Schroeter@waterboards.ca.gov]

The board heard an informational item providing staff's annual update on environmental justice efforts throughout the region. The item affirmed the board's top priorities to implement the human right to water and protect human health, including support of disadvantaged communities. Presenters included Jasmine Oaxaca (State Water Resources Control Board) regarding the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resiliency Drinking Water Program; Madelyn Glickfeld (University of California, Los Angeles) regarding the Salinas Valley Distributed Water Treatment Project; Brendan Clark (County of San Luis Obispo) regarding the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program, and Mayra Hernandez, Cesar Garcia Lopez, and Heather Lukacs of the Community Water Center. The Community Water Center described their successful model of change to grow community leadership and engage communities impacted by pollution to work toward community-driven drinking water solutions. In 2019, the Community Water Center provided essential and significant services to disadvantaged communities in northern Monterey County by facilitating participation in free drinking water well testing programs, advocating for state-funded emergency bottled water services and facilitating long-term drinking water solutions, and building grass roots community based environmental justice capacity. The Community Water Center is working to expand their services to the entire central coast region and is seeking ongoing funding support. For more information about the Community Water Center and how you can get involved, go to <https://www.communitywatercenter.org/>.

5. Central Coast Drinking Water Well Testing Program – Progress and Results
[Julia Dyer, 805/542-4624, Julia.Dyer@waterboards.ca.gov, Mark Davis, 805/542-4629, Mark.Davis@waterboards.ca.gov]

The board heard an informational item on the progress of the Central Coast Water Board's free drinking water well testing program, which is available to all residents in the Central Coast Region who get drinking water from a private domestic well or small water system. The goal of the well testing program is to inform central coast residents regarding the quality of their well water so they can make informed decisions to protect their health. The program is implemented in coordination with

local environmental health agencies and the Community Water Center, who helps to engage disadvantaged communities. Staff presented an overview view of the outreach methods and criteria to participate in the well testing program, well testing procedures, and summary of results. This successful program has tested more than 275 drinking water wells, primarily in San Luis Obispo, Monterey, and San Benito counties and will be available in Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara counties in 2020. Preliminary results indicate that approximately 38 percent of wells tested have unsafe levels of nitrate, arsenic, 1,2,3-trichloropropane, perchlorate, or chromium VI. These results underscore the importance of residents' routinely testing their well water to ensure that it is safe to drink. For more information on the board's free drinking water well testing program and how you can participate, go to <https://sites.google.com/view/ccgroundwater>

Speakers:

- Heather Lukacs, Community Water Center
- Cesar Garcia Lopez, Community Water Center

Public Forum

6. Public forum
 - No speakers

Meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Friday, January 31, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Chair Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff called the meeting to order on Friday, January 31, 2020, at 9:01 a.m.

Board Business

7. Roll Call/Introductions
[Tammie Olson, Clerk to the Board, 805/549-3140,
Tammie.Olson@waterboards.ca.gov]

Present: Chair Wolff, Vice Chair Gray, Member Delgado, Member Hunter, Member Johnston, and Member Young.

Executive Officer John Robertson introduced the following persons:

Stephanie Yu, legal counsel; Matthew Keeling, assistant executive officer; Tammie Olson, clerk to the Board; and section managers Harvey Packard, Chris Rose, Angela Schroeter, and Thea Tryon.

State Water Resources Control Board Alternate Liaison Laurel Firestone

Jennifer Epp introduced James Bishop, WDR program

8. Approval of December 12-13, 2019, Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Member Hunter to approve the minutes.

Seconded by: Vice Chair Gray

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

Motion Carried: 6-0

9. Reports by Regional Board Members

• Chair Wolff

- January 6, 2020, monthly chairs call for the chairs' annual meeting to discuss topics for the meeting in May.
- January 17, 2020, hosted the Cal Poly Center for Sustainability
- January 23, 2020, conference call with State Board liaison Dorene D'Adamo, John Robertson, and Matthew Keeling.
- January 24, 2020, toured PGE Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant with the executive officer, Water Board staff members, and attorney Stephanie Yu.

• Vice Chair Gray

- December 29, 2019, participated in the Point and Time Count in Santa Barbara County, an annual count of people experiencing homelessness.

• Member Delgado, Member Hunter, Member Johnston, and Member Young:

- Nothing to report

10. Report by State Water Resources Control Board Liaison

[Laurel Firestone, 916/341-5627, Laurel.Firestone@Waterboards.ca.gov]

Board Liaison Laurel Firestone gave a full report

Public Forum

11. Public Forum:

Speakers:

- Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California

Uncontested Items

12. Consideration of Proposed Order No. R3-2020-0003, Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES Permit for Ragged Point Inn and Resort, San Luis Obispo County [Steve Saiz, 805/549-3879, steve.saiz@waterboards.ca.gov]

Motion: Vice Chair Gray moved to approve Order No. R3-2020-0003

Seconded by: Member Johnston

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

Motion Carried: 6-0

Discussion/Informational Items

13. "Quiet Period" Prior to Public Meeting at Which Agricultural Order 4.0 will be Considered
[Stephanie Yu, 916/341-5157, Stephanie.Yu@waterboards.ca.gov]

Board legal counsel Stephanie Yu provided a brief presentation regarding a proposed 14-day quiet period prior to adoption of general orders, specifically Ag Order 4.0, during which no ex parte communication would be allowed between Board members and any stakeholders. Ms. Yu provided examples of quiet periods used in other regions and at State Board associated with general order adoptions, and she and Executive Officer Robertson recommended board approval of a quiet period for the 14 days preceding the anticipated adoption date/meeting for Ag Order 4.0. The Board discussed both merits and potential limitations of a quiet period.

Motion: Member Young moved that the Board adopt a 14-day quiet period immediately prior to the public meeting in which the board is scheduled to consider adoption of ag order 4.0.

Member Young amended his motion to say "prior to the beginning of the public meeting."

Seconded by: Vice Chair Gray

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

Nay: Member Johnston, Member Delgado

Motion Carried: 4-2

Public Comment:

- Steve Shimek, the Otter Project
- Sarah Lopez, Preservation, Inc.

14. Release of Draft Agricultural Order 4.0 for Public Comment
[Arwen Wyatt-Mair, 805/542-4695, Arwen.WyattMair@waterboards.ca.gov,
Elaine Sahl, 805/542-4645, Elaine.Sahl@waterboards.ca.gov]

Staff provided a presentation summarizing the development process of Ag Order 4.0, information about the anticipated 45-day comment period beginning in February, the format of draft Ag Order 4.0, and plans for two board meetings in May dedicated largely to discussion of the Order. Board members sought clarification on the May board meetings, including location; whether staff will provide a summary of comments received and staff responses; how board members could review comments prior to the meetings; and providing opportunities for stakeholders to present information. The board engaged commenters; comments included a request from board members that written comments pertaining to alternative requirements be memorialized as proposed revisions within the draft order and not as separate order or document; the potential for an increased role of Preservation Inc.'s Cooperative Monitoring Program during Ag Order 4.0 implementation; the timeline and process of developing third-party roles; and a request for a longer, 60-day comment period.

Speakers:

- Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
- Parry Klassen, Central Coast Groundwater Coalition.
- Courtney Jallo, Central Coast Groundwater Coalition; Coalition for Urban Rural Environmental Services (CURES)
- Sarah Lopez, Preservation, Inc.
- Steve Shimek, the Otter Project
- Clair Weinman, Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties

15. General Order Development and Program Strategy for the Regulation of Large Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharges to Land
[Thea Tryon, 805/542-4776, Thea.Tryon@waterboards.ca.gov]

Thea Tryon and Jennifer Epp updated the board and stakeholders on how the Waste Discharge Requirements Program is implementing new strategies to grow programmatic efficiency while at the same time increasing consistency of regulation for the nearly 800 discharging facilities regulated in this program. One of the strategies is to develop a general order to more efficiently regulate domestic wastewater treatment plants with flows greater than 100,000 gallons per day. Staff is also developing strategies to prioritize tasks that focus on helping dischargers achieve compliance with permit requirements, resulting in measurable water quality improvements.

Administrative Items

16. Executive Officer's Report
[John Robertson, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140,
John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov]

The executive officer gave his report.

At the end of the meeting Mr. Roberson took a moment to thank staff. He acknowledged the people who do all the lifting, creating, writing, rewriting, inspecting, presenting, teaching, listening, expressing compassion, inspiring, and leading in this organization.

The board thanked Mr. Robertson for his service.

Chair Wolff adjourned the meeting at approximately **4:03 p.m.**

This document, originally signed, has been remediated for accessibility. No changes have been made to the substance of the document, but remediation may have resulted in minor formatting adjustments. The original document is available upon request.

Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff, Chair

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