

State of California  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, September 17, 2009, 10:00 a.m.  
City Council Chambers  
City of Palm Desert  
73-510 Fred Waring Drive  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

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The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, was called to order by the Chair, Ellen Way, at 10:11 a.m. on September 17, 2009, at Palm Desert, California.

**ROLL CALL (BOARD MEMBERS ONLY)**

**Board Members Present:**

Tom Davis, Jeff Hays, Red Martinez, Ed Muzik, Ellen Way

The Board Secretary stated that a quorum was present.

**Staff Present:**

Jose Angel, Adnan Al-Sarabi, Mary Castaneda, Abdi Haile, Cecilia Irwin, Robert Perdue, Jon Rokke, Jennie Snyder, Hilda Vasquez, Doug Wylie.

**Others Present:**

K. Campbell, Cal Energy  
Sharon Bishop, SWMD, San Bernardino  
Mike Reason, Geo-Logic Associates  
Sarann Graham, Hi-Desert Water District  
Frank Cornejo, City of Holtville  
David Huerta, City of Holtville  
Jack Holt, City of Holtville/The Holt Group  
Steve Bigley, Coachella Valley Water District  
Tom Vandenberg, Office of Chief Counsel, SWRCB

**MINUTES**

1. Minutes of June 18, 2009, Board Meeting

**MOTION:** Red Martinez moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that the Minutes be adopted.

## PUBLIC FORUM

2. No public comment.

## UNCONTESTED NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMITS AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

3. R7-2009-0028 Waste Discharge Requirements for **CalEnergy, Owner/Operator, Region 2 Vulcan and Del Ranch (Hoch) Geothermal Power Plant**, Calipatria – Imperial County (*Supercedes*)
4. R7-2009-0058 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for **Heber Public Utilities District**, Heber – Imperial County (*Amendment*)
5. R7-2009-0062 Waste Discharge Requirements for **Kiewit Pacific Co., Owner/Operator, United States Bureau of Reclamation, Land Owner All American Canal Lining Project – Aggregate Washing Facility**, Winterhaven – Imperial County (*New*)
6. R7-2009-0063 Waste Discharge Requirements for **County of San Bernardino, Owner/Operator Landers Waste Management Facility Class III Landfill Class II Surface Impoundments**, Northwest of Joshua Tree – San Bernardino County (*Amendment*)
7. R7-2009-0400 General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for **Discharges of Extracted and Treated Groundwater Resulting from the Cleanup of Groundwater Polluted by Volatile Organic Constituents into Surface Waters in the Colorado River Basin Region – (CAG917001)** (*Rescission*)

**MOTION:** Jeff Hays moved, Tom Davis seconded. and motion carried unanimously that Board Order Nos. R7-2009-0028, R7-2009-0058, R7-2009-0062, R7-2009-0063 with errata, and R7-2009-0400, be adopted.

## **ENFORCEMENT**

8. R7-2009-0061 Cease and Desist Order No. R7-2009-0061 Issued to **City of Holtville, Owner/Operator Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant**, Holtville – Imperial County (*New*)

**MOTION:** Tom Davis moved, Ed Muzik seconded, and motioned carried unanimously that Board Order No. R7-2009-0061, with errata, be adopted.

9. R7-2009-0067 Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R7-2009-0067 in the Matter City of **Calexico, Owner/Operator Wastewater Treatment Plant for Violations Alleged in Complaint No. R7-2009-0048**, Calexico – Imperial County (*New*)

**MOTION:** Jeff Hays moved, Tom Davis seconded, and motioned carried unanimously that Board Order No. R7-2009-0067 be adopted.

10. R7-2009-0068 Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R7-2009-0068 in the Matter of **Imperial Irrigation District, Owner/Operator El Centro Generating Station**, El Centro – Imperial County (*New*)

**MOTION:** Ed Muzik moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motioned carried unanimously that Board Order No. R7-2009-0068 be adopted.

## **RESOLUTION**

11. R7-2009-0066 Resolution Expressing Appreciation to Richard Post (*New*)

**MOTION:** Jeff Hays moved, Red Martinez seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Resolution No. R7-2009-0066 be adopted.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

12. Informational Update on State Water Resources Control Board Activities – TV

Tom Vandenberg, OCC, SWRCB, reported on four State Water Board Activities: adoption of the General Permit for Discharges of Stormwater Associated with Construction Activities (Construction General Permit); adoption of the General Permit for Landscape Irrigation Uses of Municipal Recycled Water; an update on the latest draft (July 14, 2009) of the Water Quality Enforcement Policy; and a recent Press Release by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) concerning a draft of the Technical Support Document for the proposed Public Health Goal for Hexavalent Chromium of 0.06 parts per billion.

13. Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer's Report (EO) – RP

Mr. Perdue described the ongoing effects of the furloughs. The office is closed on the first three Fridays of each month, resulting in a pay cut of approximately 14% for the Regional Board staff. In addition to the financial impact on staff, prioritizing the workload has become even more important due to the lost workdays. The furloughs are expected to continue until at least June 2010. He also announced, that after some delay, Mission Springs Water District received \$6 million in grants funding under Proposition 13 and 40. He reported that there are several solar projects proposed for the Region and that staff is coordinating with State Board how to work with the California Energy Commission—the Lead agency for these projects—on waste discharge requirements issues

Jose L. Angel, Assistant Executive Officer, informed the Board that he met with representatives of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) to address permitting issues for CVAG's proposed homeless shelter in Palm Springs, near Indian Avenue. He stated that staff was able to find a way to accommodate the project in a timely manner and deal with potential water quality impacts from the proposed discharge of wastes from the project. He also reported that he had participated in several meetings dealing with the ongoing efforts by Hi-Desert Water District (HDWD) to build a municipal wastewater collection system and treatment facility for the Town of Yucca Valley. He stated that he provided testimony during the District's June public hearing for the CEQA document for the project and that he attended a radio talk show to discuss the Board's concerns with the Town's septic systems. Also, he reported that Ms. Nancy Wright was reappointed by the International Boundary Water Commission (US Section) as the Board representative to the Commission's Colorado River Citizens Forum.

14. Colorado River Basin Water Board Member Comments

Mr. Muzik reported that he and Mr. Angel participated on a Border Tour of the New River on August 5<sup>th</sup>. The tour was also attended by CalEPA Secretary Adams and several state legislators and elected officials from Calexico and Imperial County, including Assemblyman Manuel Perez and Senator Denise Ducheny. The Tour was also important because it was announced that the State was allocating \$800,000, in addition to \$5,000,000 the Federal Government was also allocating, to deal with the water quality problems of the New River on this side of the border. Mr. Muzik also reported that he, two of his HDWD Board members, and Mr. Angel participated in a meeting with two members of the Joshua Basin Water District (JBWD) and the JBWD's General Manager. Mr. Muzik also thanked Mr. Angel for his level of participation and support regarding HDWD's activities. Further, he added that Mojave Water Agency just entered into a 10-year deal to acquire 14,000 acre-feet of [State Water Project] water from a Central Valley farmer for \$75,000,000.

Tom Davis mentioned that his agency sits on CVAG's Executive Committee; and that he sits on CVAG's Energy and Water Conservation subcommittee, which adopted various goals in April 2009, including water conservation and assured water quality of the water supply. He said that he asked Mr. Perdue for someone from the Board to provide the Committee an update on water quality at one of the Committee's meetings. Ms. Way stated that she could also participate. Mr. Davis stated that if Ms. Way and Mr. Perdue could attend, that would be great, and that he would be sending them the invitations for the meeting, to be held possibly in late October.

15. Colorado River Basin Water Board Chair's Report – EW

Ellen Way reported she attended the UC Davis workshop at Region 7 on September 16, 2009 and shared the new vision statement for Region 7, "Water resources, improved and protected". She encouraged all Board Members to attend the WQCC Meeting being held in Sacramento on October 26 and 27, 2009. She also notified the Board and the public about Region 7's four vacant Board Member positions.

**CLOSED SESSION**

16. Board Chair Way noted for the record that no closed session items were considered.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, November 19, 2009, 10:00 a.m. in Palm Desert.**

**Adjournment: 11:14 a.m.**

**MOTION:** Tom Davis moved, Jeff Hayes seconded, and motion carried unanimously that the Board Meeting be adjourned.