

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

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, September 17, 2015, 10:00 a.m. to 1:18 p.m.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region  
73-720 Fred Waring Drive  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, was called to order by Chair Ellen Way at 10:00 a.m. on September 17, 2015, at Palm Desert, California.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL (Board Members Only)**

**Regional Board Members Present:**

Buford Crites, Tom Davis, Ed Muzik, Nancy Wright, Ellen Way

The Board Liaison stated that a quorum was present.

**Regional Water Board Counsel:** Tom Vandenberg

**State Water Resources Control Board Liaison:** Fran Spivy-Weber

**Regional Board Staff Present:**

Robert Perdue, Jose Angel, Soni Wells, Mary Castañeda, Abdi Haile, Mary Serra, Kai Dunn, Doug Wylie, Joan Stormo, Jeff Geraci, Theresa Kimsey, Cathy Sanford, Jose Cortez, Nadim Shukry-Zeywar, Abid Khalaf, Anders Wistrom

**Others Present:**

Roger Mayes, HDWD  
Ivory Reyburn, CVWD  
Jim Turner, MLWP  
Ashley Hudgens, DWA  
Beatrice Scroggins, SCWD  
Jennifer Henke, CVMVCD  
Patrick Harris, SCWD  
Jack Holt, SCWD  
Camden J. O'Toole, HDWD  
Mark Ban, HDWD  
Juan Zarate, SCWD

## MINUTES

1. a. Minutes of June 11, 2015 Board Meeting

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Ed Muzik seconded, to approve Minutes. Tom Davis abstained. Motion was carried.

- b. Minutes of August 10, 2015 Special Board Meeting

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Nancy Wright seconded, to approve Minutes. Tom Davis abstained. Motion was carried.

## PUBLIC FORUM

No one spoke during this time.

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

3. R7-2015-0006 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and General Waste Discharge Requirements for Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters within the Colorado River Basin Region (Renewal)

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Ed Muzik seconded, and the motion carried unanimously Order R7-2015-0006 be adopted.

4. R7-2015-0007 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Surface Water of Extracted and Treated Groundwater Resulting from the Cleanup of Groundwater Polluted by Volatile Organic Constituents (Renewal)

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Ed Muzik seconded, and the motion carried unanimously Order R7-2015-0007 be adopted.

5. R7-2015-0030 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of Imperial Water Pollution Control Plant – Imperial, Imperial County (Renewal)

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Ed Muzik seconded, and the motion carried unanimously Order R7-2015-0030 be adopted.

6. R7-2015-0039 Waste Discharge Requirements for Carole Fowler-Bodam, Owner/Operator, Salamander Mobile Park Domestic Wastewater Treatment System in Bard, Imperial County. (Update)

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Ed Muzik seconded, and the motion carried unanimously Order R7-2015-0039 be adopted.

7. R7-2015-0043 Waste Discharge Requirements for Hi-Desert Water District, Owner/Operator, Yucca Valley Wastewater Reclamation Plant (New).

Ed Muzik recused himself due to a conflict of interest

**MOTION:** Nancy Wright moved, Buford Crites seconded, adding changes to one line of the order, and the motion carried with the errata, and Order R7-2015-0043 be adopted.

### **CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP**

8. R7-2015-0045 Change of Name and/or Ownership of Facilities Having Waste Discharge Requirements

**MOTION:** Nancy Wright moved, Ed Muzik seconded, and the motion carried unanimously Order R7-2015-0045 be adopted.

### **2014 BASIN PLAN TRIENNIAL REVIEW**

9. R7-2015-0046 Resolution to Acknowledge Completion of the 2014 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region, and to Adopt the Final Draft 2014 Triennial Review List and Workplan

### **STAFF REPORT**

Jeff Geraci, Environmental Scientist for the Regional Board, addressed the Board and presented the 2014 triennial review workplan and triennial review list.

Although the triennial review list contained five separate action items, only four of the items were addressed, due to limitations of funding and staff resources. The exclusion of the fifth issue, which concerns the impacts to groundwater from septic systems, was of particular concern to the Board. Mr. Geraci explained that, although the fifth item had been excluded, it would remain an important goal for staff that would still be addressed as resources became available.

Board Chair Ellen Way expressed concern over the lack of participation by the general public, suggesting Regional Board staff should be doing more to encourage public participation.

**MOTION:** Tom Davis moved, Buford Crites seconded, and the motion carried unanimously Resolution R7-2015-0046 be adopted.

### **CEASE AND DESIST ORDER**

10. R7-2015-0041 Special Board Order amending Cease and Desist Order R7-2011-0058 issued to Seeley County Water District, Owner/Operator, Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Collection and Disposal Systems – Seeley, Imperial County.

**MOTION:** Nancy Wright moved, Buford Crites seconded and the motion with errata carried unanimously Order R7-2015-0041 be adopted.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY ORDER**

11. R7-2015-0040 Special Board Order amending Administrative Civil Liability Order R7-2012-0016 issued to Seeley County Water District, Owner/Operator, Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Collection and Disposal Systems – Seeley, Imperial County

**MOTION:** Ed Muzik moved, Tom Davis seconded and the motion with errata carried unanimously Order R7-2015-0040 be adopted.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

12. Informational Update: State Water Resources Control Board Activities  
*[Tom Vandenberg, Fran Spivy-Weber]*

SWRCB Vice Chair Fran Spivy-Weber stated that the upcoming October 12-13 Water Quality Control Committee will focus on the Regional Boards and expressed her hope that as many of the experienced RB Members can attend to intermingle with the new appointees. The Vice Chair listed a number of items on the WQCC Agenda including: the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) which will include a speaker from the Department of Water Resources; impacts of the Drought Crisis on RB workloads; the recently approved Cannabis legislation; utilizing stormwater as a resource; and, Wetlands Restoration efforts in the Regions. Ms. Spivy-Weber also discussed the usage of recycled water, indirectly and directly, to supplement drinking water supplies. Finally, the Vice Chair, who is a member of the Salton Sea Task Force, announced the appointment by the Governor of Bruce Wilcox to address water quality issues at the Salton Sea, including pursuing more robust funding for proposed restoration projects. Board Counsel Tom Vandenberg updated the Board with a summary handout regarding Regional Board and State Board activities since the last Board meeting in June 2015.

13. Informational Update Coachella Valley Salt Nutrient Management Plan

Abdi Haile, Supervising Engineering Geologist, gave the Board an update on the Coachella Valley Salt Nutrient Management Plan (CVSNMP). Mr. Haile stated that RB7 staff sent a new comment letter to the CVSNMP stakeholders with suggestions for additional work needed on the final draft and also offered to meet with them. In response to the RB7 staff letter, CVSNMP stakeholders sent a reply stating they viewed the final draft of the CVSNMP as being complete pursuant to the State Water Board's Recycled Water Policy and, therefore, the final draft required no further revision. Board Staff, Legal Counsel and Management has arranged a meeting on September 21, 2015, to address the outstanding issues and concerns of the CVSNMP stakeholders and RB7 staff.

14. Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer's Report

Robert Perdue, Executive Officer, stated that prior to Mr. Wilcox's appointment by the Governor, he and AEO Jose Angel met with Mr. Wilcox and Mr. Phil Rosentrater, Deputy Director, Economic Development Agency of Riverside County. During the meeting, Mr. Perdue emphasized use of the funding portal for the SWRCB Department of Financial Assurance "FAAST" System, which facilitates encumbering both bond and grant monies for water improvement projects. Furthermore, the EO explained the DFA is in the process of hiring up to 50 more staff to facilitate encumbering Proposition 1 and other funds.

Mr. Perdue said he has invited the Division of Oil and Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) to speak at the upcoming Board Meeting concerning the geothermal industry in RB7. Finally, Mr. Perdue introduced a new staff member, Engineering Geologist Cathy Sanford, and sadly noted the passing of former long term RB7 Chair, Stu Gummer.

15. Colorado River Basin Water Board Member Comments

Member Nancy Wright discussed the arrangements for the WQCC.

16. Colorado River Basin Water Board Chair's Report

Chair Ellen Way expressed gratitude for the Drought and Urban Water Conservation Symposium held on June 26, 2015, at the Coachella Valley Water District office in Palm Desert. The Chair noted that Felicia Marcus, SWRCB Chair, will be making a presentation at the upcoming October 1<sup>st</sup> Southern California Energy + Water 2015 Summit in Palm Springs. Finally, Chair Way noted that four Board Members are traveling to the October 2015 WQCC in Sacramento at the CalEPA building.

**CLOSED SESSION**

17. At any time during the regular session, the Board may adjourn to meet in closed session to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, or dismissal of a public employee [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(a)]; to consider evidence received in an adjudicatory hearing and deliberate on a decision to be reached based on that evidence [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(c)(3)]; to discuss significant exposure to litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(B)(i)]; to discuss whether to initiate litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(C)(i)]; or to discuss initiated litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)]. Discussion of litigation is within the attorney-client privilege and may be held in closed session [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)].

a. EXECUTIVE OFFICER PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Authority: Gov. Code Section 11126(a))

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: 9:00 a.m., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015, PALM DESERT, CA**

**ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING: 1:18 p.m.**