

MINUTES OF INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP

December 13, 2018, 9:00 a.m. to 11:47 a.m.
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Roll Call (Board members only) and Introductions

Nancy Wright, Buford Crites, Tom Davis, Ed Muzik, Jayne Powell, and Peter Satin were present. The Board Clerk stated that a quorum was present.

The workshop was called to order by Board Chair Nancy Wright at 9:00 a.m. on December 13, 2019 in Palm Desert, California.

State and Regional Board Staff Present:

Paula Rasmussen, Frank Gonzalez, Katharine Buddingh, Doug Wylie, Nadim Shukry-Zeywar, Joan Stormo, Kai Dunn, Jeff Geraci, Mary Castaneda, Terry Barnes, Adriana Godinez, and Cathy Sanford.

Others Present

Lilian Garcia, Member of the public
Don Ackley, Coachella Valley Water District
Steve Bigley, Coachella Valley Water District
Chuck Parker, Salton Sea Coalition

1. Opening Statement

The workshop was called to order by Chair Nancy Wright at 9:00 a.m. on December 13, 2018 in Palm Desert. She introduced and welcomed new Board member Peter Satin. She also congratulated Vice-Chair Buford Crites on his reappointment to the Colorado River Basin Water Board.

**Vice-Chair Buford Crites left the workshop at 9:10 a.m.*

2. Staff Report Status of Water Quality Priorities

Introductory remarks were made by Paula Rasmussen, Executive Officer, stating the purpose of the workshop was to update the Board on key program areas, including on the status of prior priorities and commitments as well as priorities for the next year in those areas.

Presentations were made by each of the individual managers of the Colorado River Basin Water Board staff on the following topics: the land disposal program, the surface water program, the cleanup programs, salt and nutrient management planning, Basin planning, the Salton Sea, the New River, the enforcement program, and the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP).

Board members asked questions on several different topics, including regarding how performance targets are set, measured, and prioritized, whether there was a current backlog of work, and the difference between an inspection and an audit for sanitary sewer systems. Management staff addressed the questions posed by the Board.

3. Public Comments

Speakers:

- Chuck Parker, Salton Sea Coalition

**Board Member Ed Muzik left the workshop at 10:55 a.m.*

4. Board Discussion and Direction to Staff

After discussion, the Board commended staff for their work on the previous year's priorities and instructed staff to continue meeting the goals outlined in the staff presentations for the next year's priorities. The Board requested that staff consolidate the various recommended program priorities into one single document.

Chair Wright stated that the priorities were basically the same as those from the last fiscal year, with the addition of addressing the backlog of mandatory minimum penalties (MMPs) in the enforcement program and the development of general waste discharge requirements for discharges from irrigated agricultural lands. She mentioned that she would like to see United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) more proactive on issues confronting the New River and Salton Sea, and possibly assist financially in those areas. Staff was asked to pursue this avenue of potential funding.

Adjournment

The Workshop was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.