

Roll Call and Introductions

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

The meeting was called to order online via Zoom by Board Chair Nancy Wright at 9:00 a.m. on May 14, 2020.

State and Regional Water Board Staff Present

Laurel Firestone, Paula Rasmussen, Cassandra Owens, Katharine Buddingh, Hilda Vasquez, Reggie Tan, Jose Cortez, Sara Simpson, Joan Stormo, Dan Mefford

Others Present via Zoom:

Jeff Gow, Riverside County Department of Waste Resources
38 other attendees via web link

Resolution Expressing Appreciation to Thomas Davis

Nancy Wright read the Resolution expressing appreciation to Thomas Davis.

Board Members Powell, Muzik, and Satin expressed gratitude for the opportunity to work with Mr. Davis and their appreciation for his service as a Regional Water Board Member and his service to the public and wished him well.

Mr. Davis expressed his gratitude for the Resolution, thanked the Regional Water Board staff for their work, and said farewell.

Public Forum

Virtual Speaker Cards: None

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of March 5, 2020 Board Meeting

Motion: Ed Muzik moved, Jayne Powell seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously to adopt the minutes of the March 5, 2020 Board meeting.

2. State Water Board Liaison Update

Laurel Firestone provided an informational update on the Governor's state budget, the Governor's Executive Orders on COVID-19, and State Water Board activities.

Uncontested Items

3. **R7-2020-0005** - Consideration of adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements for Riverside County Department of Waste Resources, Owner/Operator, Blythe Sanitary Landfill, Riverside County [*Reggie Tan, WRCE*]

This item was removed from the uncontested items by Chair Wright, who opened a public hearing on the permit. Reggie Tan, Water Resources Control Engineer with the Regional Water Board, provided a staff presentation.

Virtual Speaker Card: Jeff Gow, Riverside County Department of Waste Resources

There were no comments from the Discharger.

Board Members Powell, Muzik, and Satin thanked Regional Water Board staff for the presentation.

Motion: Jayne Powell moved, Peter Satin seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously to adopt Order R7-2020-0005.

4. **R7-2020-0011** - Consideration of adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements for Mission Springs Water District, Owner/Operator, West Valley Water Reclamation Facility - Riverside County [*Adriana Godinez, WRCE*]

This item was continued to the June 11, 2020 Board Meeting.

Contested and Discussion Items

5. **R7-2020-0004** – Consideration of adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements for Castle Mountain Venture, Operator, Equinox Gold Corporation and U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Owners, Castle Mountain Mine – San Bernardino County [*Zak Owens, EG*]

Virtual Speaker Card: Lisa Belenky, Center for Biological Diversity

Board Member Satin recused himself from this item.

This item was continued to the June 11, 2020 Board Meeting due to lack of a quorum.

Informational Items

6. Update on Underground Storage Tank Regulatory Program [Joan Stormo, Senior EG]

Joan Stormo, Senior Engineering Geologist, provided an informational update on the Underground Storage Tank Regulatory Program.

7. Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer's Report [Paula Rasmussen]

Ms. Rasmussen reported that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the majority of Regional Water Board staff is teleworking, with a few staff performing essential functions coming into the office and practicing social distancing. Regional Water Board staff is using Microsoft Teams for virtual meetings and other communication.

Ms. Rasmussen mentioned that the Regional Water Board recently filled one of the two Scientific Aid vacancies, and introduced the new Assistant Executive Officer, Cassandra Owens.

Ms. Rasmussen thanked staff for setting up the Zoom Board Meeting.

8. Colorado River Basin Water Board Member Comments

Board Member Satin thanked the staff for a well-run Zoom Board meeting. He also mentioned that he would like to see the presenters show up on video. Vice Chair Powell welcomed the new Assistant Executive Officer, Cassandra Owens, and thanked Ms. Rasmussen and staff for the Zoom Board meeting setup. Board Member Muzik thanked the staff for the Zoom meeting preparation.

9. Colorado River Basin Water Board Chair's Report

Chair Wright reported that Al Khalin, who was affiliated with the Imperial County Farm Bureau, passed away and read the Imperial County Farm Bureau's write up and other comments regarding Mr. Khalin. Chair Wright mentioned the Water Coordinating Committee meeting was still scheduled for October 27 and October 28, 2020. She thanked Ms. Rasmussen and staff for the many Zoom meeting rehearsals. She also mentioned she was interested in the "poop test" Orange County Sanitary District was participating in. The "poop test" is performed to help detect the COVID-19 virus.

10. Closed Session

There was no closed session held, and no action was taken.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.