
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

MINUTES

January 13-14, 2021

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board)
conducted this meeting using
Video and Teleconference as shown below:

Video and Teleconference Meeting Only
No Physical Meeting Location
(Authorized by and in furtherance of
Executive Orders N-29-20 and N-33-20.)

Water Board Members

Peter C. Pumphrey, Chair, Chalfant
Amy Horne, Ph.D., Truckee
Keith Dyas, Rosamond

Don Jardine, Vice-Chair, Markleeville
Eric Sandel, Truckee
Kimberly Cox, Helendale

State Water Board

Elizabeth Beryt, Office of Chief Counsel

Water Board Staff

Mike Plaziak, Executive Officer
Ben Letton, Acting Asst Executive Officer
Ed Hancock, Environmental Scientist
Laura Korman, Environmental Scientist
Robert Tucker, Sr. WRC Engineer
Katrina Fleshman, Executive Assistant
Michelle Avila, Water Board OT

Daniel Sussman, Sr. Environmental Scientist
Scott Ferguson, Supervising WRC Engineer
Patrice Copeland, Supervising Engineering Geologist
Jan Zimmerman, Senior Engineering Geologist
Mary Fiore-Wagner, Sr. Environmental Scientist
Michael Suglian, Scientific Aid, South Lake Tahoe

[View the full Agenda and listen to the audio of this meeting](#)

REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, January 13, 2021, @ 1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Pumphrey called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. and discussed procedures to adhere to the Governor's Executive Order during this COVID-19 emergency, the meeting will be video and teleconference only with no in person attendance. Chair Pumphrey introduced Zeke Turley with AGP Video and asked Mr. Turley to give direction to the public that wish to speak. Mr. Pumphrey then introduced the Water Board Members, Water Board staff and State Water Board staff.

1. CLOSED SESSION

Item #1, Closed Session, was deferred until January 14, 2021, after the Water Board meeting concluded.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

No Public Comments.

3. MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Member Dr. Horne, seconded by Member Dyas to approve the November 18-19, 2020, Minutes with a change to the footer to add the new Executive Officer name, and a change to page 4, changing “*Wednesday*, November 19...”, to read “*Thursday*, November 19...”. Chair Pumphrey called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Jardine	Aye
Member Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Sandel	Aye
Member Dr. Horne	Aye

[View the adopted November 18-19, 2020, Meeting Minutes](#)

4. REPORTS BY WATER BOARD CHAIR AND WATER BOARD MEMBERS

Sean Maguire, State Board Liaison, talked about COVID impacts to the Water Board during 2020. Mr. Maguire further discussed Water Board budget challenges during this past year.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR SEAN MAGUIRE BY WATER BOARD MEMBERS

Member Cox asked Mr. Maguire as he looks through the survey results, keep in mind all the special districts out there. There is no funding out there for all the districts. Many of them are carrying many of thousands of dollars in unpaid fees. Member Cox asked Mr. Maguire to bring the information back to State Board and she looks forward to logging on to the State Board meeting the following week and hearing the conversation. Mr. Maguire thanked Member Cox for bringing up that issue and indicated that's a number one concern for him as well. Mr. Maguire asked Member Cox to talk offline later in the week as he would really like to hear if she has any specific examples or stories, she can share with him.

Member Dr. Horne indicated she was contacted by a colleague who is working with the American Rivers, (currently working in the Sacramento River area). The question she had is: “who can they connect with to work on this project in the Lahontan Region?” They would like to work with disadvantage communities, private investors, public agencies and NGOs, to fund drinking water infrastructure, Wastewater treatment structure, Storm Water Management and Water Shed Health and Fire Reduction? Mr. Maguire replied it may help to have a discussion with State Board’s Division of Financial Assistance team. Mr. Maguire indicated he will be willing to set that up for Dr. Horne. Executive Officer, Mike Plaziak, indicated Dr. Horne’s colleagues could also reach out to him or the Acting Assistant Executive Officer, Ben Letton.

Member Jardine stated he has worked for Carson Water Conservancy District, and one of the observations of the Carson Water Conservancy District is there was mercury contamination found in the waters in the Dayton area. Member Jardine indicated there's quite a report on that issue and he does not know if, the federal EPA or Lahontan was observing the cinnabar Mine in Alpine County, which is a mercury mine. Member Jardine indicated this was just an observation and just wanted to bring that up.

Member Sandel stated to Mr. Maguire that he is pleased to see that there will be something in place to help the disadvantaged communities.

CONTINUED REPORTS BY WATER BOARD MEMBERS

Member Dr. Horne shared information provided by Michael Laufer at the WQCC meeting regarding communication between Water Board members and staff. Dr. Horne will talk more about this to the Lahontan staff during Lahontan's next All Staff meeting.

Member Jardine indicated he has retired as Alpine County Board of Supervisors after a little over thirty-three years. Member Jardine stated he received a gracious letter from the Governor, from President Trump, and a nice resolution from the Alpine County. Member Jardine further indicated he looks forward to having more time to work with the Lahontan staff.

Chair Pumphrey stated Member Jardine's retirement with Alpine County is the loss to his community. That's an incredible record of service, it's hard to imagine someone having that kind of dedication to their community. Member Jardine is to be congratulated and, honored for, for what he's done for the people that he lives with in that community.

Eric Sandel commended Kimberly Cox on her expertise on small water districts, and he looks forward to taking advantage of her expertise.

5. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Water Board staff, Michael Plaziak, Executive Officer, provided an update to the Water Board and public on standing items and activities in the Lahontan Region, including the items below.

- Personnel Report
- PG&E Hinkley Update
- Lake Tahoe Programs Update
- Acid Mine Drainage

QUESTIONS BY THE WATER BOARD

Member Sandel asked Mr. Plaziak, if the unexpected expansion concentrations have also gone down because it's being spread over a greater area. Mr. Plaziak replied yes, the plume is moving and shifting where concentrations are increasing. Member Sandel asked if any drinking water supplies are in danger by this movement? Mr. Plaziak replied he is not aware of that but will look into that and find out if someone from staff has an answer and get back to him.

Member Sandel indicated he, and all Water Board members, are all looking forward to the USGS report.

Chair Pumphrey asked about Lake Tahoe Programs update. In the report there is an indication that changing hydrodynamic conditions within the Lake are increasing thermal stability and resistance to mixing. Chair Pumphrey asked are those seasonal changing conditions, or is that a, on a broader timeframe? Water Board staff, Laura Korman, Environmental Scientist replied it was looking at mixing mostly on an annual basis, determined by changes in seasonality and thermal temperature. This is a challenge we're going to have to work towards addressing in the future.

Member Cox asked Mr. Plaziak if he can explain to me what microplastics are and how it's generated by a car tire and what exactly this is. Water Board staff, Ms. Korman explained It's more specifically from the wear of the tires themselves. So, there are additives in the tires, which breakdown due to wear on roadways and they make it into the waterways, like Mike said, via a rain event. Ms. Korma went on to state microplastics come from a variety of different things, just happens to be one associated with the wear.

Member Dr. Horne asked if the pump and treat system at Bijou capture any of these microplastics. Ms. Korman replied the BMPs we have in place for stormwater treatment may be inadvertently capturing and treating microplastics.

Member Cox inquired about Amanda Lopez EO Article "Hexavalent Chromium Maximum Contaminant levels" and on the last sentence it says, "*the new MCL is anticipated to go into effect in early 2022*". Member Cox asked if Mr. Plaziak knows if the MCL the Water Board staff is proposing going is 10. Mr. Maguire responded to Member Cox and indicated that has not yet been determined.

Member Jardine wanted to know whether Lahontan were getting reports for or from the monitoring Wells or the surface water stations. Mr. Plaziak replied that he will look into that and Lahontan staff will provide that information to Member Jardine at a later date.

Mr. Plaziak indicated earlier there was a question that member Sandel had about PGE and the drinking water Wells, and staff has an answer to that. Water Board staff, Patrice Copeland, Division Manager for the South Lahontan basin Victorville office responded the question would any drinking water Wells be affected by the expanded IRZ area in the PGE, Hinckley area, and the answer is no.

3RD QUARTER VIOLATIONS REPORT

Water Board Staff Robert Tucker, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, went over the 3rd Quarter Violations Report.

NO FURTHER QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY THE WATER BOARD MEMBERS

6. Bacteria Water Quality Objectives Board Workshop

Water Board staff, Ed Hancock, Environmental Scientist, began his presentation by mentioning the Agenda Item that was originally posted had missing appendices "E" and "F". The additional pages are 6 – 68.1 through 6 – 68.42. The entire new packet was posted to the Lahontan web page on January 12, 2021.

Mr. Hancock indicated he will be requesting feedback, ideas and direction from the Water Board members.

Mr. Hancock discussed the 2018 Triennial Review Priority 1 – Evaluate Bacteria Water Quality Objectives. Mr. Hancock explained the need, purpose and history for the project, as well as the findings of evaluation and preliminary options.

Mr. Hancock stated in the first few months of this year, 2021, staff proposed to develop the preferred project options. Mr. Hancock asked the Water Board members to help Lahontan staff in this task today. Mr. Hancock went over some preliminary project options and asked Water Board members for feedback on these options that will be valuable as we determine which project option to pursue.

- Project option one, this option involves removing the fecal coliform objective from the Basin Plan and inserting the language of the statewide *E. coli* objective for REC-1.
- Project option two would also amend the basin plan to include the *E. coli* REC-1 objective language. In this scenario the existing fecal coliform objective threshold would also be maintained but the objective indicator would be amended to use e-coli as the indicator bacteria. That means the level of protection that is presently in the basin plan would be maintained at its existing level and only the indicator would be changed. This amendment would also include language to tie that updated objective to the municipal and domestic supply beneficial use.
- Project option three is a variation of option two. Under this scenario the statewide *E. coli* objective language would be added to the Basin Plan and the existing fecal coliform objective would be updated to use E-coli as the indicator. The variation in this option is that the updated objective would apply only to certain water bodies rather than to the MUN beneficial use.
- Project option four includes updating the Basin Plan with the *E. coli* REC-1 objective language. Similar to project option one, the region wide fecal coliform objective would be removed from the Basin Plan. Where this option is different is as follows: a benchmark for *E. coli* bacteria would be added to the basin plan. The focus of the benchmark would be protection of the regions existing high-quality waters. Based on a preliminary review of the available data, the benchmark threshold would likely be similar to the fecal coliform objective presently in the Basin Plan. The benchmark is not a water quality objective. It would not be used for 303(d) assessments, for example, and thus it would not be used to determine beneficial use support. Instead, the benchmark would serve to indicate what ambient bacteria water quality should be in watersheds which have not been extensively impacted by human development and where fecal bacteria contamination of water can reasonably be expected to be minimal.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY THE WATER BOARD

Member Cox stated that on Bates 6-18, first paragraph, the approaches include “amend the existing fecal coliform regulations”. Member Cox likes that concept. Member Cox indicated she likes to see as much flexibility as possible. Member Cox asked about Option five, which was not explained and if staff can explain Elevation based metric and explain what staff classifies as High Quality surface water. Mr. Hancock replied in Option 5, if we followed an elevation approach, which, he does like in theory, we would have to then determine which beneficial use we are protecting at those high elevations. Mr. Hancock stated that there is room for this elevation type of approach perhaps with one of those other options in the staff report. Mr. Hancock went on to say regarding option 6A, high quality water is broadly described as water quality which attains the

objective set to protect beneficial uses. In the context of this project because the fecal coliform objective is so stringent waters that achieve the fecal coliform 20 objective are described as high quality. Water quality monitoring in these waters shows that there are zero or very low colony forming units of bacteria detected during sampling.

Member Cox indicated because this is an iterative process, she would like to see option five and 6A continue to be explored by staff and presented to the Water Board

Member Dyas asked about the Option one approaches but would like to reduce the E-coli threshold objective. Mr. Hancock replied that Water Board could do that. Such as in Option 6A which reduces the E-coli threshold uses.

Member Dr. Horne asked if the REC-1 objective is based on assuming 32 illnesses per thousand people is acceptable and stated she would like to have it lower than that. Mr. Hancock replied that most waters in our region are designated with the water contact recreation beneficial use with perhaps the exception of very specific ones.

Member Dr. Horne indicated she is confused and does not have a particular option that she prefers. However, she does think retaining the institutional memory of the fecal coliform database is useful, and valuable in some way.

Member Sandel asked for the Executive Assistant, Katrina Fleshman, to send a transcript of Mr. Hancock's discussion, just on his slide five. Slide five is the history of bacteria objectives in the Lahontan Region.. Mr. Hancock indicated he will get that to him.

Chair Pumphrey asked Mr. Hancock if there are waters that if we make the change, that drops the fecal indicator, and we proceed solely with E-coli, are there waters that are currently on the 303(d) lists that would popoff of it as a result of that change. Mr. Hancock replied yes, and he will send information pertaining to the 303(d) List to the Water Board Members.

Chair Pumphrey indicated he would be really interested in knowing what those waters are and how that change would manifest itself. And, he would also be interested as we go forward, if Mr. Hancock could flesh out more of how the anti-degradation policy would actually work, or could actually work, as a part of this process. Chair Pumphrey went on to say, "the question I have is, whether or not, and to what extent, that policy actually provides protection". Chair Pumphrey would like to see some discussion about how the staff feels that plays into this situation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Lauri Kemper, resident of Lake Tahoe and former Lahontan employee, stated she supports finding ways to maintain a stringent water quality objective for most of the water bodies in the Lahontan region.

Dr. Horne wondered if some of the other approaches that Ms. Kemper explored will achieve a similar end with putting less burden on the staff. Ms. Kemper replied it would. Member Sandel indicated to Ms. Kemper that he hopes she'll have time perhaps to develop her own version of the options that the Water Board has been presented. He asked that she send it along in an email all the Water Board members. Ms. Kemper replied that she could, and that she has already forwarded some ideas which Mr. Hancock mentioned in his presentation.

- Thomas Talbot, livestock veterinarian and a rancher in the Bishop area, spoke to the major concerns in water quality and the protections for human environmental health. Mr. Talbot asked if Lahontan staff knows where to direct him that talks about the actual incidence of disease, and in comparison to different water bodies, what the incidence of disease is; what it is when the water quality is kept it at 20 coliform level; would it increase to when it goes to a hundred E-Coli.

Mr. Hancock replied GI illnesses, which generally come from contact or ingestion with contaminated waters, they often go unreported. Mr. Hancock has spoken with County public health officials, in Inyo County and other counties, in the region, to ask them about that kind of reporting, and whether they have data pertaining to those kinds of illnesses, and unfortunately, they do not. Mr. Hancock stated to Mr. Talbot if he hears of people getting sick after contacting a certain surface water that is information that Lahontan absolutely would want to know about it. As does the County Public Health officials where it's occurring.

- Kevin Bursey, with Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP, representing Centennial Livestock stated he is speaking to inform the Water Board that they intend to collaborate with them throughout the process, and look forward to the opportunity to submit comments and letters along the way as opportunities for public comment arises.

Chair Pumphrey thanked Mr. Bursey for working with us and indicated Lahontan will be in contact with them as needed.

- Mark Lacey, a rancher, stated that it is 'certainly not our goal to create poor water quality, and we continue to try to make improvements, in the Northern part of Mono County'.

Dr. Horne thanked Mr. Lacey for staying involved and asked Mr. Lacey if there is any recreation that occurs in the floor of the Bridgeport Valley where streams enter out of federal lands to the reservoir. Mr. Lacey replied not on any that they control.

Member Sandel indicated he looks forward to more interaction with Mr. Lacey in the future.

Chair Pumphrey thanked Mr. Lacey for sharing his knowledge as a landowner and indicated landowners are the source of some really interesting, and potentially good ideas, as the Water Board moves forward.

- Tess Dunham, representing Centennial Livestock in the Bridgeport Valley, spoke about the concerns with some of the information as it's presented in the staff report. Ms. Dunham indicated Lahontan staff have offered to meet with her, to discuss the report and they will prepare and provide some written comments.

Chair Pumphrey indicated he is glad Ms. Dunham is meeting with the Lahontan staff and encourages her to share with them how the antidegradation policy could fit in to what we're doing here, and how we could use it to approach the concerns that have been raised.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

Member Dyas indicated he certainly strongly approves the recommendation for a Basin Plan Amendment

Dr. Horne is in support of developing a Basin Plan amendment. Dr. Horne would like to understand more about the difference between using the anti-degradation policy as a backstop, versus a benchmark, versus a standard that only applies to areas that have high quality waters. Dr. Horne stated that it's worth keeping the institutional record of the quality of the high-quality waters, what the actual measurements are and have been and will be in the future.

Member Sandel feels we're certainly heading towards the Basin Plan amendment, but we must decide on what's going to go into it before we get there

Chair Pumphrey supports the idea of resolving this through a Basin Plan Amendment. However, in order to evaluate these options, Mr. Pumphrey needs to have a better understanding of how 68-16 (CA Antidegradation Policy), would apply to these situations in order to set up a Basin Plan. Mr. Pumphrey would like to hear from Water Board staff about some of the clarifications to the issues that were raised by Water Board and participants. Maybe sooner than six months from now. Mr. Pumphrey went on to say he thinks it would really help him then to clarify, his thinking to the extent of which his thinking being clear would help the staff.

Water Board Staff, Mr. Hancock asked the Water Board Members for more input and if there are any of those preliminary options that perhaps they absolutely would not like to see staff spend their time on anymore. Mr. Hancock stated this will help us as Lahontan moves forward in the first few months of this year to keep on schedule.

Member Cox replied she would have to review the Options and get back to you.

Member Dyas indicated at this time he cannot rule out any options.

Dr. Horne I don't think Option 1 meets our needs, or I don't understand the option. Dr. Horne feels it might be more productive to spend some time on the kind of flow chart of what's different, like a decision tree. Something visual that would help tease out the differences in the pluses and minuses.

Mr. Hancock stated what he is understanding from Dr. Horne is that Lahontan Staff should come back to the Water Board with answers to the questions highlighted from today's discussion.

Member Sandel indicated he would like to see a clear way of presenting the options. There is too many, and he would like it to be simpler.

Chair Pumphrey agrees with Dr. Horne that he doesn't think option one as it's constituted has much of a future. Chair Pumphrey asked you to come up with an approach to come up with answers to the questions that were raised. Create some options that are not there.

Mr. Plaziak stated there was some questions raised in the meeting that Lahontan needs to bring back to the Water Board. Mr. Plaziak indicated he will get with the Lahontan team and figure out, along with the Board Chair, what the best approach is forward. Mr. Plaziak stated that approach could be a staff report, another workshop, a video or something else. Mr. Plaziak stated that staff would come up with a way to get the Boards' questions answered.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Water Board, the meeting adjourned for the public at 4:40 p.m. on January 13, 2021.

REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, January 14, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Pumphrey called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and discussed procedures to adhere to the Governor's Executive Order during this COVID-19 emergency, the meeting will be video and teleconference only with no in person attendance. Chair Pumphrey introduced Travis Harms with AGP Video and asked Mr. Harms to give direction to the public that wish to speak. Mr. Pumphrey then introduced the Water Board Members, Water Board staff and State Water Board staff.

7. Public Forum

Pippin Madder stated the public is confident in the Tahoe Truckee Sanitation (TTSA)'s ability to treat wastewater. And there is concern that the Lahontan Water Board does not have the ability to properly permit and regulate.

Penny Denenberg indicated she is worried about the Truckee River and TTSA's problems with discharging pollutants into the river and violating their permit. The permit from Lahontan says that they must install these meters at specific points. And then they must calibrate them twice a year. At a past Lahontan Water Board meeting, TTSA's general manager claimed that there are no meters at these spots, so they don't have to calibrate them.

COMMENTS BY THE WATER BOARD STAFF

Water Board Staff, Scott Ferguson, replied that Lahontan has been investigating the California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) department in the violations and work with the staff and continue to investigate. Also discussed TTSA staff has been working on the violations and there has been a reduction. Mr. Ferguson assured Mr. Mader and Ms. Denenberg Lahontan has dedicated resources investigating the claims, allegations, the actual violations and the causes so that they can be corrected.

Member Sandel asked about the flow meter issue? Mr. Ferguson indicated he will need to investigate a little more and we can get back to the Water Board on that. Member Sandel replied "Please do".

8. Workshop – Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Development Update

Water Board staff, Ben Letton, Acting Executive Officer, thanked the Lahontan staff and legal counsel on their hard work on this update. Mr. Letton provided an assessment of agricultural discharges and discuss the implications of the State Water Board's Eastern San Joaquin Review Order (SWRCB ORDER WQ 2018-0002) for existing irrigated lands regulatory permits in the Lahontan Region. Mr. Letton proposed recommended actions for updating a select number of existing permits and actions for development of Lahontan's irrigated regulatory lands program, including future permitting. Mr. Letton indicated all regional Water Boards must incorporate San Joaquin Review order

requirements by February of 2023. Also, at the September 2019 workshop the clarification was that the East San Joaquin review order does not require impose deadlines on the regions to develop any new irrigated AG permits.

Mr. Letton summarized the four actions recommended in the staff report, number one, renew and update the Bridgeport grazing waiver; number two water quality improvements and grazing lands as part of the Bishop Creek vision project; number three development of a general order for irrigated pasture lands, and number four, develop a general order for irrigated agricultural food commodities and ornamentals.

Mr. Letton asked the Water Board Members does the board support the approach for development of the irrigated lands program that staff are proposing specifically. Asked if staff is on the right track with the recommended actions. Did staff adequately address the input that Water Board and the Stakeholders provided staff during the September 2019 workshop. Is staff effectively listening and is that demonstrated here in the staff report and what we're proposing. And last question Mr. Letton asked the Water Board Members if they would like staff to take a different approach, modify change, or even add other actions.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY THE WATER BOARD

Member Dyas indicated he will try to answer the three questions. First one, does the Water Board members support the effort; he feels it's worthwhile in most instances. Second one, is the staff listening to Water Board input; he thinks so. And number three, would he recommend a different approach? Member Dyas indicated he does not know yet. It's a little too early on, and he has many questions to resolve first.

Member Dr. Horne indicated she does support Water Board staff's approach. Dr. Horne feels the order of priorities makes perfect sense. Dr. Horne stated she feels the considerations for general orders is a fairly exhaustive list, but great. Dr. Horne likes the idea of having a tiered approach that addresses, both the stakeholder input and, the Water Board's input to have a flexible approach that not one size fits all. Dr. Horne likes the idea of including a possible, performance-based elements in the general approach in the general order. Dr. Horne went on to say Water Board staff responded to the Water Bboard's input as she went through the reporting.

Dr Horne asked how the region can get funds for further development of an ILRP; Mr. Letton replied that generally State Board submits a BCP to provide positions and resources to the Regional Boards.

Dr Horne asked how implementation of a General Order would be funding if developed in the future. Mr. Letton responded that a fee schedule would be developed with State Board.

Dr. Horne asked if incorporation of the ESJ precedential requirements in the Bridgeport Waiver would help with the Bacteria issue. Mr. Letton indicated that requirements such as an erosion control plan may help reduce Bacteria numbers, but that is somewhat unknown.

Dr Horne asked about the Bishop Creek Vision Plan and whether or not there was a facilitator or 3rd party involved. Mr. Letton indicated that there is not currently a

facilitator, but staff were open to this idea. Member Jardine stated he supports the effort and agrees with the order of priorities. Member Jardine further indicated he likes the notion of a flexible approach, and the description of a development corrective action and schedule order.

Member Sandel indicated that he is generally supportive of all that has been proposed by Mr. Letton.

Chair Pumphrey indicated he is support of the approach, and feels Mr. Letton brought the Water Board a great product. Chair Pumphrey stated the Staff Report responds to the directions of the Water Board and makes sense. Chair Pumphrey indicated the report holds a lot of promise for the future.

Chair Pumphrey noted the apparent overlap between the Bacteria Water Quality Objective item and the ILRP development. He asked how these will work together.

Mr. Letton responded that is true; there is a high degree of overlap. He indicated that there are regular coordination meetings between the two units that are leading those efforts. The sequencing may be a challenge as both the Bridgeport Waiver update in July 2022 and the Bishop Creek Vision Plan due in September 2023 may occur in advance of a Basin Plan Amendment associated with the Bacteria standard.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lauri Kemper, resident of Lake Tahoe, indicated she supports Water Board staff's priorities, but worries about the lack of action by the Water Board. Ms. Kemper further indicated she is in support of accelerating management practices and regulatory actions.

Thomas Talbot, from the Talbot Cattle Company, asked about the Water Board staff and reaching out to the public on this issue. Mr. Talbot specifically asked Water Board why as ranchers wouldn't they have been engaged in this project early on. Otherwise, why hasn't staff contacted the ranchers?

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS BY THE WATER BOARD

Dr. Horne echoed Lauri Kemper's comments regarding the hard work of the Lahontan Water Board staff.

Mr. Letton replied to Mr. Talbot and indicated the answer lies in the coordination with the Department of Water and Power (DWP), and COVID has really put a damper on our coordinating efforts. Water Board staff fully anticipates engaging the individual ranchers, either through DWP or directly. Water Board staff recognizes Mr. Talbot's question and we will be pursuing that.

Water Board staff, Dan Sussman further indicated the Bishop project also has a list specific to it to sign up for. Mr. Sussman encouraged Mr. Talbot to sign up for the Bishop project lists. The Bishop project has its own website, accessed through the TMDL program site on the Lahontan boards website. And Water Board staff use that to communicate with stakeholders and other interested parties.

9. Annual Election of Water Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Motion: Moved by Member Dr. Horne, seconded by Member Cox to elected, Pete Pumphrey as Water Board Chairperson and Member Eric Sandel, as Vice-Chairperson for 2021. Chair Pumphrey called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Sandel	Aye
Member Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Jardine	Aye
Member Dr. Horne	Aye


Water Board members elected, Pete Pumphrey as Water Board Chairperson and Eric Sandel, as Vice-Chairperson for 2021.

1. CLOSED SESSION

The Water Board, without the public present, went into closed session at 11:02 a.m. regarding Closed Session Item(s) h. Discussion of Personnel Matters. Authority: Government Code section 11126, subdivision (a).

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Water Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:40 a.m. on January 14, 2021.

Prepared by:  Adopted: 3/10/2021
 Katrina Fleshman, Water Board Clerk