
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Meeting Minutes

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality
Control Board Office

Carmel Room
Los Angeles, CA 90013

April 25, 2024

Chair Camacho called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Chair Camacho explained the process for remote participation in the meeting and that the Board has Spanish interpretation services available through the Zoom platform. She announced that the meeting was being recorded.

Aldo Renteria, one of the Spanish interpreters, provided instructions on how to participate in the meeting in Spanish.

Item 1 – Roll Call

Board Members Present: Sabrina Ashjian, Norma Camacho, Michael Méndez and David Nahai.

Board Member Absent: Marissa Christiansen

Staff Present: Susana Arredondo, Jenny Newman, Helen Rowe, Stephanie Yu, Amelia Carder, Adriana Nuñez, Khalid Abdullah, Gerardo Rabelo, Susana Lagudis, LB Nye, Russ Colby, Lillian Ly, Art Heath, Jeong-Hee Lim, Brian Anderson, Steven Webb, YR Yong, Milasol Gaslan, Thizar Tintut-Williams and Augustine Anijelo (Remote).

Item 2 – Order of Agenda

Chair Camacho asked the Executive Officer, Susana Arredondo if there were any changes to the agenda.

There were no changes to the Order of Agenda.

Item 3 – Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for the February 22, 2024, Meeting.

Board Member Ashjian suggested a change before adoption of the minutes. She made a correction on Item 12, page 8 to change Seconded by Board Ashjian to Seconded by Board Member Ashjian.

There were no objections to the change from the Board members.

Chair Camacho asked for a Motion to approve the February 22, 2024, meeting minutes. She then asked for a Second and Roll Call vote.

MOTION: Board Member Ashjian made a motion to approve the February 22, 2024, draft meeting minutes with the suggested change.

Seconded by: Vice Chair Nahai

Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Yea

Norma Camacho – Yea

Marissa Christiansen –Absent

Michael Méndez – Yea

David Nahai – Yea

Item 4 – Board Member Communications

- a. Ex Parte Disclosure (Board Members will identify any discussions they may have had requiring disclosure pursuant to Government Code section 11430.40.)

There were no ex parte disclosures reports by Board members.

- b. Board Member Reports (The Board Members may discuss communications, correspondence, or other items of general interest relating to matters within the Board's jurisdiction.)

Board Member Ashjian reported on the following:

Board Member Ashjian thanked Assemblymember Blanca Rubio for the water facility tour in San Gabriel Valley. She attended the tour with Chair Camacho. Assemblymember Diane Papan, the new Chair of the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, joined them on the tour.

Last week, Board Member Ashjian attended the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) meeting. The SMBRC next meeting is on Thursday, June 20, 2024. The SMBRC would like members of the commission to have an alternate. Board Member Ashjian asked if a Board member would like to serve as an alternate in the event she cannot attend a meeting.

Vice Chair Nahai reported on the following:

The Los Angeles Business Council (LABC) will hold a Mayoral Housing Summit on May 10, 2024, at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Luskin Center. Mayor Karen Bass and others involved in the homelessness and the

housing crisis will speak at the summit. Vice Chair Nahai will moderate one of the panels.

On May 12, 2024, is the Verde Exchange Conference. Vice Chair Nahai will moderate a panel on our water future and what will be done in Southern California to gain self-sufficiency.

Board Member Méndez reported on the following:

On April 26, 2024, Board Member Méndez will moderate a panel for the National Academies of Science Engineering and Medicine on what does just transition mean, in terms of environmental justice? There will be a diverse group of panelists from different fields discussing this topic.

Chair Camacho reported on the following:

On April 18, 2024, Chair Camacho and Vice Chair Nahai attended the Prop One tours. They toured two sites, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Tujunga Remediation Project and the Water Replenishment District of Southern California's LA Forebay Project.

On March 27, 2024, the Disadvantaged Community Tribal Engagement held a Summit. The title of the summit was the Summit for Equity and Resilience and Water. Chair Camacho participated on a panel with State Water Board Member Laurel Firestone. The panel discussed how the state and local regulatory agencies are ensuring that there is meaningful engagement on equity and social justice in regulatory matters.

On Monday, April 29, 2024, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, is the LA County Water Plan Water Resiliency Summit. The Chair of the Board of Supervisors, Lindsey Horvath is presenting at the summit. Chair Camacho plans to attend the event and invited other to join her.

On May 4, 2024, Chair Camacho is attending an event and tour of the former Kast Property Tank Farm.

The planning meeting for the LA County Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) were rescheduled until May 8, 2024.

On April 9, 2024, Chair Camacho was reinstated as a Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) member. She mentioned that Mark Gold was appointed to the ROC committee and congratulated him on his appointment.

Item 5 – Executive Officer's Report

Susana Arredondo, Executive Officer, provided updates of the following items:

- 1) Update on Status of the Former Berk Oil and Pacific Metal Craft Cleanup under the Equitable Community Revitalization Grant.
- 2) Update on Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project
- 3) Update on AES Alamitos Costal Restoration Mitigation Project.
- 4) Update on Boeing/DTSC Santa Susana Field Lab Settlement Agreement

Speaker:

- Mindy Mathias, Dept. of Toxic Substance Control

Chair Camacho opened the floor for Board members' clarifications, comments and questions.

Comments and questions were made by Vice Chair Nahai and Board Member Méndez. Mindy Mathias, Susanna Arredondo and Assistant Executive Officer, Jenny Newman, responded to their comments and questions.

Item 6 – Update from State Water Board [Board Member Laurel Firestone]

There was no update from the State Water Board. Board Member Firestone attended an all-day Bay-Delta Hearing.

Item 7 – Public Forum**Speakers:**

- Walter Lamb, Ballona Wetlands Land Trust

Chair Camacho asked Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board Control (LARWQBC) staff to respond to comments made by Mr. Lamb.

Jenny Newman responded to his comments.

Speakers (cont.):

- Benjamin Harris, Los Angeles Waterkeeper

Chair Camacho asked legal counsel and members of the Environmental Justice sub-committee to respond to Mr. Harris's request.

Speakers (cont.)

- Lee Lin

Chair Camacho asked LARWQCB staff to respond to Mr. Lin's comments.

Jenny Newman responded to Mr. Lin's comments.

Speakers (cont.):

- Ray Tahir, TESC Environmental

Chair Camacho responded to comments made by Mr. Tahir. Board Member Ashjian responded to comments made by Mr. Tahir regarding LARQWBC staff.

Speakers (cont.):

- Margot Griswold
- Mark Gold

Item 8 & 9 – Uncontested Item

Chair Camacho stated that Items 8 and 9 were uncontested.

Chair Camacho asked for a Motion to approve Items 8 and 9. She then asked for a Second and Roll Call vote.

MOTION: Board Vice Chair Nahai made a motion to approve Items 8 and 9.

Seconded by: Board Member Méndez

Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Yea
Norma Camacho – Yea
Marissa Christiansen - Absent
Michael Méndez – Yea
David Nahai – Yea

Break: (10:02 a.m. to 10:11 a.m.)

Chair Camacho: Announced agenda Item 10 and administered the oath.

Item 10 – Consideration of Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES Permit Renewal for United States Navy, San Clemente Island Wastewater Treatment Plant, San Clemente Island, CA. NPDES No. CA0110175

Staff Presentation: Steven Webb, Supervisor, Municipal Permitting Unit

Speakers:

- Justin Rhoads speaking on behalf of the US Navy/NAVFAC Southwest

Chair Camacho opened the floor for Board members' clarifications, comments and questions.

Chair Camacho, Board Member Méndez, Vice Chair Nahai and Board Member Ashjian made comments and asked questions. Steven Webb responded to their comments and questions.

Speakers (cont.):

- David Silverstein, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Chair Camacho asked legal counsel to respond to Mr. Silverstein's comments.

Legal counsel, Stephanie Yu, responded to comments made by Mr. Silverstein.

Chair Camacho asked for a Motion to approve Item 10. Next, she asked for a Second and Roll Call vote.

MOTION: Board Member Ashjian made a motion to Item 10 approve with the change sheet.

Seconded by: Board Member Méndez
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Yea
Norma Camacho – Yea
Marissa Christiansen – Absent
Michael Méndez – Yea
David Nahai – Yea

Chair Camacho: Announced agenda Item 11

Item 11 – Other Business Consideration of Tentative Resolution approving the Joint Outfall System’s Special Study for the AK Warren Water Resource Facility; NPDES No. CA0053813

Staff Presentation Introduction: Steven Webb, Supervisor, Municipal Permitting Unit

Presentation: Lysa Gaboudian, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, Supervising Engineer of Reuse and Compliance

Chair Camacho opened the floor for comments and questions from Board members.

Board Member Méndez, Vice Chair Nahai and Chair Camacho made comments and asked questions. Lysa Gaboudian and Thomas Parker responded to their comments and questions.

Chair Camacho asked for a Motion to approve Item 11. Next, she asked for a Second and Roll Call vote.

MOTION: Vice Chair Nahai made a motion to approve Item 11.

Seconded by: Board Member Ashjian

Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Yea

Norma Camacho – Yea

Marissa Christiansen – Absent

Michael Méndez – Yea

David Nahai – Yea

Chair Camacho: Announced agenda Item 12

Item 12 – Information Item, Update on statewide and Los Angeles Water Board investigations on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). Los Angeles Water Board staff, together with United States Environmental Protection Agency, State Water Board staff and stakeholders, will provide an update on data collected and analyzed as part of the statewide PFAS investigative orders.

Staff Presentation Introduction: Thizar Tintut-Williams, Site Cleanup Program Unit III Supervisor

Presentation: Mathew Small, US EPA, Region 9, Wendy Linck, State Water Resources Control Board, and Dan Newton, State Water Drinking Water.

Presentation Summary: Thizar Tintut-Williams and Brian Partington, Water Replenishment District.

Chair Camacho opened the floor for comments and questions from Board members.

Chair Camacho, Board Members Ashjian and Méndez, and Vice Chair Nahai made comments and asked questions.

Matt Small, Enrique Casas, Jeong-Hee Lim, Thizar Tintut-Williams, Dan Newton, and Wendy Linck responded to their comments and questions.

Speakers:

- Benjamin Harris, Los Angeles Waterkeeper
- Erika Bensch, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
- Ray Tahir, TECS Environmental

Item 13 – Closed Session

Legal counsel, Stephanie Yu, announced the Board would discuss Item 13w.(iii) in closed session.

Chair Camacho announced that the Board members would go into closed session and that the meeting would be adjourned after closed session. The webcast portion of the Board meeting was concluded. The Board went into closed session from 12:38 p.m. to 1:16 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:18 p.m. (For more detailed information on any matter at our meetings, you may contact Helen Rowe at (213) 576-6612 or email at: Helen.Rowe@waterboards.ca.gov and she will provide an electronic copy of the transcript or audio, when available.)

Written and submitted by Helen Rowe, Board Clerk on: May 23, 2024

Signature on File

Helen Rowe