

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
March 11, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Gary Strawn called the meeting to order on March 11, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Hearing Room, 2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100, Room 108, San Diego, California 92108.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members present:**

Gary Strawn, Board Chair; Betty H. Olson, Ph.D., Board Vice Chair, Celeste Cantú, Yen Tu, and Emily Wier.

**Board Members absent:**

Megan Blair

**Staff present:**

David Gibson, Laurie Walsh, Chris Blank, Christina Arias, Eric Becker, Kate Buckley, Brandon Bushnell, Wayne Chiu, Melissa Corona, Ariel Cutter, Jeremy Haas, Gabriel Haro, Adrian Hinkle, Ella Knight, Joann Lim, Chad Loflen, Sarah Mearon, Frank Melbourn, Roger Mitchell, Fisayo Osibodu, Michelle Santillan, Ahlyssa Santillana, Nicholas White.

**Staff remote attendance:**

Jody Ebsen, Amy Grove, Mahsa Izadmehr, Carey Kowalski, Alan Monji, Vicente Rodriguez, Hiram Sarabia, Erin Schmitt, James Smith, Brandie White.

**Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board**

Nichole Morgan, State Water Board; Josh Caplan (remote), California Dept. of Justice; Jennifer Fordyce, Eric Gillman, State Water Board Office of Chief Counsel; Kevin Heinemann, Gerardo Rabelo, Tino Gamboa, DIT; Shane Stranahan (remote), California Reporting

**Public Attendance:**

Present:

Allan Kashani  
*Tri Point Homes*

Doug Owen  
*Stantec*

Ben Gibson, Kelly Richardson  
*General Dynamics*

Michael Welch  
*Michael Welch Consultants*

Peter Tomsovic  
*Helix Environmental Planning*

Caroline Lei, Megan Kinnek  
*LMC*

Christina Schaefer  
*SES*

Kyle Morgan, Daniel Peterson  
*City of Escondido*

Arielle Beaulieu, Josie Martin, Doug  
Campbell, Christina Rae, Juan  
Guerreiro, Peter Vroom  
*City of San Diego*

Patrick McDonough, Phillip Musegaas  
*San Diego Coastkeeper*

Peter Kozelka, Tara Flint Silva  
*USEPA*

Karen Holman, John Carter  
*Port of San Diego*

Remote:

Julie Song  
*USEPA*

Marlene Burns  
*City of Laguna Woods*

Alexander Berenter  
*City of San Diego*

**BOARD MEETING**

***Public comments on agenda items were limited to 3 minutes or otherwise at the discretion of the Board Chair***

**PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no comments for the Public Forum

**BOARD BUSINESS**

**ITEM 1 – Minutes of Board Meeting: December 10, 2025**

**Motion to approve the Minutes from December 10, 2025:**

- Ms. Cantú

**Second:**

- Dr. Olson

**Aye:**

- Ms. Cantú
- Dr. Olson
- Chair Strawn

**Nay:**

- None

**Absent:**

- Ms. Blair

**Abstain:**

- Ms. Tu
- Ms. Wier

**ITEM 2** – Chair’s, Board Members’, State Water Board Liaison’s, and Executive Officer’s Reports. *These items were for Board information/discussion only and the Board took no formal action.*

The State Board liaison, Nichole Morgan, provided updates on recent State Board actions and upcoming priorities and responded to Board Member questions.

Board Members:

Mr. Gibson congratulated Laurie Walsh for being selected as the next Assistant Executive Officer, and he announced the retirement of Chiara Clemente on March 6, 2026. He then responded to Board Member questions and provided updates that did not appear in the written Executive Officer’s Report.

**ITEM 3** – Transboundary Flows

Mr. Gibson provided information and updates that did not appear in the written Border Water Quality Update and responded to Board Member questions.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

*\*Items on the consent calendar may be removed at the request of any Board member or person. If an item is removed from the consent items calendar, it will only be voted on at this meeting if the Board accepts the staff recommendation for the agenda items. Otherwise, the item will be continued to a subsequent Board meeting to allow input by interested people.*

**ITEM 4** – Amendment to Waste Discharge Requirements: Amendment to Orders Nos. R9-2010-0032 and R9-2023-0131, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of Escondido* (Tentative Order No. R9-2026-0001). Written comments for this item were due on January 9, 2026. *(Brandon Bushnell)*

Brandon Bushnell responded to Board Member questions on this item.

**ITEM 5** – Waste Discharge Requirements for Tri Pointe Homes Nakano Project, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2026-0025). Written comments for this item were due by 5:00 p.m. on February 27, 2026. *(Ariel Cutter)*

David Gibson responded to Board Member questions on this item.

**Motion to approve consent calendar:**

- Ms. Tu

**Second:**

- Ms. Cantú

**Aye:**

- Ms. Cantú
- Dr. Olson
- Ms. Tu
- Ms. Wier
- Chair Strawn

**Nay:**

- None

**Absent:**

- Ms. Blair

**Abstain:**

- None

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

**ITEM 6 – Binational Resilience Initiative: Program Overview and Local Projects (*Riley Nolan*)**

Melissa Corona introduced Yamilett Carrillo from San Diego Foundation, who gave a presentation and responded to Board Member questions. Phillip Musegaas, Executive Director of San Diego Coastkeeper, and Waylon Matson of 4 Walls International participated in the presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Chair Strawn asked for public comments, both in person and on Zoom, and there were no public comments.

*Chair Strawn called a brief recess at 10:08 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:19 a.m.*

**ACTION ITEMS**

**ITEM 7 – NPDES Permit Reissuance: Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES Permit for the City of San Diego, E.W. Blom Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge to the Pacific Ocean through the Point Loma Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2026-0002, NPDES Permit No. CA0107409, Final Tentative Order and Permit). (*Joann Lim*)**

Board Member Yen Tu recused herself from this matter and left the room.

Joann Lim gave the staff presentation, which included an errata for two date changes in the Fact Sheet. Ms. Lim introduced Peter Kozelka with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, who gave a presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Juan Guerreiro, Director of the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department presented and responded to Board Member questions.

Chair Strawn asked for public comments, both in person and on Zoom.

Ms. Lim presented two additional proposed language changes regarding the concerns raised by the City of San Diego.

- The following stakeholders commented on this item:
  - Patrick McDonough, San Diego Coastkeeper

**Motion to approve Order No. R9-2026-0002, with errata/changes presented:**

- Chair Strawn

**Second:**

- Ms. Cantú

**Aye:**

- Ms. Cantú
- Dr. Olson
- Ms. Wier
- Chair Strawn

**Nay:**

- None

**Absent:**

- Ms. Blair

**Recused:**

- Ms. Tu

*Chair Strawn adjourned for lunch and closed session at 11:56 a.m., and Mr. Gillman stated that the Board Members would discuss Items 10(i) and 10(k) during closed session. Chair Strawn reconvened the public meeting at 1:05 p.m. Ms. Tu returned to the room.*

**ITEM 8** – Amendment to Cleanup and Abatement Order: Amendment No. 1 to Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R9-2022-0007, An Order Directing Lockheed Martin Corporation to Clean Up or Abate the Effects of Waste Discharged from the Former Tow Basin and Former Marine Terminal and Railway Facilities at 3380 North Harbor Drive and 1160 Harbor Island Drive to the East Basin of Harbor Island in San Diego Bay, San Diego, California (Tentative Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R9-2026-0023). *(Adrian Hinkle)*

Advisory Team: Jeremy Haas, Adrian Hinkle, Jennifer Fordyce, Eric Gillman

Cleanup Team: Sarah Mearon, Julie Macedo, Gabe Haro

Jennifer Fordyce and Adrian Hinkle gave the Advisory Team presentation.

Caroline Lee presented on behalf of Lockheed Martin and responded to Board Member questions. David Templeton, a consultant representing Lockheed Martin, also responded to Board Member questions.

Julie Macedo gave the Cleanup Team's presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Chair Strawn asked for public comments, both in person and on Zoom.

- The following stakeholders commented on this item:
  - John Carter, Port of San Diego
  - Patrick McDonough, San Diego Coastkeeper

**Motion to approve Order No. R9-2026-0023, with typographical error correction in Directive E.2:**

- Ms. Cantú

**Second:**

- Ms. Wier

**Aye:**

- Ms. Cantú
- Ms. Tu
- Ms. Wier
- Chair Strawn

**Nay:**

- None

**Absent:**

- Ms. Blair

**Abstain:**

- Dr. Olson

**ITEM 9 – Election of the 2026 Regional Board Chair and Vice Chair. (David Gibson)**

Mr. Gibson introduced the item and opened the floor for nominations.

**Nomination of Gary Strawn to be 2026 Regional Board Chair:** Dr. Olson

**Nomination of Betty Olson to be 2026 Regional Board Vice Chair:** Mr. Strawn.

**Motion to select Gary Strawn as 2026 Regional Board Chair and Betty Olson as 2026 Regional Board Vice Chair:**

- Ms. Tu

**Second:**

- Ms. Cantú

Meeting Minutes March 11, 2026

**Aye:**

- Ms. Cantú
- Dr. Olson
- Ms. Tu
- Ms. Wier
- Chair Strawn

**Nay:**

- None

**Absent:**

- Ms. Blair

**Abstain:**

- None

There being no further business, Chair Strawn adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

These Minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

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Christina A. Blank  
Executive Assistant

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David W. Gibson  
Executive Officer

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