

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 8, 2020**

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders ([N-29-20](#) and [N-33-20](#)) to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing, this meeting occurred solely by remote presence.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Henry Abarbanel called the remote meeting to order on December 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Roger Mitchell gave an opening statement providing information for attendees to participate in the meeting.

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members present:

Henry Abarbanel, Ph.D., Board Chair; Celeste Cantú, Vice Chair; Eric Anderson; Betty H. Olson, Ph.D.; Gary Strawn; Stefanie Warren.

Board Members absent:

Megan Blair

Staff present:

David Gibson, Kelly Dorsey, Chris Blank, Roger Mitchell, Jeremy Haas, David Barker, Chad Loflen, Keith Yaeger, Eric Becker, Brandon Bushnell, Chehreh Komeylyan, Ben Neill, Fisayo Osibodu, Christopher Means, Vicente Rodriguez, Tony Felix, Dan Boyd, Nicole Gergans, Sarah Mearon, Michelle Santillan, Cynthia Gorham, Debbie Woodward, Mireille Garcia, Chiara Clemente, Carey Nagoda, Lisa Honma, Tanya Clark, Christina Arias, Frank Melbourn, Wayne Chiu, Jason DuMond, Alan Monji, Jill Harris, Kimberly McMurray-Cathcart, Sasha Smirensky, Helen Yu, Lark Starkey, Regan Morey.

Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board:

Dorene D'Adamo, Paul Hann, Zane Poulson State Water Resources Control Board; Catherine Hagan, Vincent Vu, Lori Okun, Office of Chief Counsel; Elise Hicks, California Reporters LLC.

Public Attendance:

Alicia Appel <i>City of Escondido</i>	Matt Yeager <i>Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District</i>
Jo Ann Weber <i>County of San Diego</i>	Katherine Pease <i>Heal the Bay</i>
Barry Pulver	Arthur Pugsley <i>Los Angeles Waterkeeper</i>
Jared Voskuhl <i>California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA)</i>	Grant Sharp, Julia Woo <i>County of Orange/OC Public Works</i>
Ashli Desai <i>Larry Walker Associates</i>	Matt O'Malley <i>San Diego Coastkeeper</i>
David Burhenn <i>Burhenn & Gest LLP</i>	

BOARD MEETING

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

PUBLIC FORUM

Barry Pulver addressed the Board regarding the KB Homes Oak Creek housing development.

Dr. Matt Yeager of Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District spoke on behalf of Orange, Riverside, and San Diego County MS4 Copermittees and the City of San Diego to advise the Board that County representatives are available to answer questions regarding Agenda Item 9. When Dr. Yeager's further comments touched on substantive topics at issue in Agenda Item 9, Chair Abarbanel informed him that the scope of public forum is limited to non-agendized matters.

BOARD BUSINESS:

1. Minutes of Board Meeting:

- November 18, 2020

The item was postponed to a later meeting to allow for corrections to the draft minutes noted by Board Member Warren.

2. Chairman's, Board Members', State Water Board Liaison's, and Executive Officer's Reports. *These items were for Board discussion only. Public testimony was not allowed, and the Board took no formal action.*

Ms. Firestone was unable to join the meeting due to a scheduling conflict, but Ms. D'Adamo provided an update on recent actions taken by the State Board and upcoming State Board actions, and she responded to Board Member questions.

Mr. Gibson responded to Board Member questions, and he provided updates on IBWC and other Tijuana River Valley issues.

Chair Abarbanel presented Christopher Means an award for superior achievement for his work on the settlement agreement for the sanitary sewer overflow to Tecolote Creek. Mr. Means thanked his co-workers, his supervisor, Chiara Clemente, and the attorneys from the Office of the Chief Counsel for their assistance in the settlement agreement.

3. Future Agenda Items: *Board members discussed items for possible inclusion on future agendas.*

Ms. Cantú and Ms. Warren requested an update on transboundary pollution flows from Mexico in the Tijuana River Valley.

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. Waste Discharge Requirement Rescission: Rescission of Order No. 88-05, Waste Discharge Requirements for Mountain Empire Unified School District, Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0221). (*Brandon Bushnell*)
5. Waste Discharge Requirement Rescission: Rescission of Order No. 88-64, Waste Discharge Requirements for Oakvale Park, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0220). (*Chehreh Komeylyan*)
6. Waste Discharge Requirement Rescission: Rescission of Order No. 88-69, Waste Discharge Requirements for Pine Valley Trailer Park, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0222). (*Brandon Bushnell*)
7. Waste Discharge Requirement Rescission: Rescission of Order No. R9-2004-0409, Waste Discharge Requirements for Ramona Unified School District, Hanson Elementary School, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0179). (*Chehreh Komeylyan*)
8. Tentative Resolution: Non-Regulatory Updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2020-0254). (*Michelle Santillan*)

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar with errata for Item 8:

- Dr. Olson

Second:

- Mr. Strawn

MOTION CARRIED

Aye:

- Mr. Anderson
- Ms. Cantú
- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Warren
- Dr. Abarbanel

Nay:

- None.

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- None.

Chair Abarbanel called a brief recess at 9:50 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

ACTION ITEM

9. Basin Plan Amendment: Consideration of a Proposed Resolution Adopting an Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin to Incorporate a Water Quality Objective for Biological Condition, Including Staff Report with Substitute Environmental Documentation (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2020-0234). (*Chad Loflen*)

Vice Chair Cantú presided over a portion of this item while Chair Abarbanel resolved a technical issue. Mr. Gibson reminded the Board that the public hearing was closed at the November 18, 2020, meeting. Mr. Gibson recommended adoption of the Resolution and identified a draft amendment to address a Board Member concern raised at the November meeting. Vice Chair Cantú reopened the public hearing. Mr. Gibson read the proposed amendment and Mr. Loflen summarized his remarks from the November 18 meeting.

Vice Chair Cantú invited a motion to approve the Resolution with amendment. Mr. Strawn moved to adopt the proposed resolution with the amendment. Ms. Warren seconded the motion. Following Board Member discussion, a roll call vote was held.

Motion to approve Resolution No. R9-2020-0234, with Amendment:

- Mr. Strawn

Second:

- Ms. Warren

MOTION CARRIED

Aye:

- Mr. Anderson
- Ms. Cantú
- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Warren
- Dr. Abarbanel

Nay:

- None.

Absent:

- Ms. Blair
- Abstain:**
- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

10. Update on New Wetland Policy. (*Eric Becker*)

Mr. Becker gave the staff presentation, and Paul Hann from the State Water Board provided an overview of the State's policy. The speakers responded to Board Member questions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Abarbanel adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

These Minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina A. Blank
Executive Assistant

David W. Gibson
Executive Officer