

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gary Strawn called the meeting to order on September 10, 2025 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. Laurie Walsh provided instructions for participating via Zoom.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members present:

Gary Strawn, Board Chair; Betty H. Olson, Ph.D., Board Vice Chair, Megan Blair (remote), Celeste Cantú, and Stefanie Warren. Ms. Blair left at 10:10 a.m., and Yen Tu arrived at 10:10 a.m.

Staff present:

David Gibson, Chris Blank, Laurie Walsh, Chiara Clemente, Christopher Means, Jeremy Haas, Lisa Honma, Frank Melbourn, Hayley Sue, Ariel Cutter, Alan Monji, Roger Mitchell, Christina Arias, Nic White, Brandon Bushnell, Michelle Santillan, Gabe Haro, Cailynn Smith, Kate Buckley, Ben Neill, Erica Ryan, Fisayo Osibodu, Kaylee Popovich, Lauren Kim, Wayne Chiu, Cynthia Gorham, Eric Becker, Jimmy Smith.

Staff remote attendance:

Kelly Dorsey, Chad Loflen, Riley Nolan, Sarah Mearon, Lara Quetin, Kimberly McMurray-Cathcart, Amy Grove, Carey Kowalski, Debbie Woodward, Ella Knight, Brandie White

Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board

Alex Sauerwein, Eric Gillman, State Water Board Office of Chief Counsel; Vinty Siev (remote), Gerardo Rabelo Tino Gamboa, DIT

Public Attendance:

Present:

Michael Welch

Michael Welch Consultants

Remote attendance:

Michael White

Vice President, Whitewood Sancerra

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 – Ms. Cantú requested that the minutes indicate whether stakeholders and/or members of the public provide comments in support of or in opposition to a Board action item.

Minutes of Board Meeting: August 13, 2025

Motion to adopt the August 13, 2025, minutes:

- Ms. Cantú

Second:

- Dr. Olson

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Tu

Abstain:

- Ms. Warren

ITEM 1 – Minutes of Board Meeting: August 27, 2025

Motion to adopt the August 27, 2025, minutes:

- Ms. Cantú

Second:

- Dr. Olson

Aye:

- Ms. Blair
- Ms. Cantú
- Dr. Olson
- Ms. Warren
- Chair Strawn

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Tu

Abstain:

- None

ITEM 2 - Chair's, Board Members', State Water Board Liaison's, and Executive Officer's Reports. *These items were for Board discussion only. No public testimony was allowed, and the Board took no formal action.*

Chair Strawn presented Sustained Superior Service Awards to Chiara Clemente, Frank Melbourn, Lisa Honma, Eric Ryan, and Paul Ciccarelli for their work on a complex and difficult enforcement case, which spanned three different programs and required coordination with state and federal agencies to criminally prosecute an individual who committed forgery of Water Board documents.

Mr. Gibson welcomed new employees Cole Rodriguez and Kaylee Popovich to the Agricultural Waste Discharge team. He also congratulated them on presenting Region 9's perspective on agricultural waste discharge requirements and regulations to a blue-ribbon panel of the State Water Board.

Cailynn Smith responded to Board Member questions regarding the Agricultural Water Quality Seminar described in the Executive Officer's Report.

ITEM 3 – Transboundary Flows

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

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 – An Order Terminating Order No. 94-68, Waste Discharge Requirements for Turel Family Trust and Steve Danielson, Oak Springs R.V. Resort L.L.C., Riverside County (Tentative Order No. R9-2025-0095). Written comments on this item were due on July 21, 2025. *(Brandon Bushnell)*

ITEM 5 – Waste Discharge Requirements for Sancerra Whitewood Residential Project, Riverside County (Tentative Order No. R9-2025-0081). Written comments on this item are due on August 22, 2025. (*Christopher Means*)

Motion to adopt the Consent Calendar items:

- Ms. Warren

Second:

- Dr. Olson

Aye:

- Ms. Blair
- Ms. Cantú
- Dr. Olson
- Ms. Warren
- Chair Strawn

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Tu

Abstain:

- None

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

ITEM 6 – Sea Level Rise: Updated Ocean Protection Council Guidance and New National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Model. (*Jimmy Smith*)

Jimmy Smith introduced Ella McDougal, Environmental Scientist with the California Natural Resources Agency, and NOAA affiliate Liana Heberer.

Ms. Heberer gave a presentation on the NOAA Sea Level Rise predictive model and responded to Board Member questions.

Ms. McDougal presented information on how the NOAA model relates to San Diego.

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

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 7 – A Resolution Endorsing the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Operational Plan (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0129). (*David Gibson*)

Dave Gibson gave the staff presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

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

Motion to adopt Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0129:

- Ms. Cantú

Second:

- Dr. Olson

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- None

ITEM 8 – A Resolution to Update and Clarify the Delegation of Powers and Duties to the Executive Officer (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0144). (*Chiara Clemente, Alex Sauerwein*)

Chiara Clemente gave the staff presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Chair Strawn asked for public comments, both in person and on Zoom. There were no public comments. During Board discussion of the item, Ms. Cantú requested an amendment to the Resolution to require an annual update regarding the actions delegated to the Executive Officer.

Motion to adopt Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0144 with errata:

- Ms. Cantú

Second:

- Ms. Tu

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Blair

Abstain:

- None

Chair Strawn adjourned for the closed session at 11:30 a.m. and reconvened the public meeting at 12:14 p.m.

There being no further business, Chair Strawn adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

These Minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina A. Blank
Executive Assistant

David W. Gibson
Executive Officer