

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

MINUTES

February 10-11, 2016

Regular Meeting

Mojave Water Agency
13846 Conference Center Drive
Apple Valley, CA 92307

Via teleconference from:

Town of Truckee
Front Room Conference Room, 2nd Floor
10183 Truckee Airport Road
Truckee, CA 96161

Board Members Participating

Kimberly Cox, Chair, Helendale
Keith Dyas, Vice Chair, Rosamond
Amy Horne, Ph.D., Truckee
Don Jardine, Markleeville
Peter C. Pumphrey, Bishop
Eric Sandel, Truckee (teleconference, Truckee)

Board Members Absent

Legal Counsel

Kimberly Niemeyer, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board

Regional Board Staff Participating

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer
Lauri Kemper, Assistant Executive Officer
Mike Plaziak, Sup. Engineering Geologist
Cathe Pool, Senior WRCE

Cindi Mitton, Senior WRCE
Patrice Copeland, Senior Engineering Geologist
Eric Taxer, WRCE
Sue Genera, Executive Assistant

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 - 1:00 p.m.

Tour: Ivanpah Solar Facility – Molycorp Mine

Approximately 15 participants including Board members, members of the public and Water Board staff visited the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System, a concentrated solar thermal plant, located west of Ivanpah Dry Lake near Mountain Pass. Following this tour,

the group continued on to the Molycorp Mine parking lot where Christy Hunter from the Victorville office gave the history of the mine and plans for the mine in future.

REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, February 11, 2016- 8:30 a.m.

To view the full Agenda and listen to the audio of this meeting [CLICK HERE](#)

INTRODUCTIONS

Kimberly Cox, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m. on November 4, 2015, and introduced Board Members.

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, introduced Legal Counsel and Regional Water Board Staff.

1. PUBLIC FORUM

None.

REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

2. Revised Waste Discharge Requirements - Board Order No. R6V-2016-[Proposed] for Kern County Public Works Department, Boron Sanitary Landfill, Kern County

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Jardine, seconded by Dr. Horne, to approve the Board Order as presented with late corrections. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion ***carried*** per the following votes:

Ms. Cox	aye
Mr. Dyas	aye
Dr. Horne	aye
Mr. Jardine	aye
Mr. Pumphrey	aye
Mr. Sandel	aye

Click here to view adopted [Board Order R6V-2016-0004](#)

PLANS AND POLICIES

3. Authorizing a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Program Memorandum of Understanding With the Mojave Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Implementation Support Team

The Board heard presentations by Eric Taxer of the Lahontan South Lake Tahoe Office and Lance Eckhart of the Mojave Water Agency. Mr. Taxer gave an overview of the Lahontan SEP Program. The Program supports establishing partnerships with independent third parties to identify projects that may qualify for SEPs, manage SEP payments from dischargers, and implement SEPs consistent with the Water Board's priorities. He then discussed the proposed Resolution, which would approve a Memorandum of Understanding that establishes a partnership agreement between the Lahontan Water Board, the Mojave Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Implementation Support Team, and signatory stakeholder organizations (Partner Organizations) of the Mojave IRWM region. The Mojave Water Agency has applied to become a Partner Organization. Mr. Eckhart highlighted past projects that the Mojave Water Agency has successfully completed, demonstrating their capacity to implement SEPs.

Jeanette Hayhurst, Chair of the Mojave Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Implementation Support Team, addressed the Board and thanked staff for all of the collaboration and hard work that went into bringing this Resolution before the Board.

The Board requested the next several rounds of MOUs be brought before the Board for transparency and community support.

- **Motion:** Moved by Dr. Horne, seconded by Mr. Dyas, to approve the Resolution as presented. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion **carried** per the following votes:

Ms. Cox	abstain
Mr. Dyas	aye
Dr. Horne	aye
Mr. Jardine	aye
Mr. Pumphrey	aye
Mr. Sandel	aye

Click here to view adopted [Resolution No. R6T-2016-0005](#)

4. **Mojave Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, San Bernardino County**

Lance Eckhart with the Mojave Water Agency presented the Final Mojave Salt and Nutrient Management Plan to the Board. The SNMP is a planning document to guide groundwater management and recycled water use in the Mojave River Basin and Morongo Basin. The plan was reviewed jointly by the Lahontan Water Board and the Colorado Water Board staff.

Board Member Pumphrey requested future information and feedback on other uses that the SNMP implement which contribute to sounder management for the Basin as a whole.

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Pumphrey, seconded by Dr. Horne, to approve the proposed Salt and Nutrient Management Plan as presented. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion **carried** per the following votes:

Ms. Cox	aye
Mr. Dyas	aye
Dr. Horne	aye
Mr. Jardine	aye
Mr. Pumphrey	aye
Mr. Sandel	aye

Click here to view the approved [Mojave Salt and Nutrient Management Plan](#)

Note: The Board took a break from 9:55-10:09 a.m.

5. **Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan**

Noel Ludwig, District Hydrologist for the Bureau of Land Management addressed the Board and provided an overview of the Bureau of Land Management's Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (Plan). The Plan is a collaborative effort between the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Energy Commission, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. This plan will help California, and the nation, meet renewable energy and greenhouse-gas reduction goals. The presentation focused on recent changes to the Plan as a result of public comments.

Chair Cox raised concern that the placement of these facilities near major transportation corridors, scenic routes, and population centers, is jeopardizing the scenic view shed in the Mojave.

Public Comment

- Neil Nadler, Alliance for Desert Preservation, supported the State and Regional Water Boards comments on the draft Plan and raised concern that these comments were not sufficiently addressed.
- Chuck Bell, Mojave Desert Resource Conservation District, appreciated the comments made by the State and Regional Water Boards on the draft Plan. Mr. Bell felt that the Bureau of Land Management could do a better job placing Development Focus Areas to reduce negative impacts to water and the environment.
- Neville Slade, Mojave Conservation Collaborative, commended the Bureau of Land Management on implementing these projects with minimal impacts on the desert.

REPORTS

6. Update on Renewable Energy Projects in the Lahontan Region

Jan Zimmerman, Engineering Geologist with the Lahontan Victorville office, presented an update on the status of permitting renewable energy projects and renewable energy development in the Lahontan Region. She focused on wind and photovoltaic renewable energy projects, their distribution throughout the region, and the water quality challenges they present.

Dr. Horne asked if developers had financial assurances in place to make repairs to project mitigation measures if they are negatively impacted by sudden weather events.

Ms. Zimmerman responded that the Water Board is working with interagency review teams, run by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, to approve two mitigations banks in the area. Once brought online, the banks will be available to developers to pay an acre fee for mitigation of impacts to waters.

Mr. Pumphrey recommended that a region-wide Mitigation Policy should be developed.

Public Comment

- Neil Nadler, Alliance for Desert Preservation, promoted small renewable energy projects for individual homes and communities. He asked that the Water Board limit where large renewable energy projects can be placed.
- Neville Slade, Mojave Conservation Collaborative, asked for support at the county level for a renewable energy amendment to fund mitigation and best management practices.

7. Reports by Water Board Chair and Board Members

Dr. Horne reported on her participation in a Meeting discussing Nevada's Water Plan organized by Patricia Mulroy.

Chair Cox presented information prepared by the Mojave Water Agency diagramming concentrations of Chromium 6 throughout the Mojave Water Agency's service area.

8. Executive Officer's Report

Ms. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, presented the [January and February Written Reports](#) and gave additional updates on:

- Daniel Sussman has been promoted to Senior Environmental Scientist;
- New staff, Kelly Huck, Alanna Misico, Ed Hancock, and Elizabeth van Diepen;
- Barstow Community Meeting;
- PCE Investigation Meeting; and
- Victorville office move scheduled for July.

Lauri Kemper, Assistant Executive Officer presented the Quarterly Violations Report.

OTHER BUSINESS

9. **Minutes**

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Dyas, seconded by Mr. Pumphrey, to approve the November 2016 Minutes as presented. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion ***carried*** per the following votes:

Ms. Cox	aye
Mr. Dyas	aye
Dr. Horne	aye
Mr. Jardine	aye
Mr. Pumphrey	aye
Mr. Sandel	absent

Click here to view adopted [November Minutes](#)

10. **Election of 2016 Chair/Vice Chair**

- **Motion:** Moved by Mr. Dyas, seconded by Mr. Jardine, to elect Dr. Horne as Chair and Mr. Pumphrey as Vice Chair for 2016. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion ***carried*** per the following votes:

Ms. Cox	aye
Mr. Dyas	aye
Dr. Horne	aye
Mr. Jardine	aye
Mr. Pumphrey	aye
Mr. Sandel	absent

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board met in closed session from 12:55-1:31 p.m. to discuss closed session items (a.) and (r.). There were no actions taken during closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m. on February 11, 2016.

Prepared by:  _____ Adopted: 03/09/2016

Sue Genera, Executive Assistant