

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

MINUTES

JUNE 12, 2019

REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) conducted this meeting using Webcast at the location shown below:

Hampton Inn & Suites
2710 Lenwood Road
Barstow, CA 92311

Water Board Members Participating

Peter C. Pumphrey, Chair, Bishop
Amy Horne, Ph.D., Vice-Chair, Truckee
Don Jardine, Markleeville

Keith Dyas, Rosamond
Kimberly Cox, Helendale
Eric Sandel, Truckee

Legal Counsel

Elizabeth Beryt, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board

State Water Board

Sean Maguire, State Board Liaison

Gita Kapahi, Director, State Water Board

Regional Board Staff

Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer
Douglas Smith, Assistant Executive Officer
Patrice Copeland, Sup. Engineering Geologist
Jennifer Watts, Environmental Scientist
Dan Sussman, Sr. Environmental Scientist
Mary Fiore-Wagner, Sr. Env Scientist
Jan Zimmerman, Sr. Engineering Geologist
Katrina Fleshman, Executive Assistant

Shelby Barker, Engineering Geologist
Christina Guerra, Engineering Geologist
Ben Letton, Sup. Engineering Geologist
John Steude, Engineering Geologist
Anne Holden, Engineering Geologist
Tiffany Steinert, Engineering Geologist
Jehiel Cass, Sr. WRC Engineer
Kathy Otermat, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Pumphrey called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. on June 12, 2019 and introduced the Board Members. Ms. Patty Z. Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, introduced Legal Counsel and Water Board Staff.

1. CLOSED SESSION

The Water Board deferred closed session until later in the meeting.

PETER C. PUMPHREY, CHAIR | PATTY Z. KOUYOUMDJIAN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Arlene Chun, San Bernardino County, Storm Water Program Manager, introduced herself and discussed the Mojave River watershed Group, a partnership of South Lahontan Cities working on stormwater pollution compliance. Ms. Chun provided the Water Board with a fact sheet about the group.

3. MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Member Sandel, seconded by Vice-Chair Dr. Horne to approve the [March 2019 Minutes](#) as presented. Chair Pumphrey called for a Roll Call Vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Member Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Jardine	Aye
Member Sandel	Aye
Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Dr. Horne	Aye

4. REPORTS BY WATER BOARD CHAIR AND WATER BOARD MEMBERS

Sean Maguire, State Board Liaison, introduced himself and gave an update on the Bay Delta issues and the Governor's Executive Order on Water Resilience Portfolio.

QUESTIONS BY THE WATER BOARD

Vice-Chair Dr. Horne inquired as to how the Bay Delta project is going to work with Federal Bureau of Reclamations and coordinating with that agency. Mr. Maguire indicated there is a Coordinating Operating Agreement and everyone is working together.

Vice-Chair Dr. Horne asked how does going from two tunnels to one affect the schedule. Mr. Maguire indicated that will be working with that issue towards the end of the year.

Member Sandel spoke about an article "Investigating the Metabolic Impact of Endocrine Disrupting chemicals" and provided a handout of the article.

Chair Pumphrey indicated the WQCC Meeting is being held October 29 & 30, 2019.

5. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Patty Kouyoumdjian, Executive Officer, provided an update to the Water Board and public on key actions and activities in the Lahontan region, including the items below.

- The July Board meeting is a one-day meeting set for July 10, 2019.
- Personnel Report
- Zacca Mine
- Grants
- South Shore Fuels
- Toxic Algae
- Golden State Water Company Investigation
- Salt Nutrient Management Plans
- PFOA Investigation Orders
- Burn Debris Task Force

- Eagle Lake Investigative Orders
- Edwards Air Force Base Dispute
- Governor’s Executive Order on Water Resilience Portfolio

QUESTIONS BY WATER BOARD

Member Dyas indicated the Water Board has completed five Salt Nutrient Management Plans (SNMPs) and wanted to know if staff is going to have to revisit SNMP to look at ground water sub-basins. Ms. Kouyoumdjian indicated all SNMP’s accepted by the Water Board are already considered a review sub-basin.

Member Sandel asked that Ms. Kouyoumdjian keep them informed on the status of Bate Stamp 5-78 and 5-79 regarding the Tahoe Keys efforts to address invasive weeds.

Vice-Chair Dr. Horne asked the staff to eliminate the term “new normal” from vocabulary when talking about wildfires because it implies nothing can be done about the wildfires.

6. TRONA LANDFILL CLOSURE WRDS - NEW CLOSURE AND POST-CLOSURE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION, TRONA-ARGUS SANITARY LANDFILL

The Water Board adopted a new Closure and Post-Closure Waste Discharge Requirements to establish the post-closure maintenance and monitoring period and requirements for the facility.

NO PRESENTATION OR DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD

Motion: Moved by Member Sandel and seconded by Vice-Chair Dr. Horne to adopt new Closure and Post-Closure Waste Discharge Requirements to establish the post-closure maintenance and monitoring period and requirements for the Facility. Chair Pumphrey, called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Member Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Jardine	Aye
Member Sandel	Aye
Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Dr. Horne	Aye

THE WATER BOARD TOOK A BREAK FROM 2:57PM TO 3:07PM

7. MOJAVE RIVER BASIN PLAN AMENDMENT – MOJAVE RIVER BENEFICIAL USES BASIN PLAN AMENDMENT

Ms. Jennifer Watts, PhD, Environmental Scientist, made a presentation and asked the Water Board to consider adopting a resolution to approve an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan) to modify the beneficial uses that apply to the Mojave River and its tributaries, other minor changes, and to adopt the Substitute Environmental Document.

QUESTIONS BY THE BOARD

Member Dyas asked how the Afton Canyon portion of the Mojave Canyon was considered a “Wild and Scenic” designation. Ms. Watts indicted it was Congress that decides the designation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tony Winkle, Mojave Water Agency, mentioned that Lance Eckert with the Mojave Water Agency provided a comment letter to the Water Board in support of the Mojave River Basin Plan Amendment.

COMMENTS BY THE BOARD

Vice-Chair Dr Horne, Member Cox and Member Sandel recognized the great work by Water Board staff and indicated that they are in support of this plan.

Motion: Moved by Member Sandel and seconded by Member Cox to adopt a Resolution to approve an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan) and to adopt the Substitute Environmental Document. Chair Pumphrey, called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Member Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Jardine	Aye
Member Sandel	Aye
Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Dr. Horne	Aye

8. CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTION STRATEGY

Ms. Mary Fiore-Wagner, Senior Environmental Scientist, provided an update of Lahontan Water Board's Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption Strategy (Strategy). Ms. Fiore-Wagner presented a summary of the elements of the Strategy as described in the Staff Report and presented the proposed Policy Statements. Ms. Fiore-Wagner asked the Water Board for direction on the four draft policy statements for Source Water, Infrastructure, Groundwater, and Forests. She also asked the Water Board for direction on the implementation framework with a proposed Action Plan updated yearly and the overall Strategy updated every 5 years.

QUESTIONS BY THE BOARD

Member Jardine indicated he believes the Water Board is on the right track with the Key Policy Statements by the California Air Resources Control Board and fully supports it.

Member Dyas believes the Policy Statements and implementation framework are appropriate.

Member Sandel asked Ms. Fiore-Wagner to explain the funding for this plan. Ms. Fiore-Wagner indicated Water Board is reaching out to the disadvantaged communities to direct them to the State Water Board where resources are available for projects.

Vice-Chair Dr. Horne wanted to know how the staff gets updated information regarding the latest science and policies regarding climate change. Ms. Fiore-Wagner indicated one of the ways is at roundtable meetings as an opportunity to learn about climate change policies.

Vice-Chair Dr. Horne emphasized the name "mitigation" and wanted to know how this Strategy addresses climate change mitigation. Ms. Fiore-Wagner indicated the climate change mitigation will be directed, the short-lived climate pollutants, supporting recycled energy, and take advantage of those natural climate solutions.

Vice-Chair Dr. Horne made a suggestion to change Bate Stamp 8-2, in the Chronology Action column of May 2018, to add the word “mitigation” and broaden the concept of mitigation. Vice-Chair Dr. Horne also suggested at Bates stamp 8-25, in the first policy statement to include discussion on how changing habitats effects humans. Vice-Chair Dr. Horne further suggested that in the Infrastructure Policy Statement, the Water Board focus on floods right after a drought to broaden that discussion as well.

CLOSED SESSION ITEM # 1

The Water Board, without the public present, adjourned into closed session to discuss Item #1(h) (Discussion of Personnel Matters) at 4:13pm. The meeting resumed with the public at 4:55 pm.

THE WATER BOARD TOOK A BREAK FROM 5:04PM TO 7:00PM

9. PG&E HINKLEY UPDATE – STATUS REPORT ON CLEANUP ACTIVITIES CONCERNING CHROMIUM CONTAMINATION FROM PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY’S (PG&E’S) HINKLEY COMPRESSOR STATION

The Water Board heard presentations from PG&E representative, the Independent Review Panel Manager and Water Board staff, Ms. Copeland and Ms. Anne Holden.

Kevin Sullivan, PG&E Director of Environmental Remediation, gave the first presentation discussing the 2018 cleanup efforts, the progress on Chromium treatment and impacts of the drought. Mr. Sullivan explained the recent remediation efforts and progress of treating the plume.

QUESTIONS FOR MR. SULLIVAN BY THE BOARD

Member Dyas, inquired about the freshwater injection wells and wanted to know the source of that fresh water. Mr. Sullivan indicated it is a small flow and the fresh water is taken from wells south and east of the compressor station and injected up there to get good hydraulic containment.

Member Dyas asked if the Mojave Water Agency pumping area that influences the water flow groundwater elevation is putting more water in the Lenwood Recharge Basin. Mr. Sullivan indicated they have increased ground water recharge in the area.

Dr. Rodel Sanchez, from the Hinkley Independent Review Panel, gave the second presentation and introducing his staff and give a presentation about their involvement in community outreach, technical assistance and workshops. Mr. Sanchez further discussed the cleanup efforts to date.

NO QUESTIONS FOR MR. SANCHEZ BY THE WATER BOARD

Patrice Copeland, Supervising Engineering Geologist, gave the third presentation giving an overview of the progress on this facility, actions taken during this past year and plans for this year. Such as: cleanup, additional remediations, sampling of wells, farm swap programs, management of active wells, and current drinking water standards.

Anne Holden, Engineering Geologist, gave the fourth presentation on the purpose and history of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Chromium background study. Ms. Holden

indicated that the draft report due in March will be delayed until September. Ms. Holden discussed the review process for the study.

QUESTIONS FOR MS. HOLDEN BY THE WATER BOARD

Vice-Chair Dr. Horne wanted to know who the draft report in September will be distributed to and Ms. Holden indicated it will be released to the technical working group and the USGS, not to the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daron Banks, Hinkley resident, wanted to let the Water Board know he appreciates the work done to date and wanted to remind everyone that people still live there.

The Water Board members thanked Mr. Banks for speaking today and indicated the Water Board will keep working on the issues to help the community.

Gita Kapahi, Director of State Water Board, Office of Public Participation, indicated she is retiring and the Hinkley issue is important to her and therefore, she will be watching for any updates.

Patty Kouyoumdjian prepared and read her correspondence to the Executive Director of the State Water Board regarding Ms. Gita Kapahi's commitment to the State Water Board and her retirement. Ms. Kouyoumdjian provided a copy of said letter for the public.

The Water Board members thanked and praised Ms. Kapahi's work as an employee of the State Water Board.

10. CLOSURE AND POST-CLOSURE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING SYSTEMS (SEGS) I & II, SUNRAY LAND COMPANY

John Steude, Engineering Geologist, asked the Water Board to consider adopting Closure and Post Closure Waste Discharge Requirements to close surface impoundments and land treatment units, including an engineered alternative, and begin the post-closure maintenance period at the facility.

QUESTIONS BY THE BOARD

Member Cox asked what the depth to ground water is in this area. Mr. Steude indicated it is at 170 feet. Member Cox asked if there are any monitoring wells near there. Mr. Steude indicated they are the same monitoring wells we had when the facility was active, and one well will be replaced.

Member Dyas asked if the landfill will still contain the two types of waste generated by this facility. Mr. Steude indicated the Heat Transfer Fluid waste contaminated soil will break down over time. The salt waste will not break down.

Vice-Chair Dr. Horne indicated this is a much better proposal than the last proposal.

Motion: Moved by Member Vice-Chair Dr. Horne and seconded by Member Dyas to adopt the Closure and Post Closure Waste Discharge Requirements to close surface impoundments and land treatment units, including an engineered alternative, and begin the post-closure maintenance period at the facility. Chair Pumphrey, called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Member Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Jardine	Aye
Member Sandel	Aye
Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Dr. Horne	Aye

11. APPLE VALLEY LANDFILL - NEW CORRECTIVE ACTION AND POST-CLOSURE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION, APPLE VALLEY CLASS III LANDFILL

Shelby Barker, Engineering Geologist, asked the Water Board to consider adopting a new Corrective Action and Post-Closure Waste Discharge Requirements to establish a Corrective Action Program to remediate the effects of a release to groundwater and to update the post-closure maintenance and monitoring requirements for the Facility.

QUESTIONS BY THE BOARD

Member Sandel inquired as to who does the monitoring of the wells. Ms. Barker indicated the County has consultants that go out to these wells and sampling annually.

Mr. Dyas asked what the components of the landfill gas are. Ms. Barker indicated the primary gases are chlorinated solvents and the gases will dissipate and not be released into the groundwater.

Motion: Moved by Member Sandel and seconded by Vice-Chair Dr. Horne to adopt the new Corrective Action and Post-Closure Waste Discharge Requirements to establish a Corrective Action Program to remediate the effects of a release to groundwater and to update the post-closure maintenance and monitoring requirements for the Facility. Chair Pumphrey, called for a roll call vote and the motion carried per the following votes:

Member Cox	Aye
Member Dyas	Aye
Member Jardine	Aye
Member Sandel	Aye
Chair Pumphrey	Aye
Vice-Chair Dr. Horne	Aye

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Water Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m. on June 12, 2019.



Prepared by: _____ Adopted: 7/10/2019
 Katrina Fleshman, Executive Assistant