



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Lahontan Region



Winston H. Hickox  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

Internet Address: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb6>  
2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe, California 96150  
Phone (530) 542-5400 • FAX (530) 544-2271

Gray Davis  
Governor

## MINUTES September 11-12, 2002

### Regular Meeting

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Palmdale Water District  
2029 East Avenue Q  
Palmdale, CA

Chair Jack Clarke called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. on September 11, 2002.

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Brissenden, Hope Valley  
Eugene B. Nebeker, Ph.D., Lancaster  
Eric Sandel, P.E. Truckee  
Claudette Roberts, Palmdale  
William Betterley, Hesperia  
Jack Clarke, Apple Valley

### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

### LEGAL COUNSEL

Steven H. Blum, State Water Resources Control Board

### STAFF PRESENT

Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer  
Robert S. Dodds, Assistant Executive Officer  
Hisam Baqai, Supervising WRCE, South Lahontan Watersheds Division  
Cindi Mitton, Senior WRCE, Kern County/Mono/Owens Watershed  
Ted Saari, WRCE, Mojave Unit  
Eugene Rondash, WRCE, Kern County/Mono/Owens Watershed  
Christy Hunter, Associate Engineering Geologist, Mojave Unit  
Pamela S. Walker, Administrative Officer  
Marietta L. Christoffersen, Office Technician

### ADDRESSING THE BOARD

Steve Maguin, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD)  
Senator Pete Knight  
Lyle Talbot, HI CAP  
Wanda Deal, private citizen

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **1. Executive Officer's Report**

Harold Singer highlighted the following items from the written report:

- July Report, Item No. 3 – Truckee River TMDL Public Forum. A consultant hired by the Board will facilitate the collaborative process between the Regional Board and the Truckee River Water Council. The first of a series of scheduled meetings was held September 9, with an attendance of approximately 75 people.
- August Report, Item No. 2 – Willow Creek Construction Project CAO. Of the \$25,000 in fines assessed by the District Attorney for this illegal activity, \$5,000 was paid to the State Water Resources Control Board's Cleanup and Abatement Account.

Other Items:

- Item No. 3 – Results of the Water Quality Sampling Conducted on July 4, 2002. Board member William Betterley asked if sampling would continue. Harold Singer pointed out that although there is not a significant problem associated with fireworks, there is some discharge of nutrients as a result and this will have to factor in to the Lake Tahoe TMDL. In addition, continued sampling for elevated perchlorate levels will continue.
- Item No. 4 – Spalding Community Service District. Board member Eugene Nebeker expressed concern about the individual homeowner's expense.
- Two WQCC meetings, one in the north and one in the south, will be held in November.
- The Waiver Policy expires at the end of this year. Staff workshops were held in South Lake Tahoe, where the main issue was timber waivers and in Victorville, where the discussion centered on discharges from maintenance operations of water purveyors and what regulatory responsibility they have in relation to the discharge. Water Code Section 13263 requires that the Regional Board prescribe requirements for people who discharge and Section 13269 allows the Regional Board to waive waste discharge requirements. A possible new waiver addressing timber harvest activities was discussed as an example of how these sections of the law can be used. The development of a general permit to address a few current waiver categories was also discussed. Some Regional Board's are considering re-adopting waivers to cover a large universe of dischargers, many of which are a low threat to water quality. Processing the applications, however, requires the use of resources that take away from regulating higher priority and higher threat to water quality dischargers. Self-certification that the project would be completed in conformance with the conditions of the waiver by the discharger, who poses a low threat to water quality, is another idea. Although statewide regulations on septic systems should be out within a year, the current waiver expires December 31, 2002. A special meeting in December may be necessary because of the expiration date.
- The State Board will be considering regulations to significantly increase fees dischargers pay to offset \$15,000,000 reduction in the General Fund.
- A Supervisory Award was presented to Pam Walker.

The afternoon meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.



**Regular Meeting, Continued**  
**7:05 p.m., September 11, 2002**

Chair Jack Clarke called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Board members present: John Brissenden, Eugene Nebeker Ph.D., Eric Sandel P.E., Claudette Roberts, and William Betterley.

Chair Jack Clarke asked all present to stand and observe a moment of silence in remembrance of the tragedy of September 11, 2001.

**2. PUBLIC FORUM**

No one addressed the Board during the Public Forum.

**3. ADOPTION OF UNCONTESTED CALENDAR**

Item 6 - was removed from the agenda.

Item 7 - A letter from the City of Barstow commending Hisam Baqai for his work in putting the item together was noted.

Item 8 - was amended as noted in a late revision sheet.

- **Motion:** Moved by Eric Sandel, seconded by William Betterley and **unanimously carried** to adopt the Uncontested Calendar as amended.

**4. MINUTES**

The minutes were not available.

**REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

**10. Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14; Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant**

Eugene Nebeker excused himself from this item.

Ted Saari, WRCE began the presentation and discussed the proposed WDRs as follows:

- Receiving water objectives
- Time schedule for compliance with prohibition of overflows to Rosamond Dry Lake that create a nuisance condition or threatened nuisance condition
- Time schedules for compliance with chlorine and ammonia limits
- Abandoned well mitigation plan
- Ground water monitoring plan

Hisam Baqai, Supervising WRCE, presented staff responses to comments received from:

- LACSD
- Citizen Group for Lancaster Paiute Wetlands
- Major General Pearson, Jr., Commander/Edward Air Force Base (EAFB)
- Senator Pete Knight



Robert Dodds, Assistant Executive Officer, responded to a comment made by Los Angeles County Sanitation District in its August 13, 2002 letter. In the Regional Board's response letter, page 19, Comment-Requirement I.E.14, stated 'accepted', when in fact the Regional Board does not concur with the legal arguments presented.

Senator Pete Knight expressed his objections to further encroachment on EAFB. He reminded the Board that creating Paiute Ponds was to be an interim measure to address flooding of Rosamond Dry Lake and yet forty years later additional ponds are proposed. He stated that alternatives to additional ponds needed to be investigated.

Steve Maguin, LACSD, expressed agreement with the revised WDRs and thanked Hisam Baqai, Ted Saari and Harold Singer for their work with the District.

Lyle Talbot, HI CAP, read a poem in remembrance of those who died September 11, 2001. He felt the District needs to provide more tertiary treatment and that EAFB needs to lease property to the District and be compensated for it.

Wanda Deal spoke about the many and varied uses of Paiute Ponds stating that expansion around them seem to be the reasonable course of action since those surrounding areas had been flooded either by the District or by natural storm flow, which minimizes the impact to the environment.

The Board expressed approval of the cooperative working relationship between staff and the District and their desire to see the project continue to move ahead.

Harold Singer encouraged the public who have concerns regarding the proposed project have their names placed on the District's mailing list.

Harold Singer recommended a revision to the late revision, referencing Page 15, PROVISIONS II., A, Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements as follows:

**Proposed Late Revision:** Board Order No. 6-93-75 shall remain in effect until November 1, 2002 for monitoring and reporting purposes.

**Proposed Amended Late Revision:** Board Order No. 6-93-75 is hereby rescinded. However, Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 6-93-75 shall remain in effect until November 1, 2002.

- **Motion:** Moved by Eric Sandel, seconded by John Brissenden and **unanimously carried** to adopt the revised WDRs with all the proposed revisions.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **12. Resolution to Request the use of Cleanup and Abatement Account Funds for Various Pollution Abatement and Assessment Projects at Leviathan Mine**

- **Motion:** Moved by Eric Sandel, seconded by John Brissenden and **unanimously carried** to adopt the resolution as proposed.

#### **13. Resolution of Appreciation for Bea Cooley**

This item was postponed.



**14. Reports by Chair and Board Members**

Eugene Nebeker drew the Board's attention to a newspaper article on sludge. Jack Clarke discussed the August 20, 2002 Chair's meeting.

**15. CLOSED SESSION**

Board members met in closed session on September 11, 2002 from 9:00 p.m. to 9:40 p.m. to discuss items c, f, I, k, l, m and n. Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(c) (I).

The Board reconvened in open session at 9:41 p.m.

Harold Singer distributed a copy of a new State Water Resources Control table that tracks TMDL status.

The November Board meeting was rescheduled to November 20-21, 2002.

There being no further business to come before the Lahontan Regional Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Adopted: March 12, 2003  
Pam Walker, Administrative Officer

