
Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

December 13, 2022, 9:00 a.m. to 11:28 a.m.

In-Person and Zoom Video/Teleconference Meeting

Archived audio and video webcasts of Board meetings are available at the following link:

<https://cal-span.org/static/meetings-RWQCB-COLO.php>

1. Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Bea Gonzalez, Peter Satin, Nancy Wright, and Ed Muzik were in attendance. Jayne Powell and Vivian Perez attended via Zoom. The Board Clerk stated that a quorum was present.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Ed Muzik at 9:00 a.m. on December 13, 2022.

State and Regional Water Board Staff Present

Paula Rasmussen, Cassandra Owens, David Lancaster, Kai Dunn, Jose Cortez, Emma McCorkle, Angela Garcia, Maribel Schiavone, Reginald Tan, Ravleen Kaur, Hilda Vasquez, and Dan Mefford.

Public Attendance

Greg Reyes, Riverside County Department of Environmental Health, Kristine Kim, Riverside County Department of Environmental Health; Jeff Kirshberg, Rancho California Water District; Lillian Garcia, United for Justice; Frank Schiavone, member of the public; Nancy Leaman, member of the public; Sherrie Munroe, Lost Ranch Winery; Willie Ventura, Ventura Engineering Inland; and Gadalla Gadalla, Earth-Strata, Inc.

Virtual Public Attendance

Michael Mistica, Riverside County Department of Environmental Health
Brandon Bushnell, Water Quality Control Board, Region 9, San Diego
Joseph Wiens, Wiens Family Cellars, Temecula, CA

2. Public Forum

There were no public speakers.

3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the November 15, 2022 Board Meeting.

Motion to adopt with changes to reflect typo corrections on Agenda item 7 from “June 30, 2022” to “June 30, 2023.” Nancy Wright moved, Peter Satin seconded, and a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Jayne Powell – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Peter Satin – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye.

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt the minutes of the November 15, 2022 Board meeting with the changes.

4. Update from the State Water Resources Control Board Liaison, Laurel Firestone

The State Water Board Liaison, Laurel Firestone, presented an update on State Board actions, on the Governor’s strategies for statewide and regional activities, and responded to Board Member questions.

5. Staff Award for Outstanding Performance, Kai Dunn

Kai Dunn, Surface Water Protection Section Chief, presented the sustained superior accomplishment award for outstanding performance to Maribel Schiavone.

Contested and Discussion Calendar of Items for Adoption

(Items 6-7)

6. Waste Discharge Requirements Order R7-2022-0021 Coachella Valley Water District, (NPDES Permit CA0104973)

Staff Contact: Jose Valle de Leon, WRC Engineer

This item was continued to a future meeting.

7. Resolution R7-2022-0044 Riverside County Department of Environmental Health Approval of Local Agency Management Program (LAMP)

Staff Contact: Reginald Tan

Staff provided information relevant to the Resolution to Approve Riverside County Department of Environmental Health Local Agency Management Program (LAMP). Staff described the resolution context and requirements. Comments were received from the public regarding the proposed LAMP. Staff recommended that the Board adopt the proposed resolution with corrections to document approval dates identified incorrectly as November 15, 2022 in the document.

Motion to adopt with correction to dates in two approval signature lines of the document: Jayne Powell moved, Peter Satin seconded, and a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Jayne Powell – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Beatriz Gonzalez – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Peter Satin – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye..

The motion was carried unanimously to adopt Order R7-2022-0044 as presented with corrections noted.

Workshop Item

(No action on items 8-13)

8. Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board Strategic Plan for 2023, Paula Rasmussen

This workshop was held to discuss and solicit input on a proposed Strategic Plan. This is an informational item; no actions were taken for this item.

Information Items

9. Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board Performance Update for 2022, Paula Rasmussen

This is an informational item; no actions were taken for this item. Paula Rasmussen introduced the item and the presenters. The following people made presentations and responded to Board Member questions:

- Paula Rasmussen, Executive Officer, Region 7
- Cassandra Owens, Assistant Executive Officer, Region 7
- Kai Dunn, Surface Water Protection Section Chief, Region 7
- Jose Cortez, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Region 7
- Emma McCorkle, Senior Environmental Scientist and Unit Chief, Region 7

10. Report from Executive Officer, Paula Rasmussen

Ms. Rasmussen updated the Board on regional new hires in staff and management. She informed the Board of the enforcement Settlement for the Mission Springs Water District on December 5, 2022 in an amount of \$175,000.00 that included a supplemental environmental project to mitigate adverse groundwater impacts from failing septic systems. A proposed underground tank storage tank closure for the United States Navy is posted for public comment until February 3, 2023. The project meets the threshold for low threat tank closure.

11. Comments from Board Members

Board member Wright wished all a happy holiday season.

12. Report from Chair, Jayne Powell

Chair Powell reported that there was a Chair's call on December 8, 2022 with the topic of water rights. The call included information and training on water rights. The PowerPoint will be made available and will be forwarded to the members of the Board. She suggested a future workshop or presentation on the issue of water rights and the State Board's plan to streamline the management of correlated data by developing technology to track existing water rights. Chair Powell reminded the members of the Board to complete their ethics training before the end of the year.

Closed Session

13. Closed Session

There was no closed session held.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Next Board Meeting:

January 10, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Palm Desert Regional Water Boards Office