



**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023
IMPERIAL VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAIN LECTURE HALL**

Copies of the resolutions and water quality/water rights orders can be obtained by calling (916) 341-5600 or downloading from our website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/.

The video of the Board Meeting is available to view on our website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/video.shtml

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joaquin Esquivel called the meeting to order on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 12:15 p.m. with both a physical meeting location, remote viewing location, and remote location.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel; Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo; Member Sean Maguire; Member Laurel Firestone; Member Nichole Morgan

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Eileen Sobeck, Executive Director
Michael Lauffer, Chief Counsel
Jonathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director
Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
Marji Arjil, Assistant Clerk to the Board
Meredith Thompson, Staff Services Manager

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Instructions were given in regard to participating in the Remote Meeting.*
- *The Board meeting is being webcasted and recorded.*

BOARD MEETING

Public comments on agenda items will be limited to 5 minutes or otherwise at the discretion of the Board Chair

WATER RIGHTS

3. Annual Public Workshop on the Status of Phase 1 of the Salton Sea Management Program.

(Staff Presentation) *Staff Presenting: Stephanie Holstege*

- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Staff Report 2023](#)
- Written Comments (due by 5:00 p.m. on May 2, 2023)

**Item 3 was taken out of order and heard before Public Forum and Items 1 and 2.
No Action Taken**

Opening Remarks

*Chairman Thomas Torte, Jr., Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Secretary Wade Crowfoot, California Natural Resources Agency*

Salton Sea Management Program Phase 1 Update

*Samantha Arthur, California Natural Resources Agency
Mario Llanos, California Natural Resources Agency
Vivien Maisonneuve, Department of Water Resources
Miguel Hernandez, California Natural Resources Agency
James Newcomb, Department of Water Resources*

Panel 1- Hydrology and the Colorado River Drought

*Michael Cohen, Pacific Institute
Jacki Gould, Bureau of Reclamation
Christopher Harris, Colorado River Board
Tina Shields, Imperial Irrigation District*

Panel 2- Habitat and Wildlife

*Charley Land, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Dan Orr, Audubon California
Paisley Ramstead, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Raz Shafique-Sabir, Sonny Bono National Wildlife Refuge*

Overview of Monitoring Implementation Plan

Ramona Swenson, Environmental Science Associates

Commenters

*Kim Floyd, General Public
Erin Woolley, Sierra Club California
Lillian Garcia, United for Justice Inc.
Tom Sephton, The EcoMedia Compass
Jasmyn Phillips, General Public
Kerry Morrison, The EcoMedia Compass
Michael Cohen, Pacific Institute
Lionel Mares, General Public
Maria Nava-Froelich, Mayor of the City of Calipatria
Stephanie C Martin, Quantum Consultations
Sandra Ramirez, Coachella Valley Parents*

Art Gertz, General Public
José Luis Fuentes, Rostros y Corazón
Chris Cockroft, General Public

PUBLIC FORUM

(Approximately 30 minutes at the beginning of Board Meeting and any remaining speakers at the call of the Chair)

Any member of the public may address and ask questions of the Board relating to any matter within the State Water Resources Control Board's jurisdiction provided the matter is not on the agenda or pending before the State Water Board or any California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

No Action Taken

Commenters

None

The Board recessed at 5:14 p.m. until Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joaquin Esquivel called the meeting to order on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 5:05 p.m. with both a physical meeting location, remote viewing location, and remote location.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel; Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo (absent beginning at about 9:30p.m.); Member Sean Maguire; Member Laurel Firestone; Member Nichole Morgan

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Eileen Sobeck, Executive Director
Michael Lauffer, Chief Counsel
Jonathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director
Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
Marji Arjil, Assistant Clerk to the Board
Meredith Thompson, Staff Services Manager

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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BOARD BUSINESS

1. The Board will consider adoption of the May 2-3, 2023 Board Meeting minutes.

Motion: Board Member Maguire moved to adopt the proposed minutes.

Seconded by: Board Member Firestone

MOTION CARRIED: ([May 17, 2023](#))

Aye: Chair Esquivel
Vice Chair D'Adamo
Member Maguire
Member Firestone

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: Member Morgan

Item taken at the start of Day 2.

WATER RIGHTS

3. Annual Public Workshop on the Status of Phase 1 of the Salton Sea Management Program.

(Staff Presentation) *Staff Presenting: Stephanie Holstege*

- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Staff Report 2023](#)
- Written Comments (due by 5:00 p.m. on May 2, 2023)

Continuation of Day 1 Workshop. No Action Taken

Elected Official

Patricia Cooper, Riverside County/4th District Supervisor Perez

Overview of Community Needs Strategy

Sarah Friedman, Better World Group

Christian Rodriguez, Kounkuey Design Initiative

Daniela Flores, Imperial Valley Equity and Justice Coalition

Panel 3- Air Quality and Health

Jason Low, South Coast Air Quality Management District

Luis Olmedo, Comite Civico Del Valle

Jessica Humes, Imperial Irrigation District

Thomas Brinkerhoff, Imperial County Air Pollution Control District

Panel 4- Water Quality

Paula Rasmussen, Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

Ryan Sinclair, Loma Linda University

Timothy Lyons, University of California, Riverside

Panel 5- Community Voices and Projects

Aydee Palomino, Alianza Coachella Valley

Maria Nava-Froelich, Mayor of Calipatria and Community Member

Daniel Ramirez, Community Member and Scientist

Cruz Marquez, Community Member and Scientist

Ashley Havens, Community Member and Environmental Health Advocate

Commenters

Joan Speer, General Public

Jasmyn Phillips, General Public

Chris Cockroft, General Public

Adam Hersko-RonaTas, General Public

Lauren Bon, Metabolic Studio

Jamie Grace Davis, Metabolic Studio

José Luis Fuentes, Rostros y Corazón

Tom Sephton, The EcoMedia Compass

Agustin Martinez, Comite Civico del Valle

Stephanie Mariah, Comite Civico del Valle

Esther Guadalupe, General Public
Martin Kocher, General Public
Janira Figueroa, Community Member
Daniela Flores, Community Member
Isamay Pasillas, Comite Civico Del Valle
Aydee Palomino, Alianza Coachella Valley
Elifonso Nava, Community Advocate

Recap of Long-Range Plan

James Newcomb, Department of Water Resources

Feasibility Study Process

Patrick O'Dowd, Salton Sea Authority
Susie Ming, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

PUBLIC FORUM

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No Action Taken

Commenters

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

2. Board Member Reports.

Board Member Reports were postponed to the next meeting. No Action Taken

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

Unless otherwise specified, submittal of written comments **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on May 11, 2023 and will not be accepted after that time.**

Submittal of electronic PowerPoint presentations **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on May 11, 2023 and will not be accepted after that time.**

Submittals are to be sent via e-mail to the Clerk to the Board at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. Please indicate in the subject line, **05/16-17/2023 BOARD MEETING– ITEM # (fill in bolded subject from appropriate item)**. If you have questions about the agenda, contact the Clerk to the Board at (916) 341-5600.

If you would like to request a copy of public comments submitted on an agenda item, please send a request to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov, identifying the Board meeting date, and agenda item by name and number.

Agenda and items will be available electronically at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/index.shtml

* Items on the uncontested items calendar may be removed at the request of any Board member or person. If an item is removed from the uncontested items calendar, it will only be voted on at this meeting if the Board accepts the staff recommendation for the agenda item. Otherwise, the item will be continued to a subsequent board meeting to allow input by interested persons.

Video broadcast of meetings will be available at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>. An alternate live-stream broadcast will also be available at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/>

LANGUAGE SERVICES

For oral interpretation, written translation, or sign language services, please call (916) 341-5254 or e-mail: opp-languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov (at least 10 business days before the date of the Board meeting).

ACCESSIBILITY

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.