

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 17, 2016, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday, March 18, 2016, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Santa Barbara County Offices
Supervisors' Board Hearing Room – 4th Floor
105 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara

Thursday, March 17, 2016, 8:30 a.m.

BOARD BUSINESS

1. Roll Call Tammie Olson, Clerk to the Board

Water Board Members

Present: Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, and Member Young

Absent: Member Johnston

2. Introductions, Staff Recognition, and Awards Lisa McCann, Interim Executive Officer

Interim Executive Officer Lisa McCann introduced Jane Gray, new Board member; Jessica Jahr, Staff Counsel; Michael Thomas, Assistant Executive Officer; and Tammie Olson, Clerk to the Board.

Mr. Michael McKee, PG, CHG, Engineering Geologist, and Mr. Nicholas Smaira, Engineering Geologist, were introduced as new staff members, part of the Active Oil Field Regulatory Program.

Ms. McCann gave a memorial slide presentation for Darcy Lynn Aston, honoring her life and accomplishments.

3. Approval of the January 28, 2016, Board meeting minutes

Motion: Vice Chair Hunter moved to approve the minutes of January 28, 2016.

Seconded by: Member Delgado

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Young

DR. JEAN-PIERRE WOLFF, CHAIR | LISA HOROWITZ McCANN, INTERIM EXECUTIVE OFFICER

895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast

Nay:

Absent: Member Johnston

Abstain:

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

4. Report by Regional Board Members

- Board Member Gray:
 - Attended an Econ Alliance meeting last month in Santa Maria with Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties.
- Vice-Chair Hunter:
 - Attended Growing Possibilities Agriculture Forum on February 5, 2016 in Santa Maria. The keynote speaker was State Board member Steve Moore.
- Chair Wolff:
 - February 1, 2016, attended the Chair call with the regional board chairs and Ms. McCann. They worked on the 2016-2017 budgets.
 - February 3, 2016, San Luis Obispo County Water Resources Advisory Council meeting.
 - February 4, 2016, agricultural tour with State Board member Steve Moore.
 - February 4, 2016 p.m., Central Coast Water Board meeting in San Luis Obispo regarding the TCE in private wells on Buckley Road. Several staff members were also present.
 - February 5, 2016, Santa Maria agricultural forum.
 - February 6, 2016, Los Osos Valley Climate Ready grant program tour.
 - March 7, 2016, environmental justice tour in Salinas with Monica Hunter and other State Board members.
 - March 11, 2016, meeting with California Men's Colony and Cal Poly regarding recycled water and how they can work together.
 - March 11, 2016, Senator Monning's office regarding different water topics.
 - March 14, 2016, County of San Luis Obispo public works regarding Sustainable Groundwater Management Act implementation.
- Member Young, Member Delgado, and Member Cervantez:
 - Nothing to report

5. Report by State Water Resources Control Board Liaison [Steven Moore 916/341-5624]
Steven Moore was not present at the meeting and no report was given.

6. Intentionally left blank

Uncontested Items

7. Items on the uncontested items calendar are expected to be routine and noncontroversial. Recommended action will be taken without discussion. Items may be removed at the request of any board member or person, and if removed, will be taken up during the meeting at a time specified by the Chair. 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. Item number 8 is uncontested.

8. Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2013-0020 for Santa Lucia Community Services District, Monterey County
[Tom Kukol, 805/549-3689, tom.kukol@waterboards.ca.gov]

Motion: Member Delgado moved to approve the uncontested item.
Seconded by: Member Cervantez
Roll Call Vote:
Aye: Chair Wolff, Vice Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Young
Nay:
Absent: Member Johnston
Abstain:
MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

9. Left Blank

Discussion/Informational Items

10. Active Oil Field Regulatory Program: A Historical Retrospective and New Paradigm
[Aaron Katona 805/542-4649, aaron.katona@waterboards.ca.gov; Matt Keeling, 805-549-3685, matt.keeling@waterboards.ca.gov; John Robertson, 805-542-4630, john.robertson@waterboards.ca.gov]

Central Coast Water Board staff gave a brief history and review of oil production in California and the Central Coast Region.

Board members asked for clarification on specific issues and technical aspects of the presentation, more specific details of what staff are doing currently, and plans for the future.

Public Comments:

- John Borkovich, Supervising Engineering Geologist, State Water Board
- Steve Shimek
- Susan Whalen, Greka Oil and Gas

11. Item left blank

Public Forum

12. Public forum will be heard directly after the lunch break, **not before 1:30 p.m.** Any person may address the Board regarding a matter within the Board's jurisdiction that is not related to an item on this meeting agenda. Comments will generally be limited to three (3) minutes, unless otherwise directed by the Chair. Any person wishing to make a longer presentation should contact the Executive Officer at least one week prior to the meeting. Comments regarding matters that are scheduled for a future meeting will be restricted.

Speakers:

- Kira Redmond, Executive Director, Santa Barbara Channel Keeper

- Steve Shimek, Otter Project and Monterey Coastkeeper

Administrative Items

13. Budget and Priorities

[Lisa Horowitz McCann, 805/549-3140, Lisa.McCann@waterboards.ca.gov]

Ms. McCann provided a brief review of the current budget and priorities, the status and content of the collaborative process in which the Board Chairs are currently engaged, the annual timeline for the budget process and requests for new resources, and additional information for the Central Coast Water Board to consider to provide input on current budget and priorities, and to contribute to future acquisition and distribution of new resources.

Board members asked a few questions for clarification and generally concurred with staff's recommendation for the Central Coast Water Board members to provide input in the following ways/forums:

- The budget and priorities agenda items and discussions during at least two Central Coast Water Board meetings:
 - October 2016, to review performance and progress to adjust priorities, programs, projects as appropriate based on the review
 - January 2017, to review priorities and plan for the following Fiscal Year 2018-2019
- October 2017 WQCC coordinating meetings and workshops to prepare for the next budget process that includes all the Regional Water Board and State Water Board Chairs and Executive Officers.

14. Executive Officer's Report

[Lisa McCann, Interim Executive Officer 805/549-3140, Lisa.McCann@waterboards.ca.gov]

Ms. McCann updated the Board and answered questions regarding the report.

Closed Session

15. The Board may meet in closed session as authorized by Government Code section 11126.
See Item 22

Friday, March 18, 2016, 8:30 a.m.

BOARD BUSINESS

16. Roll Call

Tammie Olson, Clerk to the Board

Water Board Members

Present: Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Cervantez, Member Delgado, Member Gray, and Member Young

Absent: Member Johnston

Public Forum

17. Any person may address the Board regarding a matter within the Board's jurisdiction that is not related to an item on this meeting agenda. Comments will generally be limited to three (3) minutes, unless otherwise directed by the Chair. Any person wishing to make a longer presentation should contact the Executive Officer at least one week prior to the meeting. Comments regarding matters that are scheduled for a future meeting will be restricted.

- Steve Shimek, Otter Project, Monterey Coastkeeper
- Kirk Schmidt, Executive Director, Central Coast Water Quality Preservation, Inc.

Discussion/Informational Items

18. Environmental Justice Update
[Angela Schroeter, 805/542-4644, Angela.Schroeter@waterboards.ca.gov]

Central Coast Water Board Senior Engineering Geologist Angela Schroeter summarized environmental justice activities in the Central Coast region, including the recent environmental justice (EJ) tour organized by Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW). The EJ tour was held on March 7, 2016, in Monterey County and attended by both State and Regional Board members. Ms. Schroeter also informed the Board of the two EJ resolutions recently adopted by the State Board which establish the human right to water as a core value (Resolution No. 2016-0010) and also direct State Board staff to develop proposed beneficial uses pertaining to tribal traditional and cultural, tribal subsistence fishing, and subsistence fishing (Resolution No. 2016-0011).

Mr. Vicente Lara, EJCW Central Coast Program Coordinator, provided an overview of the March 7, 2016 EJ tour and presented the documentary "Thirsty for Justice," which shares stories about people and communities who lack access to safe and affordable water for their basic needs. EJCW requested that the Board direct staff to draft a regional human right to water resolution for Board consideration, including a strategic planning process that identifies specific steps that the Water Board will take to implement the human right to water. EJCW also discussed with the Board that additional funding may be needed as part of the Safe Drinking Water Grant Program to maintain interim safe drinking water while disadvantaged communities are working toward a long term solution. Board members discussed the status of the San Jerardo community water system. EJCW also requested that the Board members continue to have a dialogue regarding the question of who should be responsible for paying for the solutions to the drinking water problems—affected individuals and communities, the public taxpayers, or the polluter.

The Board indicated their support of a regional human right to water resolution and requested that staff work to develop a draft for Board consideration, including specific steps with timeframes that the Board will take to implement the human right to water. Board members indicated their support of continuing grant assistance to maintain interim safe drinking water for disadvantaged communities. Board members also requested that staff evaluate information on the drinking water needs of disadvantaged communities and what is needed to identify and fill information gaps.

Speakers:

- Gita Kapahi, Director, Office of Public Participation, State Water Resources Control Board
- Kay Mercer, KMI and representing Grower-Shipper Association of Central California

19. Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program - Groundwater Monitoring Data Summary
[Angela Schroeter, 805/542-4644, Angela.Schroeter@waterboards.ca.gov]

Central Coast Water Board Senior Engineering Geologist Angela Schroeter presented an overview of the individual and cooperative groundwater monitoring requirements of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP), information regarding grower compliance with the Agricultural Order and associated monitoring and reporting programs (MRPs), and a summary of program accomplishments. In addition, Ms. Schroeter also discussed the groundwater monitoring results, which continue to document severe nitrate impacts to groundwater basins in agricultural areas, especially impacts to private domestic drinking water wells.

Board members requested that staff expand the analysis of the groundwater data to evaluate if there are trends related to local geography (e.g., subwatershed/groundwater subbasin) or ranch/farm characteristics (e.g., crop type, nitrogen application). Board members also requested that staff continue to follow up with growers who have failed to comply with individual groundwater monitoring and reporting requirements.

Speakers:

- Clair Wineman, Grower-Shipper Association of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties
- Randy Smaren, Central Coast Groundwater Coalition
- Steve Shimek, Otter Project and Monterey Coastkeeper
- Kay Mercer, KMI and representing Grower-Shipper Association of Central California

20. Total Nitrogen Applied Data Summary
[Chris Rose 805/542-4770, chris.rose@waterboards.ca.gov]

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Manager Chris Rose gave a presentation summarizing total nitrogen applied information submitted by growers in 2014 and 2015. Mr. Rose's presentation included a potential strategy of how Water Board staff might use the total nitrogen applied report information to follow up with individual growers. Board members Young, Delgado, and Wolff asked questions or had comments about the presentation.

Speakers:

- George Adam, grower
- Kay Mercer, on behalf of Grower-Shipper Association of Central California: Ms. Mercer said she would forward her comments to the board in writing.
- Kirk Schmidt, Central Coast Water Quality Preservation, Inc.
- Claire Wineman, Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties
- Steve Shimek, The Otter Project and Monterey Coastkeeper

21. Overview of Nitrate Treatment Technologies for Drinking Water
[Eugene Leung, State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water, 510/620-3460 Eugene.Leung@waterboards.ca.gov]

Division of Drinking Water engineer Eugene Leung presented an informational item to update the Central Coast Water Board regarding nitrate treatment technologies for drinking

water, including information on the nitrate maximum contaminant level, ion exchange treatment, biological treatment, reverse osmosis, and point of use (POU) methods as an interim solution. Mr. Leung indicated that there is no one preferred solution and that a combination of different treatment technologies and regionalization and consolidation will be needed to solve the nitrate problem. In addition, Mr. Leung also discussed that nitrate treatment technologies are complex to operate, and technical, managerial and financial capacities and operation and maintenance costs and affordability remain as the major challenges for water systems. Interim solutions are needed since long-term solutions will require significant planning and coordination.

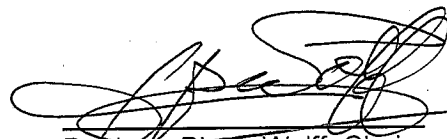
Speakers:

- Steve Shimek, Otter Project and Monterey Coastkeeper
- George Adam, Grower
- John Wolf

22. Closed Session – See agenda

The Board met for a final closed session on Friday afternoon. Chair Wolff announced that John M. Robertson is the new Executive Officer effective immediately.

Chair Wolff adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:41 p.m.



Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff, Chair

