

**Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board**

**CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 7, 2017, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Friday, December 8, 2017, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Central Coast Water Board Offices  
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101  
San Luis Obispo**

**Thursday, December 7, 2017, 9:00 a.m.**

Chair Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff called the meeting to order on Thursday, December 7, 2017, at 9:08 a.m.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

1. Roll Call

[Tammie Olson, Clerk to the Board, 805/549-3140, [Tammie.Olson@Waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Tammie.Olson@Waterboards.ca.gov)]

**Water Board Members**

**Present:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Gray, Member Delgado, Member Johnston, and Member Young.

**Absent:** Member Cervantez

2. Introductions, Staff Recognition, and Awards

[John Robertson, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140, [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Executive Officer John Robertson introduced Jessica Jahr, legal counsel; Michael Thomas, assistant executive officer; Tammie Olson, clerk to the Board; and section managers Harvey Packard, Thea Tryon, and Angela Schroeter.

Announcements:

Thea Tryon introduced Greg Bishop, the new Site Cleanup Program manager. Together they presented superior accomplishment awards to Sarah Hinkle and Dean Thomas.

Sheila Soderberg, NPDS program manager, announced that student interns Jessica Duffy and Chis Mohs are both graduating from Cal Poly this week.

Harvey Packard presented Chris Adair with a resolution on his retirement. Mary Hamilton presented Karen Worchester with a resolution for her retirement. Both were thanked by the Board and Mr. Robertson for their service to the organization. The Board voted unanimously to approve the resolutions. Mr. Robertson also noted that Rich Chandler had retired.

Phil Hammer introduced new staff members Mark Cassady and Daniel Berget. Harvey Packard introduced new staff member James Bishop.

3. Approval of September 21-22, 2017 Board Meeting minutes

**Motion:** Vice-Chair Hunter  
**Seconded by:** Member Delgado  
**Roll Call Vote:**  
**Aye:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Johnston, and Member Young  
**Nay:** None  
**Absent:** Member Cervantez  
**Abstain**  
**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

4. Report by Regional Board Members

- Chair Wolff
  - Acknowledged that the Governor has reappointed Mr. Young and Mayor Delgado for another four years, and attended the following meetings:
  - October 23, 2017, met with a delegation from the European Union and gave a presentation on behalf of the State Water Board
  - October 24, 2017, met with Secretary Karen Ross and Jenny Lester Moffitt of California Department of Food and Agriculture
  - October 24, 2017, met with Gordon Burns of CAL EPA
  - October 25-26, 2017, attended Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC), Sacramento
    - Gave presentation with Executive Officer Robertson on behalf of Central Coast Water Board regarding information technology strategies
    - Gave a presentation with Jenny Lester Moffitt on healthy soils
  - October 27, 2017, Gave a class at Cal Poly as part of Environmental Law 360
  - September 29, 2017, hosted pump efficiency program for Cal Poly
  - November 1, 2017, attended San Luis Obispo County Water Resources Advisory Committee
- Vice-Chair Hunter
  - Gave a brief environmental justice (EJ) report. She was unable to attend the EJ summit and thanked Member Gray for going
  - October 25-26, 2017, attended the WQCC in Sacramento
- Member Delgado
  - October 25-26, 2017, attended the WQCC in Sacramento
- Member Gray
  - December 5, 2017, completed her state training for harassment and discrimination
  - October 25-26, 2017, attended WQCC in Sacramento

- November 15, 2017, Environmental justice summit in Sacramento
  - November 30, 2017, gave a storm water presentation to the Santa Barbara/Ventura Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers
  - Member Johnston
    - November 15, 2017, completed his state training for harassment and discrimination
  - Member Young
    - October 19, 2017, attended State Bar Environmental Law Annual Conference in Yosemite, 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Porter Cologne
    - October 25-26, 2017, attended the WQCC in Sacramento
    - November 14, 2017, met with Parry Klassen
    - November 15, 2017, completed his state training for harassment and discrimination
5. Report by State Water Resources Control Board Liaison [Dorene D'Adamo, 916/641-5609]

Mr. Robertson announced that DeeDee D'Adamo, State Water Board liaison, would not be attending the meeting.

#### Uncontested Items

6. Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements and Reissuance of NPDES Permit for City of Morro Bay and Cayucos Wastewater Treatment Plant, San Luis Obispo County, Order No. R3-2017-0050  
[Katie Disimone, 805/542-4638, [katie.disimone@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:katie.disimone@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Chair Wolff asked staff to comment on Morro Bay's progress on building a new wastewater treatment plant. Rob Livick of city staff provided an update.

7. ~~Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements and Reissuance of NPDES Permit for City of Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Plant, Santa Cruz County, Order No. R3-2017-0030~~  
[Peter von Langen, 805/549-3688, [Peter.vonLangen@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Peter.vonLangen@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Chair Wolff asked staff to provide an update on recycled water projects in Santa Cruz. Harvey Packard discussed a project proposed by Soquel Creek Water District.

8. Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements and Reissuance of NPDES Permit for Low Threat Discharges, Regionwide, Order No. R3-2017-0042  
[Jessica Duffey, 805/542-4787, [jessica.duffey@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jessica.duffey@waterboards.ca.gov)]
9. Revision of Waste Discharge Requirements and Reissuance of NPDES Permit for Chevron Estero Marine Terminal, San Luis Obispo County, Order No. R3-2017-0049  
[Chris Mohs, 805/549-3880, [chris.mohs@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:chris.mohs@waterboards.ca.gov)]

10. Approval of Dynegy Morro Bay Power Plant Pipeline Pigging Project – Treated Water Spray Field Disposal per Resolution No. R3-2014-0041, General Waiver for Specific Types of Discharges  
[Jon Rokke, 805/549-3892, [jon.rokke@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jon.rokke@waterboards.ca.gov)]

**Motion:** Vice-Chair Hunter  
**Seconded by:** Member Delgado

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Aye:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Johnston, and Member Young

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Member Cervantez

**Abstain**

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

**Waste Discharge Requirements**

11. Approval of Cambria Community Services District's Blending of Title 27 Surface Impoundment Wastewater with Treated Municipal Effluent per Resolution No. R3-2014-0041, General Waiver for Specific Types of Discharges  
[Jon Rokke, 805/549-3892, [jon.rokke@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jon.rokke@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Water Board staff engineer Jon Rokke provided an overview of the proposed project with a Powerpoint presentation.

The Water Board asked several clarifying questions of staff, which Mr. Rokke addressed. The Board was particularly concerned about how the district would determine when to cease pumping from the impoundment due to low water levels or high pollutant concentrations. The Board suggested asking the district to clarify in its work plan before approval by Water Board Executive Officer. Jerry Gruber, Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) district manager, agreed to the suggestion. Chair Wolff also asked several clarifying questions of staff regarding compliance with previous problems or permit violations identified by the Board.

**Speakers:**

- Christine Heinrich
- Ted Keith
- Leslie Richards
- Tim Carmel, CCSD counsel
- Amanda Rice, president, CCSD board of directors
- Tina Dickason
- Robert Gressens, CCSD district engineer,

**Motion:** Vice-Chair Hunter

**Seconded by:** Member Gray

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Aye:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Johnston, and Member Young

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Member Cervantez

**Abstain**

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

**Watershed Management and Planning Items**

12. 2017 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin, Resolution No. R3-2017-0119  
[Steve Saiz, 805/549-3879, [Steve.Saiz@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Steve.Saiz@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Executive Officer John Robertson introduced the meeting item. Central Coast Water Board Environmental Scientist Steve Saiz gave a PowerPoint presentation of the 2017 Triennial Review of the Basin Plan and the recommended priority list of issues to be evaluated as potential future Basin Plan amendments. Mr. Saiz provided a brief overview of the Basin Plan, the statutory requirements for conducting the Triennial Review, and the evaluation methodology used during the 2017 Triennial Review. Mr. Saiz described the public outreach, review process, and summarized the public comment letters received during the comment period.

Three speakers presented public comments on this item, addressing topics such as future Basin Plan beneficial uses and prohibitions, dryland farming, stream maintenance, and groundwater recharge.

Board members discussed the number of priority issues versus staff workload. Board Member Johnston stated that it is awkward to incorporate climate change into individual permits and it is better to have direction in the Basin Plan for climate change adaptation. Chair Wolff noted the Board's vision language might need to be updated since we know more now compared to ten years ago.

**Speakers:**

- Darlene Din
- Abby Taylor-Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties
- Kay Mercer, KMI

<b>Motion:</b>	Member Johnston
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Member Delgado
<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	
<b>Aye:</b>	Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Johnston, and Member Young
<b>Nay:</b>	None
<b>Absent:</b>	Member Cervantez
<b>Abstain</b>	
<b>MOTION CARRIED:</b>	<b>6-0</b>

**Public Forum**

13. Public forum:

Speakers:

- Richard Sadowski, Morro Bay
- Darlene Din, Salinas River Coalition
- Heather Lukacs, Environmental Justice Coalition for water

Friday, December 8, 2017, 9:00 a.m.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

14. Roll Call / Introductions

[Tammie Olson, Clerk to the Board, 805/549-3140, [Tammie.Olson@Waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Tammie.Olson@Waterboards.ca.gov)]

**Water Board Members**

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

**Absent:** none

**Public Forum**

15. Public forum:

Speakers:

- Herman Garcia, Coastal Habitat Environment Restoration
- Nancy Isakson, SVA Stewardship Group
- Pamela Silkwood, Attorney

**Discussion/Informational Items**

16. Fertilizer Value of Nitrogen in Groundwater

[Dr. Michael Cahn, UC Extension, Chris Rose, 805/542-4770, [Chris.rose@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Chris.rose@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Dr. Michael Cahn of UC Cooperative Extension provided a presentation summarizing his research on the bioavailability of nitrogen from well water. Dr. Cahn shared that a crop's nitrogen efficiency from well water containing nitrogen is at least as high, if not higher, to that of synthetic fertilizer nitrogen. However, there are caveats, such as the simplest approach to using well water nitrogen in crop production is to account for the water nitrogen after the crop is established. Additionally, soil nitrogen should be accounted for when making fertilizer budget decisions.

Board members dialogued with Dr. Cahn, who confirmed for board members that nitrogen in well water is bioavailable for crop production.

Speakers:

- Kay Mercer, KMI
- Claire Wineman, president, Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties
- Kirk Schmidt, CCWQP

17. Nutrient Removal Using Wood-Chip Bioreactor

[Harvey Packard, 805/542-4639, [Harvey.packard@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Harvey.packard@waterboards.ca.gov)]

Ms. Shanon Sweeney, water resources manager for the City of Santa Maria (City), provided a presentation on a wood-chip bioreactor installed by the City at Jim May Park. The City

utilized grant funding from Proposition 84-Irrigation and Nutrient Management Grant for the project. The bioreactor is designed to remove nitrogen from irrigated agricultural surface water discharges flowing from the Bradley Creek and Bradley Channel watersheds. One of the goals of the project is to reduce nitrogen loading to the groundwater basin underlying the City; the City uses groundwater as a drinking water source. Ms. Sweeney shared lessons learned in the bioreactor development, such as which type of wood-chips remove the most nitrogen. Ms. Sweeney also shared that the wood-chip bioreactor was designed for a specific surface water flow, which was based on historic flows. However, actual flow is less than that designed for, perhaps because growers upstream of the site have increased water-use efficiency. Ms. Sweeney and Water Board staff are working together to develop solutions to the flow issue.

Speakers:

- Kay Mercer, KMI

### Administrative Items

18. Executive Officer's Report

[John Robertson, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140, [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov)]

John Robertson discussed the Executive Officer's Report and answered questions.

Speakers:

- Parry Klassen, executive director, CURES
- Moises Moreno-Rivera, central coast program coordinator, Environmental Justice Coalition for Water

19. Board Calendar 2017 – May 10-11, 2018

[John Robertson, Executive Officer, 805/549-3140, [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov)]

**Motion:** Vice-Chair Hunter

**Seconded by:** Member Delgado

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Aye:** Chair Wolff, Vice-Chair Hunter, Member Delgado, Member Gray, Member Johnston, and Member Young

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Member Cervantez

**Abstain**

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

Chair Wolff adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:00 p.m.



Dr. Jean-Pierre Wolff, Chair

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

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