



Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

July 9, 2024, 9:03 am to 12:37 am

In-Person and Zoom Video/Teleconference Meeting

Archived audio and video webcasts of Board meetings are available at the following link: <u>https://cal-span.org/static/meetings-RWQCB-COLO.php</u>

Introductory Matters

1. Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Satin at 9:03 am on July 9, 2024.

Board Chair Peter Satin announced that Board Member Ed Muzik was requesting to participate remotely in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act, Government Code section 11123.2, which requires a quorum of Board Members to be physically present at the meeting location.

The Board Clerk was directed to conduct a roll call of Board Members physically present at the meeting. Peter Satin, Vivian Perez, Nancy Wright and Azucena Beltran-Serrano were physically present at the meeting location. Beatriz Gonzalez was absent.

The Board Chair determined that a quorum was physically present at the meeting location, and that Ed Muzik was permitted to participate remotely in the meeting via Zoom.

Chair Satin introduced and welcomed new the Board Member, Azucena Beltran-Serrano.

State and Regional Water Board Staff Present

Paula Rasmussen, Cassandra Owens, David Lancaster, Mary Castaneda, CJ Jasieniecki, Dan Mefford, Kai Dunn, Jose Cortez, Emma McCorkle, Logan Raub, Angela Garcia, Michael Perez, Ryan Culhane, Samantha Shapiro, and Alyssa Duro. Laurel Firestone attended remotely via Zoom.

Public Attendance

Lillian Garcia, United For Justice, Inc.

PETER SATIN, CHAIR | PAULA RASMUSSEN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Remote Public Attendance

Marlee Nelson, Court Reporter Marc Gutierrez, Interpreter Michael Soler, Interpreter

2. Public Forum

There were no Public Speakers.

3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the June 11, 2024, Board meeting.

Motion to approve Item 3: Nancy Wright moved, Vivian Perez seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Peter Satin – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye, Azucena Beltran-Serrano- Abstain.

The motion was passed to approve the minutes of June 11, 2024.

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, and strategies for statewide and regional activities.

Contested Calendar of Items for Adoption

(Items 5 - 6)

5. Waste Discharge Requirements Order R7-2024-XXXX and Monitoring and Reporting Program (NPDES No. CAG997001) Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters General Order, Multiple Counties

Staff Contact: Logan Raub, Senior Environmental Scientist

The Chair administered the Oath for those intending to speak.

Staff gave a brief presentation, providing background information about low threat discharges, the Tentative Order, and public outreach. Staff concluded with a recommendation to adopt the Tentative Order.

Board Chair Satin inquired about the amount of people who are currently enrolled under the current low threat Order. Staff responded that there were three active and two historical enrollees. Chair Satin also asked about enhanced outreach to disadvantaged, and tribal communities. Staff responded that the enhanced outreach involved providing notices to these communities and making them aware of our permitting activities.

Board Member Perez asked for further clarification about enhanced outreach. Staff responded that the enhanced outreach involved sending out a Public Notice via electronic mail.

Board Member Wright requested to be included on future outreach emails. Staff agreed to include the Board in future emails pertaining to outreach.

Motion to approve Item 5: Vivian Perez moved, Nancy Wright seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Peter Satin – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye, Azucena Beltran-Serrano- Aye.

The motion was passed to adopt Contested Order Item 5 as presented.

6. Resolution R7-2024-XXXX for Total Maximum Daily Loads for Pyrethroid Pesticides in the Alamo and New Rivers, Imperial County

Staff Contact: Emma McCorkle, Senior Environmental Scientist

Staff gave a presentation on the Total Maximum Daily Loads for Pyrethroid Pesticides in the Alamo and New Rivers. The presentation provided an overview of the project area, allocations, scientific peer review process, and public comments. There were no questions or comments from the Board or the public.

Motion to approve Item 6: Ed Muzik moved, Vivian Perez seconded, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Peter Satin – Aye, Vivian Perez – Aye, Ed Muzik – Aye, Nancy Wright – Aye, Azucena Beltran-Serrano- Aye.

The motion was passed to approve Contested Resolution Item 6 as presented.

Informational Items

(No Actions on Items 7 - 10)

7. Performance Updates, Regional Board Management

Regional Board management provided an update on the status of program activities, metrics, and demonstrated how the programs are integrating objectives of the strategic plan. The programs which were discussed are NPDES, Water Quality Standards, Land Disposal, Cleanup, and Enforcement. This update is anticipated to be provided semi-annually.

Board member Wright acknowledged and thanked staff for their hard work and accomplishments, and requested the Board receive copies of the public notices mentioned in the presentation.

Chair Satin asked if the effort required for the WDRs vs Dredge and Fill orders is similar or different due to state regulations. He also inquired if the Waters of the United States determination would contribute to the anticipated increases in WDRs. Staff responded that there is a longer process for the WDRs, unlike the 401s which can be approved by the Executive Officer. Additionally, David Lancaster, Legal Counsel explained the process for jurisdictional waters of the US. The Chair also asked about the decreased amount of cyanide mentioned at the Seeley Plant located in Imperial County regarding where is the septage going. Staff responded that it goes to a POTW in Imperial County that accepts septage waste and has an adequate treatment process to remove the cyanide.

Chair Satin asked about adopted TMDLs and pollutant and water body combinations targets for this Fiscal Year. Staff responded that with the TMDL adopted today, they have met half of the targets and clarified how the targets are listed in the report mentioned.

Additionally, he asked about the delay in the UST remediation assessment process. Staff explained the investigation process pertaining to site cleanups and the extent of impacted soil. Delays are due to long-term groundwater monitoring to achieve cleanup as indicated in the low threat closure policy, and in some cases finding alternatives. The Chair requested staff provide periodic updates on underground storage tanks and site remediation.

Chair Satin asked for some clarity about the SEPs program, and the staff's recommendation to not require a pre-submission of a SEP for a list, and outreach activities for possible funding information for cities in need of a SEP. Cassandra Owens, AEO, explained the proposal for the SEP process that includes having settlement conversations during the settlement negotiations to potentially assist the affected watershed or waterbody. She mentioned the outreach process the Regional Board staff have previously done to assist with implementation of a system to locate SEPs. He commended staff for integrating changes that will make the SEP program work effectively.

Lastly, Chair Satin thanked staff for an excellent year, work completed, and for exceeding some of the set goals.

8. Report from Executive Officer, Paula Rasmussen

The Executive Officer, Paula Rasmussen, provided an update on activities and plans for the region. She also introduced and welcomed new staff Alyssa Duro, Environmental Scientist in the NPDES Unit.

9. Comments from Board Members

There were no Board member comments.

10. Report from Board Chair, Peter Satin

There was no report from the Chair.

Closed Session

11. Closed Session

A closed session was held from 11:21 am to 12:37 pm. The Board met in closed session to discuss the appointment, employment and/or evaluation of performance of the Executive Officer. (Gov. Code, § 11126, subd. (a)(1).)

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:37 pm.

Next Board Meeting: September 10, 2024 at 9:00 am