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## Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

### Meeting Minutes

#### In-person/Hybrid Meeting

#### Council Chambers

City of Paramount

16400 Colorado Ave.

Paramount, CA 90723

October 13, 2022

Acting Chair Stahl welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked Mayor Velma Cuellar Stallings and Paramount City Council members for allowing the Board to use the City's council chambers.

Acting Chair Stahl called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

He explained the process for participation in the virtual meeting, noting that for those who only want to listen or watch the meeting, the Board's customary webcast was available, and that the Board has Spanish translation services available through the Zoom platform for those who want to listen or participate in the meeting in Spanish. He provided instructions on how to join the Zoom meeting for those wishing to provide comments on an agenda item, and he announced that the meeting was being recorded.

Leticia Reyna, one of the Spanish translators, provided instructions on how to participate in the meeting in Spanish.

#### ***Item 1 – Roll Call***

**Board Members Present:** Norma Camacho, Marissa Christiansen, Michael Méndez, Irma Muñoz, David Nahai, and James Stahl

**Note:** Marissa Christiansen departed early at 2:43 after closed session.

**Staff Present:** Renee Purdy, Jenny Newman, Hugh Marley, Amber Bolanos, Helen Rowe, Adriana Nuñez, Sophie Froelich, Tamarin Austin, Gerardo Rabelo, Alfred Duran, Susana Lagudis, LB Nye, Russ Colby, Arthur Heath, Jeong-Hee Lim, Bronwyn Kelly, Steven Webb, Adriana Vallejo, Yue Rong, Jillian Ly, Brian Anderson, Celine Gallon, Xiaofei Cui, and Thanhloan Nguyen

***Item 2 – Order of Agenda***

Executive Officer Renee Purdy recommended moving Item 12, the Harbors Toxics TMDL, before Item 11, the Hyperion permit renewal hearing, and noted that the Hyperion permit renewal hearing would begin in the early afternoon after the lunch break and closed session.

There were no objections to the recommendations.

***Item 3 – Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for the July 14, 2022 and August 11, 2022 Meetings***

MOTION: Board Member Nahai made a motion to approve the July 14, 2022 draft meeting minutes.

Seconded by: Board Member Camacho  
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen - Abstained  
Michael Méndez – Yea  
Irma Muñoz – Yea  
David Nahai – Yea  
James Stahl – Yea

MOTION: Board Member Christiansen made a motion to approve the August 11, 2022 draft meeting minutes.

Seconded by: Board Member Nahai  
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen - Yea  
Michael Méndez – Yea  
Irma Muñoz – Abstained  
David Nahai – Yea  
James Stahl – Yea

***Item 4 – Approval of Tentative 2023 Los Angeles Water Board Meeting Schedule***

MOTION: Board Member Camacho made a motion to approve the 2023 Los Angeles Water Board Meeting Schedule.

Seconded by: Board Member Muñoz  
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen - Yea

Michael Méndez – Yea  
Irma Muñoz – Yea  
David Nahai – Yea  
James Stahl – Yea

### ***Item 5 – Board Member Communications***

- a. Ex Parte Disclosures (Board Members identified any discussions they had requiring disclosure pursuant to Government Code section 11430.40.)

There were no ex parte disclosures reported by the Board members.

- b. Board Member Reports:

**Board Member Camacho** reported on August 24, 2022 she attended a Meet and Greet with Bruce Resnick and Ben Harris (Los Angeles Waterkeeper) and Annelisa Moe (Heal the Bay).

**Board Member Muñoz** reported on two telephone calls she received within the last month, one from Martha Guzman, the USEPA Region IX Regional Administrator and the other from the Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland. Both expressed interest in Board Member Muñoz's non-profit organization, Mujeres de la Tierra. On Monday, October 17, 2022, Board Member Muñoz will attend a meeting in Los Angeles with Regional Administrator Guzman and other members of the community.

**Acting Chair Stahl** reported on August 17, 2022 he attended the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) Governing Board meeting. He requested an update at a future board meeting from Marissa Caringella or another staff member on the 2023 activities and work plan for the SMBRC.

On October 4, 2022 he participated in the Water Boards' Chairs' meeting virtually; the focus of the meeting was the State budget passed by the State Legislature.

Acting Chair Stahl mentioned the upcoming WQCC meeting scheduled on October 27 & 28, 2022, in Sacramento for all state and regional board members.

**Board member Nahai** reported he received an invitation to participate in the United Nations Water Conference scheduled for March 2023.

### ***Item 6 – Appointment of a Committee to Nominate Regional Water Board Officers for the Remainder of 2022 and Calendar Year 2023***

Board Member Stahl announced Board Members Norma Camacho and Michael Méndez as the Nominating Committee, which he appointed in his position as Acting Chair, for the selection of the Chair and Vice Chair for the remainder of 2022 and for the Calendar Year 2023.

***Item 7 – Executive Officer’s Report***

The Executive Officer provided updates on the following items: (1) investigation into the source of benzene in two wells in Norwalk; (2) status of cleanup activities at the Garfield Express site in Lynwood, including planned community outreach; (3) three enforcement matters that were recently resolved; and (4) the Statewide Bacteria Summit held among the State and Regional Water Boards and CASQA member agencies, and the public workshop held in September 2022 to discuss approaches to indicator bacteria TMDLs in the region following the Board’s adoption of the Los Cerritos Channel, Alamitos Bay and Colorado Lagoon Bacteria TMDL earlier this year.

Acting Chair Stahl opened the floor for Board member comments and questions. Board members asked questions and the Executive Officer and Assistant Executive Officer, Hugh Marley, responded.

***Item 8 – Update from State Water Board Member Liaison, Laurel Firestone***

The State Water Board Liaison provided an update on the following items: (1) celebration of the 10-year anniversary of the Human Right to Water legislation; (2) the Governor’s Water Supply Strategy and related matters, including the status of urban water usage and conservation, and State Water Board actions and funding to support implementation of the Governor’s strategy; and (3) the Racial Equity Action Plan, including the upcoming State Water Board workshop.

Acting Chair Stahl opened the floor for comments and questions from the Board members. Board Member Firestone addressed Board member questions and comments.

***Item 9 – Public Forum******Speakers:***

- Chuck Carter, Channel Island Neighborhood Council
- Annelisa Moe, Heal the Bay

**Break: 10:40 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

***Item 10 – Contested Items***

Consideration of Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES Permit Renewal for Tesoro Logistics Operations, LLC, Marine Terminal 2

*Acting Chair Stahl administered the oath.*

***Speakers:***

- Ray Tahir, TECS Environmental

Board Member Nahai asked questions; Bronwyn Kelly, Industrial Permitting Unit Supervisor, responded.

MOTION: Board Member Camacho made a motion for approval of Item 10.

Seconded by: Board Member Muñoz

Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen - Yea  
Michael Méndez – Yea  
Irma Muñoz – Yea  
David Nahai – Yea  
James Stahl – Yea

***Item 12 – Basin Planning/TMDL***

Consideration of a proposed Basin Plan amendment to revise the Total Maximum Daily Load for Toxic Pollutants in Dominguez Channel and the Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Waters

Acting Chair Stahl read an opening statement.

Before the hearing began, Board Member Méndez made a statement. He disclosed that he lives near the Long Beach Harbor, but that will not bias or affect his decision-making on this matter.

Acting Chair Stahl opened the hearing.

**Staff Presentation:** Dr. LB Nye, Section Manager, Regional Programs Section and Céline Gallon, Supervisor, TMDL Unit

***Speakers:***

- Margaret Clark, City of Rosemead
- Dylan Porter, Port of Long Beach
- Annelisa Moe, Heal the Bay
- Maggie Gardner, LA Waterkeeper
- Ray Tahir, TECS Environmental
- Maria Depaz, LADWP
- Glen Kau, City of Norwalk

LB Nye and Celine Gallon responded to comments by all of the Board members.

Board Member Camacho directed staff to investigate the significance of transformers as a source of PCBs within the watershed in conjunction with MS4 permittees and private entities who own the transformers.

**MOTION:** Board Member Nahai made a motion to approve staff's recommendation with a revision to the final implementation deadline from 2040 to 2037.

Seconded by: Board Member Christiansen

Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen - Yea  
Michael Méndez – Yea

Irma Muñoz – Yea  
David Nahai – Yea  
James Stahl – Yea

**Lunch break/Closed Session: 1:30 p.m. – 2:43 p.m.**

***Item 13 – Closed Session***

*Legal counsel Sophie Froelich announced the Board was going into closed session to discuss Item 13h Government code, section 11126, subd. (e)(2)(A).*

*(The Board met in closed session from 2:00 p.m. to 2:43 p.m.)*

***Item 11 – Contested Items (Continued)***

Consideration of tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES Permit Renewal for the City of Los Angeles' Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant

Acting Chair Stahl read an opening statement. He mentioned the Los Angeles Regional Board will not vote on the permit today, October 13, 2022. Acting Chair Stahl stated notification will be given of the date and location of the subsequent Los Angeles Regional Board meeting.

He provided the order of presentation of the testimony at this hearing, Board staff, followed by the City of Los Angeles as the discharger, any other public agencies, other interested agencies and groups, and interested persons. He noted that the public comment period was being extended to November 14, 2022.

Beatrice Wong, the Public Hearing Officer for USEPA read an opening statement and opened the public hearing. She noted that the public comment period was being extended to November 14, 2022.

Sophie Froelich, Attorney, Office of Chief Counsel made a statement concerning the hearing.

*Acting Chair Stahl administered the oath.*

**Staff Presentation:** Steven Webb, Supervisor, Municipal Permitting Unit

**Speakers:**

- Abraham Razon, LASAN
- Annelisa Moe, Heal the Bay
- Maura Monagan, LA Waterkeeper

Acting Chair Stahl opened the floor for Board member questions and comments. Board members asked questions and made comments. Responses were provided by Steven Webb and Jeong-Hee Lim.

After public comments, Beatrice Wong made a closing statement.

*The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m. (For more detailed information on any matter at our meetings, you may contact Helen Rowe at (213) 576-6612 or email at: [Helen.Rowe@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Helen.Rowe@waterboards.ca.gov), and she will provide an electronic copy of the transcript or audio, if available.)*

***Written and submitted by Helen Rowe Board Clerk on: 11/14/2022***

***Signature on File: Helen Rowe***