

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 8, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Celeste Cantú called the meeting to order on May 8, 2024 at 9:03 a.m. in the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Hearing Room, 2375 Northside Drive, Room 108, San Diego, California 92108

ATTENDANCE

Board Members present:

Celeste Cantú, Board Chair; Betty H. Olson, Ph.D., Vice Chair; Megan Blair, Gary Strawn, and Yen Tu.

Board Members absent:

Stefanie Warren

Staff present:

David Gibson, Roger Mitchell, Chris Blank, Cailynn Smith, Vanessa Cacayan, Laurie Walsh, Heidi Fletcher, Brandi Outwin-Beals, Mahsa Izadmehr, Ben Neill, Cynthia Gorham. Melissa Liotta, Melissa Corona, Brian McDaniel. Nicholas White, Mireille Lecourtois, Jody Ebsen. Fisayo Osibodu. Brandon Bushnell, Jeremy Haas, Michelle Santillan, Sarah Mearon, Tino Gamboa, Vinty Siev, Dan Mefford, Jessica Taylor.

Staff remote attendance:

Kelly Dorsey, James Chhor, Vicente Rodriguez, Chiara Clemente, Kate Buckley, Deborah Woodward, Alan Monji, Abigail Pashina, Kimberly McMurray-Cathcart, Tom Alo, Tanya Clark, Wayne Chiu, Sean McClain.

Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board

Lindsey Harms, Nichole Morgan, State Water Resources Control Board (remote); Alex Sauerwein, Jennifer Fordyce (remote) Office of Chief Counsel; Daniel Newton (remote), Division of Drinking Water.

Public Attendance:

Present:

Carlos Quintero <i>Sweetwater Authority</i>	Patrick McDonough <i>San Diego Coastkeeper</i>
Valery Gomez <i>Office of Congressman Juan Vargas</i>	Karen Holman, Dan Malcolm <i>Port of San Diego</i>
John Follin <i>General Atomics</i>	

Remote attendance:

Jason Dadakis <i>Orange County Water District</i>	Mary Johnson Powell <i>Tijuana River Valley Equestrian Association</i>
Lesly Gallegos <i>Resident of Imperial Beach</i>	Jeff Crooks <i>Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve (TRNERR)</i>
Sarah Davidson, Bethany Case <i>Surfrider Foundation</i>	Courtney Baltiyskyy <i>YMCA of San Diego County</i>
Mia Gil <i>Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians</i>	Leon Benham <i>C4CC</i>

BOARD MEETING

Public comments on agenda items were limited to 3 minutes or otherwise at the discretion of the Board Chair

PUBLIC FORUM

Patrick McDonough addressed the Board regarding the Smuggler’s Canyon pilot channel breach.

BOARD BUSINESS

Item 1 – Minutes of Board Meeting: April 10, 2024

Motion to adopt the April 10, 2024 minutes:

- Ms. Blair

Second:

- Mr. Strawn

Aye:

- Ms. Blair
- Dr. Olson
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Tu
- Chair Cantú

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- Ms. Warren

Abstain:

- None

Item 2 – Chair’s, Board Members’, State Water Board Liaison’s, and Executive Officer’s Reports. *These items were for Board discussion only. No public testimony was allowed, and the Board took no formal action.*

Nichole Morgan provided updates on recent State Board actions and priorities and responded to Board Member questions and comments.

Chair Cantú reported that Executive Officer David Gibson and staff members met with the Chollas Creek Climate Collaborative on April 24 to discuss the effects of climate change on Chollas Creek and mitigating actions that could be taken.

Mr. Gibson responded to Board Member questions and provided updates that were not in the written Executive Officer’s Report. Brandi Outwin-Beals also responded to Board Member questions.

Chair Cantú called a recess at 9:30 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Item 3 – Update from the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission on Time Schedule Order No. R9-2023-0189 Compliance for Discharges from the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Pacific Ocean through the South Bay Ocean Outfall. (*Melissa Corona*)

Melissa Corona / David Gibson introduced the item

USIBWC Director Dr. Maria Elena Giner gave her presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Commissioner Dan Malcolm of the Port of San Diego addressed the Board regarding this item.

The following stakeholders commented on the item;

- Patrick McDonough, San Diego Coastkeeper
- Lesly Gallegos, Imperial Beach resident
- Sarah Davidson, Surfrider
- Jeff Crooks, TRNERR

Director Giner, Melissa Corona, and David Gibson provided closing remarks.

Chair Cantú called a brief recess at 11:56 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:04 p.m.

Item 4 – Local Advancements in PFAS Treatment and Destruction Technologies: An Update. *(Brian McDaniel)*

Brian McDaniel introduced the item and the speakers.

Jason Dadakis gave the Orange County presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

John Folling presented on behalf of General Atomics and responded to Board Member questions.

Chair Cantú requested public comments on the item; no public comments were offered.

Chair Cantú recessed for closed session at 1:00 p.m. Alex Sauerwein stated that the Board would discuss Item 8 - Personnel, consideration of the evaluation of performance of the Executive Officer, during the closed session. Chair Cantú reconvened the public meeting at 1:53 p.m.

There being no further business, Chair Cantú adjourned the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

These Minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina A. Blank
Executive Assistant

David W. Gibson
Executive Officer