

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 12, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Celeste Cantú called the meeting to order on February 12, 2025 at 9:07 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., Board Vice Chair, Megan Blair, Gary Strawn, Yen Tu, and Stefanie Warren.

Staff present:

David Gibson, Jeremy Haas, Chris Blank, Roger Mitchell, Laurie Walsh, Josh Hufferd, James Chhor, Amy Grove, Fisayo Osibodu, Chiara Clemente, Sean McClain, Nicholas White, Mireille Lecourtois, Kate Buckley, Frank Melbourn, Brandon Bushnell, Eric Becker, Chad Loflen, Ella Knight, Christina Arias, Wayne Chiu, Joann Lim, Jody Ebsen,

Staff remote attendance:

Kelly Dorsey, Erin Schmitt, Cailynn Smith, Lauren Kim, Erica Ryan, Hiram Sarabia, Carey Kowalski, Melissa Corona, Cynthia Gorham, Lara Quetin, Sarah Mearon

Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board

Nichole Morgan, for the State Water Resources Control Board; Alex Sauerwein, State Water Board Office of Chief Counsel; Vinty Siev, Tino, Gamboa, DIT.

Public Attendance:

Present:

Jim Blanke, Inken Mello
Woodard & Curran

David Tieu, Harry Ahmed, Jeff Arbour,
Tom Koutroulis
Orange County Waste & Recycling

Michael Welch
Michael Welch Consultants
Jason Martin
Rancho California Water District

BOARD MEETING

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

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the Public Forum.

BOARD BUSINESS

Item 1 – Minutes of Board Meeting: December 11, 2024

Motion to adopt the December 11, 2024 minutes:

- Ms. Tu

Second:

- Mr. Strawn

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

sent:

- None

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.*

Chair Cantú presented Joann Lim with a Sustained Superior Service award for her work in the NPDES unit.

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

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

Item 3 – Transboundary Flows

Mr. Gibson responded to Board Member questions and provided updates that did not appear in the written Report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**Items on the consent calendar may be removed at the request of any Board member or person. If an item is removed from the consent items calendar, it will only be voted on at this meeting if the Board accepts the staff recommendation for the agenda items. Otherwise, the item will be continued to a subsequent Board meeting to allow input by interested persons.*

Item 4 – Tentative Resolution: Consideration of a Resolution Accepting Rancho California Water District’s Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Temecula Valley Groundwater Basin (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0007). (Brandon Bushnell)

Chair Cantú invited comments from the interested parties. Jason Martin, General Manager of Rancho California Water District, thanked Water Board staff for their work and the Board for considering adoption of the Resolution.

Motion to approve Tentative Order No. R9-2025-0007:

- Dr. Olson

Second:

- Ms. Blair

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- None

Abstain:

- None

ACTION ITEMS

Item 5 – Waste Discharge Requirements for the Prima Deshecha Landfill, Zone 1, San Juan Capistrano, Orange County (Tentative Order No. R9-2025-0004). Written comments on this item were due on September 26, 2024. (Josh Hufferd)

Item 6 – Waste Discharge Requirements for the Prima Deshecha Landfill, Zone 4, San Juan Capistrano, Orange County (Tentative Order No. R9-2025-0006). Written comments on this item were due on August 1, 2024. (*Josh Hufferd*)

The Board heard and considered these two items together, but they voted on each item separately.

Chair Cantú gave an opening statement.

Josh Hufferd gave the staff presentation. Chair Cantú asked for public comments, both in person and on Zoom, and Tom Koutroulis, Director, Orange County Waste & Recycling commented on the item

Motion to approve Tentative Order No. R9-2025-004:

- Dr. Olson

Second:

- Ms. Warren

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Abstain:

- None

Absent:

- None

Motion to approve Tentative Order No. R9-2025-006:

- Mr. Strawn

Second:

- Ms. Warren

Aye:

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

Nay:

- None

Abstain:

- None

Absent:

None

Item 7 – Election: Election of the 2025 Regional Board Chair and Vice Chair. (*David Gibson*)

Mr. Gibson introduced the item and opened the floor for nominations.

Nomination of Gary Strawn to be 2025 Regional Board Chair:

- Dr. Olson

Second:

- Chair Cantú

Aye:

- Ms. Blair
- Dr. Olson
- Ms. Tu
- Ms. Warren
- Chair Cantú

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- None

Abstain:

- Mr. Strawn

Nomination of Betty H. Olson, Ph.D. to be 2025 Regional Board Vice Chair:

- Ms. Cantú

Second:

- Ms. Tu

Aye:

- Ms. Blair
- Mr. Strawn
- Ms. Tu
- Ms. Warren
- Chair Cantú

Nay:

- None

Absent:

- None

Abstain:

- Dr. Olson

There being no further business, Chair Strawn adjourned the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

These Minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina A. Blank
Executive Assistant

David W. Gibson
Executive Officer

