

State of California
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

Draft Minutes of the February 7, 2020 Board Meeting
City of Loma Linda, Council Chambers
25541 Barton Road
Loma Linda, CA 92354

Vice-Chair von Blasingame called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m.

1. **Introductions**

Board Members Present:

William P. von Blasingame, Vice-Chair
Tom Rivera
Lana Peterson
Daniel P. Selmi
Kris A. Murray

Staff Present:

Hope A. Smythe, Executive Officer
Jayne Joy, Assistant Executive Officer
Teresita Sablan, Regional Board Counsel
Ann E. Sturdivant, Division Chief
Lauma Willis, Division Chief
Mark E. Smythe, Division Chief
Michelle Beckwith, Chief of Storm Water - Coastal
Jessica Law, Engineering Geologist
Samantha Mak, Water Resources Control Engineer
Chuck Griffin, Water Resources Control Engineer
Daniel Mefford, Information Technology Associate
Jeannie Aguilar, Associate Governmental Program Analyst
Sean Maguire, State Water Board Member
Yvonne West, State Water Board, Director of Office of Enforcement

Public Attendance:

Sarah Spinuzzi, Staff Attorney, Orange County Coastkeeper, Clayton Larkins, Tetra Tech,
Amber Nieto, Orange County Coastkeeper

Item 2. Public Forum

Sarah Spinuzzi, Staff Attorney, representing Orange County Coastkeeper, raised concerns associated with State's laboratory contract. Regional Board staff will follow-up on their concerns.

Item 3. State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Liaison Report:

Mr. Sean Maguire, State Board, provided a presentation on the Draft Water Resilience Portfolio and explained in detail the draft document. In Executive Order N-10-19 (April 2019) Governor Newsom called for state agencies to create a water resilience portfolio

that meets the needs of California's communities, economy, and environment. State agencies shaped the draft portfolio with public input and an inventory and assessment of various aspects of California water systems. The draft document released January 3, 2020 is an integrated set of actions designed to help communities prepare for water supply interruptions. The portfolio is to identify multi-benefit projects and initiatives. The draft portfolio includes 133 actions toward achieving goals to maintain and diversify water supplies, protect and enhance natural systems, and build connections. The next steps are to gather written feedback by February 7, 2020, revise the document accordingly, and submit the final version to the Governor.

Mr. Maguire talked about per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) recent developments, evaluations related to exposure, and provided information on AB 756 a legislation that was passed last year that changes some of the sampling and notification requirements for PFAS chemicals.

Item 4. Regional Board Meeting Minutes of December 6, 2019

Vice-Chair von Blasingame asked for a motion of the Minutes.

Motion: It was moved by Board Member Rivera, seconded by Board Member Murray, and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the December 6, 2020 Board Meeting as presented.

Item 5. Election of Regional Board Officers for 2020

The nominating committee recommends the re-election of Mr. William Ruh to continue serving as Chair, and Mr. William von Blasingame to continue serving as Vice-Chair for 2020.

Motion: It was moved by Board Member Murray, seconded by Board Member Peterson, and it was unanimously carried to approve the re-election of Regional Board Officers for 2020, Mr. William Ruh as Chair and Mr. William von Blasingame as Vice-Chair.

Item 6. Water Quality Enforcement

This item was presented by Yvonne West, Director of the State Water Resources Control Board's Office of Enforcement.

Ms. West began her presentation by acknowledging Orange County Coastkeeper's comments regarding the state-wide lab contract. Ms. West said this issue was brought up at a recent enforcement round tables meeting with all the regions and she will explore and follow up with and report back to the Regional Board staff.

Ms. West provided information on the background of the Office of Enforcement regarding resources and how they are available to the Regional Boards to assist in enforcement cases and developing and prosecuting cases. In 2006, the office was formed to create

clear structural division between the prosecutorial and the advisory roles of the attorney offices at the Water Boards. Ms. West reviewed the State Board's Enforcement Policy covering the process used to determine liabilities.

Vice-Chair von Blasingame would like the liaison attorneys to come to a Board Meeting and to give an overview of the case violations that they are seeing and undertaking and he suggested it would be beneficial to have access to the case violations information from the attorneys on what is going on in other regions.

Speakers: Amber Nieto, on behalf of Orange County Coastkeeper, and Sarah Spinuzzi, Staff Attorney, Orange County Coastkeeper.

A 15-minute break was observed, and the meeting convened at 11:23 a.m.

Item 7. Storm Water Enforcement Overview

This item was presented by Michelle Beckwith, Senior Environmental Scientist.

Ms. Beckwith provided an overview of Santa Ana Regional Board's enforcement process for storm water violations during 2016 through 2019 fiscal years. Ms. Beckwith indicated stormwater discharges within California are regulated through the National Pollutant Discharges Elimination System or NPDES permit. She explained the purpose for the Santa Ana Regional Board Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits, Statewide Industrial General Permit, Santa Ana Regional Board's Scrap Metal Permit, and Statewide Construction Permit. She reviewed the enforcement actions taken by the Santa Ana Water Board.

Item 8. Status Report on the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority's (SAWPA's) Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management, Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grant Program – This item was presented by Mark Norton from SAWPA.

Mr. Mark Norton's presented information on their Disadvantage Communities Involvement Grant Program. This program is supported through Proposition 1 funding (\$6.3 million) and included in the SAWPA's Integrated Regional Water Management. Mr. Mark Norton said this program is different, instead of building projects, its purpose is to provide outreach to disadvantaged communities, economically distressed areas, or under-represented communities, and address their water needs and provide technical assistance.

Board Member Selmi and Vice-Chair von Blasingame informed Mr. Mark Norton that Quail Valley is an extreme concern to the Board.

Item 9. Executive Officer's Report (Information item).

Hope Smythe, Executive Officer, talked about Quail Valley and she anticipates State Board action in mid-April as all necessary paperwork was expedited and forwarded to State Board so they can schedule this item at their next April Board Meeting and she would keep the Board Members updated.

Hope Smythe provided an update on the City of Menifee’s involvement at the January 2020 Regional Board meeting to adopt the Basin Plan Amendment for the Quail Valley Septic Systems Prohibition.
{Hope A. Smythe 951-782-4493 hope.smythe@waterboards.ca.gov}

Item 10. Regional Board Member and Executive Officer Communications – The Regional Board Members and the Executive Officer may discuss meetings, communications, correspondence or other items of general interest, relating to matters within the Board’s jurisdiction. There will be no voting or formal action taken.

Item 11. Closed Session

There was no closed session.

Vice-Chair von Blasingame acknowledged that the Water Board staff has been working on numerous projects and on a lot of complex issues and he thanked the Water Board staff for their hard work.

Adjournment – Vice-Chair von Blasingame adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

HOPE A. SMYTHE
Executive Officer

/ja