



...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

**OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 7, 2016**

Committee Members	
<u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u>	
Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener, Eastern Municipal Water District	Absent
Thomas P. Evans, Western Municipal Water District	Present
<u>County Supervisor Representatives</u>	
Marion Ashley, Riverside County Board of Supervisors	Present
Shawn Nelson, Orange County Board of Supervisors	Present
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	Absent
<u>County Mayor Representatives</u>	
Ron Loveridge, Mayor, City of Riverside	Absent
Beth Krom, Councilmember, City of Irvine	Present
Jon Harrison, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Redlands	Present
<u>Business Committee Representative</u>	
Jim Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present
<u>Environmental Committee Representative</u>	
Garry Brown, President, Orange County Coastkeeper	Present
<u>Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative</u>	
Linda Ackerman, Vice Chair, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board	Present
<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>	Celeste Cantú; Larry McKenney; Mark Norton; Dean Unger; Mike Antos; Kelly Berry

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:09 a.m. by Thomas P. Evans, serving as Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside, California.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Convener Evans called for public comments. There were no public comments. Greg Woodside, Orange County Water District, referenced correspondence dated July 7, 2016, from OCWD to SAWPA regarding OWOW Prop 1 IRWM Grant Project Eligibility Criteria, which was discussed under Agenda Item No. 6.A.



3. SEATING OF NEW MEMBERS

A. Seating of City of Redlands Mayor Pro Tem Jon Harrison (SC#2016.3)

Jon Harrison serves as Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Redlands. In December 2015, Mayor Pro Tem Harrison was appointed the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) representative to the OWOW Steering Committee. This is a four year term, expiring December 2, 2019. This appointment was previously held by Mayor Patrick J. Morris, City of San Bernardino.

MOVED, recognize City of Redlands Mayor Pro Tem Jon Harrison as a new member of the OWOW Steering Committee for a four year term expiring December 2, 2019.

Result: **Adopted (Unanimously; 7-0)**
Motion/Second: Krom/Ashley
Ayes: Ackerman, Ashley, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Krom, Nelson
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None
Non-Voting: Hessler

B. Seating of Environmental Community Representative (SC#2016.6)

Mr. Garry Brown, Executive Director and CEO of Orange County Coastkeeper, has served on the OWOW Steering Committee since 2007 as the Environmental Community Representative. His reappointment for an additional four year term will expire July 7, 2020.

MOVED, reappointment Mr. Garry Brown to the Environmental Community Representative seat on the OWOW Steering Committee, for a four year term expiring July 7, 2020.

Result: **Adopted (Unanimously; 7-0)**
Motion/Second: Krom/Ashley
Ayes: Ackerman, Ashley, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Krom, Nelson
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None
Non-Voting: Hessler

C. Seating of Business Community Representative (SC#2016.9)

Mr. Jim Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations for Altman Plants was recommended for appointment to a four year term as the Business Community Representative. His term will expire July 7, 2020. This appointment was previously held by Mr. Ali Sahabi of SE Corporation.

MOVED, appoint Mr. Jim Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations for Altman Plants, to the Business Community Representative seat on the OWOW Steering Committee, for a four year term expiring July 7, 2020.

Result: **Adopted (Unanimously; 8-0)**
Motion/Second: Krom/Ashley
Ayes: Ackerman, Ashley, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Hessler, Krom, Nelson
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None



4. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. **Approval of Meeting Minutes: May 28, 2015**

B. **Approval of Meeting Minutes: June 18, 2015**

MOVED, approve the Consent Calendar.

Result:	Adopted (Unanimously; 8-0)
Motion/Second:	Krom/Nelson
Ayes:	Ackerman, Ashley, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Hessler, Krom, Nelson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

The Committee next considered Agenda Item Nos. 6.A. and 6.B.

5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Recommendation: Receive and file the following oral/written reports/updates.

A. **Status Report on the Project Agreement 22 Committee (SC#2016.10)**

Mark Norton provided a PowerPoint presentation. Project Agreement 22 (PA22) Committee directs drought round funding under the Prop 84 IRWM Program. SAWPA and the DWR executed a grant agreement in July 2015 providing \$12,860,110 in grant funding with a \$10,645,000 local match. SAWPA member agencies worked together to provide a program focusing on water use efficiency covering two main areas: 1) conservation based reporting tools and rate structure implementation; and, 2) turf removal and retrofits. Presently 10-12 agencies are signed up for rate structure implementation. There is a web-based reporting tool utilizing OmniEarth and Dropcountr. Aerial mapping covering the urbanized area of the entire watershed has been created to assist in defining irrigated and non-irrigated areas, which has become a valuable tool that is being shared with all the retail water agencies throughout the watershed. This is a joint effort with the Santa Margarita River Watershed. Funding is being provided over a three-year timespan.

This presentation was for informational purposes only; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.A.

B. **Bureau of Reclamation Basin Study Update Proposal (SC#2016.11)**

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Bureau of Reclamation Basin Study Update Proposal. In June 2016, the SAWPA Commission provided approval for staff to submit a proposal to the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) for assistance in updating the 2013 Santa Ana Basin Study, which is part the OWOW 2.0 Plan. This is a cost-share effort with Reclamation and will address new requirements for the OWOW 2.0 Plan recently instituted. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released draft Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) guidelines in January; final guidelines should be released in the near future.

Announcement of Reclamation's funding recommendations is expected by August, 2016. If successful, SAWPA will cost share 50/50 with Reclamation. There are three primary tasks. 1) SAWPA and Reclamation will further analyze and prioritize the projected impacts of climate change modeled in the 2013 Santa Ana Basin Plan; 2) the project will present the data from OWOW 2.0, the Basin Study, and the Basin Study Update to the stakeholders throughout the Santa Ana River Watershed; and, 3) the effort will fulfill new requirements on OWOW 2.0 associated with, for example, Storm Water Resources Planning, Groundwater Sustainability Planning, and the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program.

This presentation was for informational purposes only; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.B.



6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Policy Direction Regarding Proposition 1 OWOW Project Eligibility Criteria (SC#2016.12)

Celeste Cantú provided an oral presentation on Proposition 1 OWOW Project Eligibility Criteria, referring to page 49 of the agenda packet materials and noting the language is consistent with past eligibility criteria (developed with the Stakeholders during 2015 Prop 84 round funding), other than the addition of the following language: “Is an integrated project that benefits the entire watershed or a significant sub-watershed in the region, will be completed with active participation of multiple agencies and/or NGOs or other stakeholders, produces a net benefit to the Watershed, and has no unreasonable negative impacts on others.” Staff proposed moving forward with the eligibility criteria with this minor addition, and continue to develop the grant ranking factors in conjunction with the State’s guidance. Updating the OWOW Plan will begin toward the end of the year, which will provide an opportunity to expound more detailed language. A sentence in the eligibility criteria would most likely be 2-3 pages in the OWOW Plan.

In response to this proposed eligibility criteria, SAWPA staff received written and phone communications from stakeholder members of Orange County with more finely tuned language than that proposed. (A copy of their July 7, 2016 correspondence was provided to the Committee and members of the public.)

Their proposed language is as follows:

- Instead of the language as written “...produces a net benefit to the Watershed...” their proposed language states, “all areas improve together.”
- Instead of the language as written “...has no unreasonable impacts on others.” their proposed language states, “improvements in one areas are not achieved at the expense or detriment of another.”

Mr. Greg Woodside, Orange County Water District, provided a historic context from the standpoint of the Orange County stakeholders. Their continuing concern has focused on the fact that grant dollars, partially funded by Orange County taxpayers, are being utilized for projects that potentially reduce river flow to Orange County. They believe their proposed language better clarifies and addresses this issue from their perspective, whether it is included as part of the eligibility criteria or within a preamble.

A discussion ensued regarding the proposed language and whether this level of specificity should be addressed in the Plan update and not the eligibility criteria. Committee Member Krom inquired whether or not the issue was the language or that somehow in the implementation there is a perception that Orange County has been harmed because of a reduction in the flow. Woodside noted that projects approved for Prop 84 Rounds 1 and 2 raised concerns; however, Round 3 projects have raised no concerns, but the OCWD Board and other OC stakeholders believed this to be the perfect opportunity to address their concerns from earlier rounds.

Krom proposed integrating a preamble statement or cover letter utilizing the following DWR language, “IRWM is a collaborative effort to manage all aspects of water resources in a region. IRWM crosses jurisdictional, watershed, and political boundaries; involves multiple agencies, stakeholders, individuals, and groups; and attempts to address the issues and differing perspectives of all the entities involved through mutually beneficial solutions.” And add the following language, “Our goal is to seek benefits which improve the entire watershed and are not achieved at the expense or detriment of another.”

Nelson stated that proposed projects detrimental to other partners should not be funded, and the eligibility criteria should include language stating that a project will not be eligible for funding if it is



detrimental to any other agency – the inability to create a detriment should be added to the funding eligibility.

Convener Evans called for a motion. Ashley moved the item and Jon Harrison seconded to approve the Proposition 1 OWOW grant eligibility criteria as proposed by staff. Ashley clarified his motion included Krom’s proposal to integrate a preamble statement or cover letter.

Staff anticipates providing a progress report to the Committee at the next meeting.

MOVED, approve Proposition 1 OWOW grant eligibility criteria as set forth on page 49 of the agenda packet for this October 4, 2016 meeting, to include a preamble statement or cover letter with the wording, “IRWM is a collaborative effort to manage all aspects of water resources in a region. IRWM crosses jurisdictional, watershed, and political boundaries; involves multiple agencies, stakeholders, individuals, and groups; and attempts to address the issues and differing perspectives of all the entities involved through mutually beneficial solutions. Our goal is to seek benefits which improve the entire watershed and are not achieved at the expense or detriment of another.”

Result:	Adopted (Passed; 7-1)
Motion/Second:	Ashley/Harrison
Ayes:	Ackerman, Ashley, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Hessler, Krom
Nays:	Nelson
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

B. Consideration of the 2016 Chino Basin Storm Water Resources Plan Prepared by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (SC#2016.8)

Mark Norton noted that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) requires public agencies to develop a Storm Water Resource Plan as a condition of receiving grant funds from a bond measure for storm water and dry weather runoff capture projects and submit that plan for incorporation into the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) program. To date we have received one plan, from the Inland Empire Utilities Agency who was invited to present the plan to the Steering Committee and request its incorporation into the OWOW 2.0 Plan.

Andy Campbell, Deputy Manager of Planning with Inland Empire Utilities Agency, provided a PowerPoint presentation on adoption of the Chino Basin Storm Water Resources Plan into the OWOW 2.0 Plan. Guidance for Storm Water Resources Plans is established by the SWRCB, which emphasizes watershed collaboration, quantitative prioritization, implementation strategy and schedule, public outreach and participation, checklist and self-certification. Staff has reviewed and provided comments to IEUA’s submission and has provided a letter of support for their grant application for Prop 1 storm water funding. Funding will be utilized for IEUA’s \$20 million project to improve flood control facilities and recharge groundwater.

Benefits of including the 2016 Chino Basin Storm Water Resources Plan in the OWOW 2.0 Plan:

- Approach on a watershed scale yielding multiple benefits
- Participation in a regional IRWM
- Coordination with agencies exercising their own authorities and mandates in addressing storm water and dry weather runoff management
- Plan coordinate, support and collaborate among two or more lead local agencies responsible for plan implementation.



MOVED, incorporate the 2016 Chino Basin Storm Water Resources Plan into the Santa Ana River Watershed's Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, the One Water One Watershed 2.0 Plan.

Result:	Adopted (Unanimously; 8-0)
Motion/Second:	Nelson/Ashley
Ayes:	Ackerman, Ashley, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Hessler, Krom, Nelson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

The Committee next considered Agenda Item Nos. 5.A. and 5.B.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting came to a close at 11:52 a.m.

APPROVED: October 20, 2016

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ronald W. Sullivan", is written over a horizontal line.

Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Berry", is written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board