



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

**OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 26, 2018**

Committee Members	
<u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u>	
Jasmin A. Hall, Inland Empire Utilities Agency	Present
Bruce Whitaker, Orange County Water District	Present
<u>County Supervisor Representatives</u>	
Marion Ashley, Riverside County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Shawn Nelson, Orange County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	Present
<u>County City Representatives</u>	
San Bernardino County City Representative [Vacant]	Vacant
Laura Roughton, Councilmember, City of Jurupa Valley	Absent
Jose Solorio, Councilmember, City of Santa Ana	Present
<u>Business Committee Representative</u>	
James Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present
<u>Environmental Committee Representative</u>	
Garry W. Brown, Convener, 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 [11:17 a.m.]
Others Present	
<u>SAWPA COMMISSIONERS:</u>	None.
<u>SAWPA STAFF:</u>	Rich Haller, Karen Williams, Dean Unger, Mike Antos, Ian Achimore, Kelly Berry
<u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u>	Michael Markus, General Manager, Orange County Water

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:04 a.m. by Jasmin A. Hall, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Roll call was duly noted and recorded.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michael Markus, General Manager, Orange County Water District, spoke regarding the July 13, 2018 correspondence from OC Stakeholders to the OWOW Steering Committee, a copy of which was provided to



the Committee, staff and members of the public. Markus requested the matters contained in the letter placed on the September 27, 2018 OWOW Steering Committee agenda as an actionable item. Convener Hall directed staff to follow through accordingly.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – May 24, 2018

MOVED, approve the May 24, 2018 meeting minutes.

Result:	Adopted (Passed)
Motion/Second:	Solorio/Hall
Ayes:	Hagman, Hall, Hessler, Solorio, Whitaker
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	Brown
Absent:	Ackerman, Ashley, Nelson, Roughton

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Final Report from Departing CivicSpark Water Fellows (SC#2018.14)

Mike Antos introduced Miki Helman and Ryan Hirano who provided a PowerPoint presentation about their past year of service in the CivicSpark Fellows Program supporting the Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DCI) Program and OWOW. Both were presented with certificates of appreciation for their work over this past year.

Committee Member Ackerman arrived at 11:17 a.m., during the discussion of Agenda Item No. 4.A.

This item was for informational purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.A.

B. OWOW Program Status (SC#2018.15)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation with a status report on the OWOW Program.

Committee Member Solorio requested staff ensure that OWOW Steering Committee members are fully advised and updated relative to the August 14, 2018 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting, including any staff work or reports completed before or after that meeting. As he has shared in the past, Committee Member Solorio continues to have concerns we are spending a great deal of money but not engaging and talking with the correct people, noting the lack of interviews conducted with Orange County elected representatives who do represent disadvantaged communities; thus, programs developed may not be the most beneficial to disadvantaged communities. Solorio voiced concern regarding money spent on homeless programs, stating programs should not encourage homelessness within the Santa Ana River or Watershed. Solorio stated the timing of the TAC continuing with additional work before the final strengths and needs assessment seems to be out of order.

Antos noted the TAC would make recommendations to the OWOW Steering Committee, which would in turn make recommendations to the SAWPA Commission. The TAC is there to advise relative to which direction to proceed. Antos stated work within homelessness has been budgeted as a separate task within the strengths and needs assessment; avenues of spending continue to be researched and considered. Antos advised the strengths and needs assessment is expected to be completed in October of 2018.

This item was for informational purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.B.



5. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Proposition 1 IRWM Grant Program – Project Rating & Ranking System (SC#2018.16)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on Proposition 1 IRWM Grant Program project Rating & Ranking System. There was a brief discussion about the benefit classes and indicators set forth in the PowerPoint regarding how projects that did not fall under the provided indicators would be weighted – could a project propose a different indicator? Antos replied the indicators must remain static since it is a non-qualitative tool. Project submissions must work within the indicators set forth, and others must agree with how the projects will work within them.

Committee Member Hessler initiated a discussion about a return on investment component of the rating and rankings. Antos replied it did not currently; Hessler voiced concern we may create additional supply but at a very high cost. Antos noted the system is not set up to solve that challenge but that it is within the authority of the OWOW Steering Committee to take this into consideration when considering projects; the Committee has within its authority the ability to rationalize overriding the rating and ranking indicators before making project recommendations to the SAWPA Commission.

Committee Member Hall asked if the grant timeline is set or will it change; Antos replied he doesn't believe it will change again but he cannot be certain. Solorio noted the timeline issue is critical because none of the future bonds have IRWM money; this could possibly be the last sizable chunk of money for the next decade. Antos noted we continue to make the case with DWR that we would like our local decision making to set the timeline of when we receive and spend this grant funding, not two rounds of funding. There are other stakeholders like us who are requesting two rounds. We are hopeful we will secure funding flexible to the needs of the region.

Solorio voiced his support; however, if there is a tweak necessary it should come back to the Committee.

MOVED,

1. Approve minor changes to the 2016 OWOW Steering Committee approved Eligibility Criteria and adopt as the Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Eligibility – OWOW Program Policy;
2. Approve and adopt the OWOW Program Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation grants Rating & Ranking system, inclusive of eligibility criteria, benefit classes and scoring procedures, for evaluating projects which submit to compete for the Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation grants expected to be released by DWR this Fall; and,
3. Approve and adopt the described system whereby large budget projects compete against one another and small budget projects compete against one another for separate allocations of grant funds.

Result:	Adopted (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Hagman/Hessler
Ayes:	Ackerman, Brown, Hagman, Hall, Hessler, Solorio, Whitaker
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Ashley, Nelson, Roughton

B. OWOW “Let’s Connect” (SC#2018.17)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation. Committee Member Hall asked about feedback on the *Let’s Connect* initiative. Antos replied thus far feedback has been supportive.



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

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting came to a close at 12:25 p.m.

APPROVED: September 27, 2018

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald W. Sullivan", written over a horizontal line.

Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kelly Berry", written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board