



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

OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2019

Committee Members	
<u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u>	
Kati Parker, Convener, Inland Empire Utilities Agency	Present
Denis A. Bilodeau, Orange County Water District	Present
<u>County Supervisor Representatives</u>	
Doug Chaffee, Orange County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Karen Spiegel, Riverside County Board of Supervisors	Present
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	Absent
<u>County Municipal Representatives</u>	
Deborah Robertson, Mayor, City of Rialto	Present
Rusty Bailey, Mayor, City of Riverside	Present
Jose Solorio, Councilmember, City of Santa Ana	Absent
<u>Business Community Representative</u>	
James Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present
<u>Environmental Community Representative</u>	
Garry W. Brown, President, Orange County Coastkeeper	Present
<u>Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative</u>	
Linda Ackerman, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Absent
Others Present	
<u>SAWPA COMMISSIONERS:</u>	None
<u>SAWPA STAFF:</u>	Rich Haller, Larry McKenney, Rick Whetsel, Marie Jauregui, Ian Achimore, Dean Unger, Kelly Berry, Katie Lucht, Sara Villa
<u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u>	Amanda Carr, Orange County Water District; Marsha Westropp, Orange County Water District

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Kati Parker, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.



1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were duly noted and recorded.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – July 25, 2019

MOVED, approve the July 25, 2019 meeting minutes.

Result:	Adopted (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Spiegel/Bailey
Ayes:	Bailey, Bilodeau, Brown, Hessler, Parker, Robertson, Spiegel
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Ackerman, Chaffee, Hagman, Solorio

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DCI) Program Status (SC#2019.12)

Rick Whetsel provided a PowerPoint presentation titled, *Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DCI) Program: Status Report* contained in the agenda packet on pages 8-18. The DCI Program is a Proposition 1 funded effort within the Integrated Regional Water Management Program to ensure the involvement of disadvantaged communities, economically distressed areas, and underrepresented communities in the integrated regional water management planning. The DCI Program has three (3) Program Elements; 1) Strengths and Needs Assessment, 2) Engagement and Education, and 3) Project Development. SAWPA manages the DCI Program with five (5) program partners; Local Government Commission, California Rural Water Association, Water Education Foundation, and University of California Irvine. Whetsel provided a brief status report on each of the ongoing activities within each program element. The DCI Program supports two (2) CivicSpark Water Fellows each year, beginning in September and ending in August. Whetsel introduced the new CivicSpark Water Fellows Bailey Lai and Karen Vallardes.

Committee member Robertson asked when the Technical Assistance Application started. Whetsel noted the application notice had been out a few weeks and directed the committee members to the SAWPA website under the OWOW DCI Program where it lists more detailed information about the Technical Assistance and other DCI Program information. Committee Member Bailey asked who the target audience is for the Local Elected Leader Training. Whetsel noted the program is geared towards the new elected leaders and their staff in the watershed. The training sessions will relay the findings of the strengths and needs assessments on water management topics, and best practices for helping the communities they serve interact with water planning. Whetsel noted the City of Riverside volunteered to host the next workshop. Committee Member Spiegel asked what topics will be addressed. Whetsel noted Collaborative Planning in the Face of Uncertainty and Communicating the Value of Water to your Constituents. Committee Member Robertson asked what criteria are used to identify a disadvantaged community. Whetsel noted that SAWPA is following the Department of Water Resources census track data.

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



B. OWOW Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Project Grant Application and Related Agreements (SC#2019.13)

Ian Achimore provided a PowerPoint presentation titled, *OWOW Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Project Grant Application and Related Agreements* contained in the agenda packet on pages 21-25. The grant funding for the eight (8) OWOW projects, three (3) North Orange County projects, and grant administration by SAWPA totals to \$24.1 M. The funding is divided into two parts; general implementation funding and disadvantage community implementation funding. The proposed 11 projects must respond to climate change and contribute to regional water self-reliance and must address the most critical needs to the Santa Ana River watershed. A Pre-application Workshop with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) was held on August 14, where DWR provided feedback on the 11 projects. SAWPA and Dudek are working with each of the project proponents ensuring that the projects are correctly categorized by project type. SAWPA and Dudek will compile and submit a final application to DWR on November 1. After approval by DWR through their final application review, SAWPA will prepare a grant agreement with DWR that includes the scope of work, budget and schedule for all 11 projects. The final application review will be completed by DWR and the award for grant funds will be announced in early 2020.

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

C. Advocacy Efforts Regarding IRWM (SC#2019.14)

Larry McKenney provided a verbal update on ACWA's advocacy efforts regarding Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM). McKenney referenced SAWPA's and the Roundtable of Regions' Portfolio letters that were sent to the Resources Agency, contained in the agenda packet on pages 33- 41. In May, the Governor issued an executive order directing State agencies to develop a Water Resilient Portfolio for the entire State. The executive order sent out a number of policies that will be included in this portfolio effort and include strong concepts of integration, innovation, developing stronger partnership, achieving resilience, and addressing climate change.

This item was for information purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.C.

D. Proposition 84 Round 2 Implementation Grant Agreement Amendment (SC#2019.15)

Marie Jauregui provided a PowerPoint presentation titled; *Proposition 84 Rounds 1 & 2 Project Status Update* contained in the agenda packet on pages 48-58. The Enhanced Stormwater Capture/Recharge Along the Santa Ana River project's construction is delayed past the grant termination date. The construction will proceed, but it will be constructed without grant funding. The delay was due to a NEPA requirement necessitated by a federal land exchange approved by Congress on March 12, 2019. There are eighteen (18) projects in Round 2; eleven (11) are complete, four (4) are on schedule, and three (3) are not on schedule do to schedule and/or budget issues. An Amendment to the Grant Agreement between SAWPA and the Department of Water Resources is expected to be fully executed by February 2020.

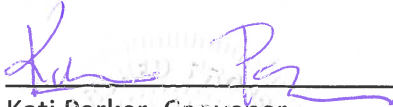
This item was for information purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.D.



5. **ADJOURNMENT**

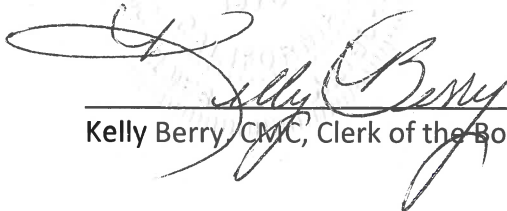
The meeting ended at 12:00 p.m.

APPROVED: November 21, 2019



Kati Parker, Convener

Attest:



Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board