



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

OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 23, 2019

| Committee Members | |
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| <u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u> | |
| Kati Parker, Convener, Inland Empire Utilities Agency | Present |
| T. Milford Harrison, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District ⁽¹⁾ | Present |
| ⁽¹⁾ SAWPA representative Denis A. Bilodeau, Orange County Water District, was unable to attend; the SAWPA Commission appointed T. Milford Harrison to attend this meeting as the second SAWPA representative. | |
| <u>County Supervisor Representatives</u> | |
| Riverside County Board of Supervisors [Vacant] | Vacant |
| Doug Chaffee, Orange 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 | Present |
| <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 | Absent |
| <u>Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative</u> | |
| Linda Ackerman, Regional Water Quality Control Board | Present |
| Others Present | |
| <u>SAWPA COMMISSIONERS:</u> | None |
| <u>SAWPA STAFF:</u> | Rich Haller, Larry McKenney, Mark Norton, Matthew Howard, Rick Whetsel, Dean Unger, Kelly Berry, Sara Villa |
| <u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u> | Nick Kanetis, Deputy General Manager, Eastern Municipal Water District; Marsha Westropp, Orange County Water District |

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:06 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 – January 24, 2019

MOVED, approve the January 24, 2019 meeting minutes.

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| Result: | Adopted (Passed) |
| Motion/Second: | Hessler/Harrison |
| Ayes: | Ackerman, Bailey, Harrison, Hessler, Parker, Solorio |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstentions: | Chaffee, Robertson |
| Absent: | Brown, Hagman |

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Recommended Projects for OWOW Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Project Funding (SC#2019.7)

Matthew Howard provided a PowerPoint presentation titled, *Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Project Selection Process*; the presented version had been revised since the posting of the agenda packet. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) April 22, 2019. The eligibility requirements for all proposals must respond to climate change and contribute to regional water self-reliance. All projects must address the critical needs of the IRWM region and be consistent with statewide priorities and have CEQA completed and permits necessary to begin construction within 12 months of funding award, or prior to agreement execution, whichever occurs first. The portfolio of projects submitted to DWR will be scored on a project level using DWR's scoring criteria. The PSP states that there must be a minimum of 50% local cost share match for the entire proposal, however, if projects within the proposal directly benefit a Disadvantaged Community then they may be eligible for a cost share waiver or a cost share reduction from the 50%. Howard provided a brief recap of the ranking process and weighted score. There were three (3) OWOW Project Workshops held for stakeholder review of rating and ranking results. The stakeholders reached a consensus on the rating and ranking of projects and the proposed project funding allocation during the April 22 Workshop.

The total amount of Grant Funding available in the Santa Ana funding area is \$22,923,500 and \$2,094,750 is slated for Disadvantaged Community Implementation projects, and \$20,828,750 is slated for general implementation funds. The total amount of funding was reduced 30% to \$16.7M per the negotiations with North OC Stakeholders. Howard provided a brief description of the eight (8) recommended projects for funding:

1. Replenish Big Bear
2. Evans Lake Tributary Restoration and Camp Evans Recreation
3. Well 30 Wellhead Treatment Project
4. Regional Comprehensive Landscape Rebate Program & Accelerated Leak Detection and Meter Testing
5. Joint IEUA-JCSD Regional Water Recycling Program



6. Physical Harvesting of Algal Biomass in Lake Elsinore – Pilot Program
7. Enhancements to Watershed-wide Water Budget Decision Support Tool
8. Santa Ana Mountains Watershed Protection Project

It was questioned how the funding gap was closed if there were grants requested exceeding the funds available; Mark Norton responded it was based on the scoring. Committee Member Bailey asked how funding would be reallocated if a project could not perform. Norton noted that it was reiterated at the OWOW Project Workshops that if there were any issues and if the projects could not proceed with the grant funding suggested to advise SAWPA staff so the scoring could be revisited.

Committee Member Bailey asked if it would be possible to amend the request for grant funding for the Lake Evans Tributary Restoration and Camp Evans Recreation project grant from \$2M to \$3M. Howard noted that due to the timescale with DWR, it would have to be brought back to an OWOW Project Workshop, the calculations redone, and request for approval by the Stakeholders. Committee Member Bailey stated that he would move the item with the amended recommendation that the Lake Evans Tributary Restoration and Camp Evans Recreation project could be in the running for reallocated funding if money is not allocated and/or spent by the recipients. Larry McKenney noted that as projects are moving forward there may be cases where the projects don't perform and funds need to be reallocated, though that part of the grant administration process is carried out by the SAWPA Commission to make those type of decisions. McKenney suggests that the Committee approve the recommendation and express their interest to the SAWPA Commission that as we go through the implementation phase, if there are funds that need to be reallocated that the Lake Evans Tributary Restoration and Camp Evans Recreation project be a high priority. Committee Member Harrison noted that he would support that motion.

MOVED, recommend the proposed OWOW IRWM portfolio of projects to the SAWPA Commission for funding under DWR's Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1 grant program, and to express the Committee's desire that any reallocation of grant funds that becomes necessary during implementation of the projects favor the Lake Evans Tributary Restoration and Camp Evans Recreation project if practicable.

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

B. Agreement with Orange County Stakeholders

Rich Haller provided a verbal status report and a handout of the Cooperative Agreement for Integrated Regional Water Management Funding in the Santa Ana Funding Area with the County of Orange, Orange County Sanitation District, and Orange County Water District. The SAWPA Commission approved the Cooperative Agreement and the agreement will be brought forward for approval by the County of Orange and Orange County Sanitation District, and Orange County Water District within the next two (2) months. Committee Member Solorio thanked SAWPA staff for all their efforts in working together with the Orange County Stakeholders.


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



5. **ADJOURNMENT**

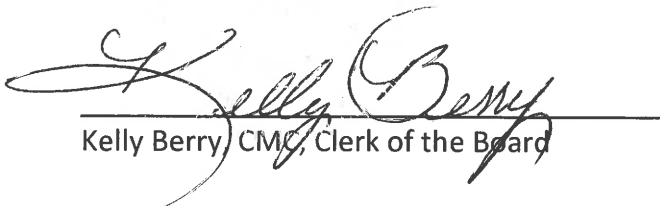
The meeting came to a close at 11:59 a.m.

APPROVED: July 25, 2019



Kati Parker, Convener

Attest:



Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board