



**SAWPA COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 7, 2020**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

David J. Slawson, Chair, Eastern Municipal Water District
Kati Parker, Vice Chair, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Kelly E. Rowe, Secretary-Treasurer, Orange County Water District
Brenda Dennstedt, Western Municipal Water District
T. Milford Harrison, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None.

**ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS
PRESENT; NON-VOTING**

June D. Hayes, Alternate, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

STAFF PRESENT

Rich Haller, Karen Williams, Mark Norton, David Ruhl, Carlos Quintero,
Dean Unger, Kelly Berry

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof, LLP

The Regular Commission meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Chair Slawson on behalf of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California. The record will reflect this meeting was conducted virtually.

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-25-30 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 12, 2020, and Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 17, 2020, any Commission member may call into the Commission meeting without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconferencing requirements.

Executive Order N-33-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 19, 2020, ordered all individuals to stay at home or at their place of residence. In concert with state and local efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and until further notice, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority will be holding all Board and Committee meetings by teleconference and virtually through the Zoom app.

As set forth on the posted meeting agenda, this Commission meeting was accessible to the public by teleconference and through Zoom. Members of the public who were unable to participate by teleconference or virtually were invited to submit comments and questions in writing via email for the Commission's consideration. All votes taken during this meeting were conducted via oral roll call.

2. ROLL CALL

An oral roll call was duly noted and recorded by the Clerk of the Board.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

4. ITEMS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED

There were no added or deleted items.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: MARCH 17, 2020

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

B. TREASURER'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2020

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

MOVED, approve the Consent Calendar.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Dennstedt/Rowe
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Harrison, Parker, Rowe, Slawson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. COVID-19 EMERGENCY DECLARATION | STATUS UPDATE

Rich Haller provided an oral status update on SAWPA's response to the COVID-19 emergency declaration. Staff are primarily working remotely with the rotation of minimal staffing into the office based on the needs of SAWPA. Meetings are conducted virtually. Guidelines are in place and observed as issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA), and the Riverside County Public Health Department, including operations and pretreatment staff conducting field tasks during this time.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 6.A.

B. COVID-19 EMERGENCY DECLARATION | REQUEST FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (CM#2020.23)

Carlos Quintero provided the PowerPoint presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 20 – 24, noting that the disaster declaration had been updated slightly to include DR-4482 in addition to EM-3428. Submission is due April 8; eligible expenses include management efforts to control immediate threats to public health and safety (remote staffing; purchase of personal protective equipment; policy implementation related to COVID-19). As of March 27, SAWPA has incurred approximately \$49,700 in eligible expenses. The reimbursement percentage has not yet been set; in the past it was approximately 93% of eligible expenses. Commissioner Rowe encouraged staff to seek other avenues of reimbursement in addition to FEMA.

MOVED, direct the General Manager to submit a Request for Public Assistance as a result of Disaster Declaration EM-3428/DR-4482 and provide all the required supporting and close-out documentation as required by the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to accept Disaster Recovery funds under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Rowe/Dennstedt
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Harrison, Parker, Rowe, Slawson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

C. **REGULATORY SUPPORT | BASIN MONITORING PROGRAM TASK FORCE | MIDDLE SANTA ANA RIVER PATHOGEN TMDL TASK FORCE | EMERGING CONSTITUENTS PROGRAM TASK FORCE (CM#2020.22)**

Mark Norton provided the PowerPoint presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 32 – 45. Tess Dunham, Somach Simmons & Dunn, recently advised SAWPA staff she was transitioning from Somach Simmons & Dunn to a new firm, Kahn Soares & Conway, effective March 31, 2020. Dunham has supported both the Basin Monitoring Program Task Force and the Middle Santa Ana River Pathogen TMDL Task Force as the regulatory advisor since the August 14, 2019 Commission approval of an Agreement for Services and supporting task orders. Tess Dunham and Kahn Soares & Conway have agreed that all her fees/hour will remain the same as in the original contract with Somach Simmons & Dunn. Accordingly, a new Agreement for Services and supporting task orders with Kahn Soares & Conway were prepared for consideration and approval by the Commission. Commissioner Dennstedt asked of SAWPA has received a release from Somach Simmons & Dunn. Norton advised SAWPA received correspondence from Somach Simmons & Dunn releasing Tess Dunham from her role and sharing all file materials with Kahn Soares & Conway.

Commissioner Rowe asked about the synoptic watershed study findings submitted to the Regional Board which recommended a special study regarding release of naturalized E. coli in the Santa Ana River bottom. Norton advised that in the past there had been some reemergence of E. coli on the lake bottoms and the current discussion is whether this is causing the resurgence in E. coli detected in sampling. The study would determine the source – whether it has collected on the lake bottom and is re-suspended into the waterways or is released by dischargers.

MOVED, authorize the General Manager to execute the following:

1. Agreement for Services by and between Kahn Soares & Conway and SAWPA; and,
2. Task Order KSC374-01 with Kahn Soares & Conway in the amount not to exceed \$93,293.60 for the remainder of FY19-20 and for FY 20-21, to provide strategic and regulatory support for the Basin Monitoring Program Task Force; and,
3. Task Order KSC384-01 with Kahn Soares & Conway in the amount not to exceed \$108,156.50 for the remainder of FY 19-20 and for FY 20-21, to provide strategic and regulatory support for the Middle Santa Ana River Pathogen TMDL Task Force; and,
4. Task Order KSC392-01 with Kahn Soares & Conway in the amount not to exceed \$46,410.00 for the remainder of FY19-20 and for FY20-21 to provide strategic and regulatory support for the Emerging Constituents Program Task Force.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Dennstedt/Rowe
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Harrison, Parker, Rowe, Slawson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

7. **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

The following oral/written reports/updates were received and filed.

A. **CHAIR'S COMMENTS/REPORT**

There were no comments/reports from the Chair.

B. **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

There were no Commissioner comments.

C. **COMMISSIONERS' REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no Commissioner requests for future agenda items.

8. **CLOSED SESSION**

There was no Closed Session.

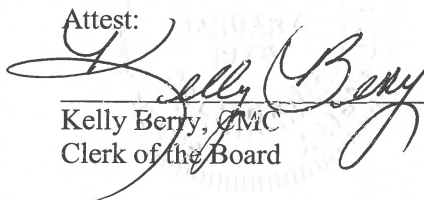
9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for review, Chair Slawson adjourned the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission on Tuesday,
April 21, 2020.



David J. Slawson, Chair

Attest:


Kelly Berry, GMC
Clerk of the Board