

MEETING NOTES

Basin Monitoring Program Task Force

March 24, 2020

STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT:

Chino Basin Watermaster, Edgar Tellez Foster*
City of Beaumont, Thaxton VanBelle*
City of Beaumont, Kevin Lee*
City of Corona, Melissa Estrada*
City of Corona, Jennifer McMullin*
City of Rialto, Tom Crowley*
City of Riverside, Bobby Gustafson*
City of Riverside, Edward Filadelfia*
City of Riverside, Greg Herzog*
Eastern Municipal Water District, Al Javier*
Eastern Municipal Water District, Doug Edwards*
Elsinore Valley Municipal WD, Jesus Gastelum*

Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Eddie Lin*
Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Joshua Aguilar*
Jurupa Community Services District, Chris Berch*
Orange County Water District, Greg Woodside*
Orange County Water District, Kevin O'Toole*
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, Matt Howard*
San Geronio Pass Water Agency, Jeff Davis*
SBMWD/RIX JPA, Jennifer Shepardson*
WMWD/WRCRWA, Mallory Gandara*
Yucaipa Valley Water District, Ashley Gibson*
Yucaipa Valley Water District, Madeline Blua*

OTHERS PRESENT:

Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Hannah Erbele*
GEI Consultants, Richard Meyerhoff*
Geoscience Support Services, Dennis Williams*
Geoscience Support Services, Johnson Yeh*
Geoscience Support Services, Lauren Wicks*
Larry Walker Associates, Bryant Alvarado*
LeClaire & Associates, Joe LeClaire*
Risk Sciences, Tim Moore*
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, T. Milford Harrison*
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Kelly E. Rowe*

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Mark Norton*
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Rick Whetsel*
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Haley Mulla*
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Cindy Li*
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Eric Lindberg*
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Jayne Joy*
Somach, Simmons, & Dunn, Theresa (Tess) Dunham*
WEI, Mark Wildermuth*
WEI, Samantha Adams*
WSC, Michael Cruikshank*

* Participated via conference call

STAKEHOLDERS ABSENT:

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
City of Banning

City of Redlands
Irvine Ranch Water District

Call to Order/Introductions

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force (Task Force) meeting commenced at 9:04 a.m. in a virtual Zoom Meeting, in response to, and in compliance with, COVID-19 regulations. Brief introductions were made.

Approval of February 20, 2020 Meeting Notes

The February 20, 2020 meeting notes were approved as posted.

Triennial Ambient Water Quality Update – WSC, Inc.

Michael Cruikshank of WSC presented a PowerPoint presentation with a brief update on the progress of the Triennial Ambient Water Quality Update. They are currently completing the last phase involving the interpretive tools, as well as the finishing up the draft Technical Memorandum with the 2018 data, that was distributed at the last Task Force meeting. They are aiming to have the draft Technical Memorandum available via email, and downloadable file, by early April. The next Task Force meeting will consist of a thorough review of the interpretive tools and responding to any initial comments on the Technical Memorandum, if possible. WSC will be able to present the final report to the SAWPA Commission once the comments have been collected, reviewed and answered.

Cindy Li, of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) began a discussion regarding the Recycled Water Policy 2018 amendment, specifically surrounding its annual requirement for groundwater quality data to be submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board. The Task Force completes the Ambient Water Quality Update every three years, but this new policy would complicate that by requiring data collection for submission annually. The data that are collected would be compiled and formatted into a file that is compatible with the State Board's Public Information System for review and processing. The Task Force Consultants, Tim Moore of Risk Sciences and Tess Dunham of Somach, Simmons & Dunn, will be reviewing the Recycled Water Policy to conduct discussions with the State Water Board to determine if our Basin Plan would exempt us from this specific annual requirement. Cindy Li, of RWQCB and Michael Cruikshank, of WSC, will schedule a conference call to get technical parameters on the needs that the State has for the data and the format of the submissions.

Update on 2019 Annual Report of Santa Ana River Water Quality – SAWPA

Rick Whetsel of SAWPA verbally updated the group on the Santa Ana River Annual Report, which is a deliverable under the Basin Monitoring Program Task Force. All water quality data have been received and will be composed in the same format as last year's report. The draft report is anticipated to be completed within the next couple of weeks.

Revision to Task Force Regulatory Support Firm Contract – Tess Dunham/SAWPA

Tess Dunham, of Somach, Simmons & Dunn, will be transitioning firms in the coming days. She will be joining Kahn, Soares and Conway LLP, a law and governmental advocacy firm in Sacramento. She will be continuing her involvement in water quality work for POTWs, point source and non-point source dischargers, as well as the regulatory work she conducts for the Task Force. Thorough review of the new law firm has been completed to show that there are no conflicts of interest as they are not representatives for any agencies within the Santa Ana River Watershed.

Mark Norton, of SAWPA, clarified that this would require that a new task order and agreement would need to be re-approved by the Task Force and SAWPA Commission. Billing rates for her support would not change for the revised task order, as the new firm is accommodating the current agreement the Task Force has with Tess Dunham. If approved by the Task Force, the contract revision will be presented to the SAWPA Commission for approval at the April 7 Commission Meeting.

MOVED, to approve revision of contract with Tess Dunham, in her transition from the Somach, Simmons and Dunn firm, to a new law firm, Kahn, Soares and Conway LLP, in order to continue as regulatory support for the Task Force.

Results: **Adopted (Unanimously)**

Motion/Second: G. Woodside/E. Filadelfia

Review of Draft Basin Plan Amendment– Risk Sciences

Tim Moore, of Risk Sciences, gave a verbal presentation regarding the status of the draft Basin Plan Amendment. The Basin Plan Amendment drafting has been put on hold because of issues with the Wasteload Allocation Model Update by Geoscience. The corrections that need to be made will cause a delay in the Basin Plan Amendment's completion.

Tess Dunham, of Somach, Simmons & Dunn, received feedback regarding the suggested changes to the Ambient Water Quality Updates being every 5 years, as opposed to every 3 years, in a discussion with the Regional Board. The Regional Board suggested that the change would be better suited to be made after this

Basin Plan Amendment was completed, as opposed to trying to fit it in with the current list of modifications to be made.

Recalculations for Temescal Valley in the Wasteload Allocation Model Update - Geoscience

Johnson Yeh, of Geoscience, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Wasteload Allocation Model Update. After the Final Summary Report was submitted, there were some concerns raised on the regarding the Upper Temescal Valley Groundwater Management Zone. These concerns require some of the model to be recalibrated and updated to reflect more accurate results. Corrections will be completed by Geoscience, at no additional cost to the Task Force, before the next meeting on April 22.

The corrections will be made to the following items:

- Use of Gaged Flow for Corona Lake Discharge
- Underestimation of Streambed Recharge Concentrations

In the discussion, it was also speculated that the 2018 data from the recent Triennial Ambient Water Quality update could replace the old data from 2015's Triennial AWQ update, reflecting a more up-to-date representation of each groundwater management zone's quality. This additional work of replacing the 2015 data with the 2018 data would be an additional cost to the Task Force. Geoscience will be sending a proposal over to Mark Norton, of SAWPA, who will forward it via email to the Task Force for approval.

Schedule Future Meetings

The next Basin Monitoring Program Task Force meeting, which will be conducted virtually due to COVID-19, has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 22nd, 2020 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.