

MEETING NOTES

Basin Monitoring Program Task Force

April 12, 2021

STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT:

City of Beaumont, Thaxton VanBelle*
City of Beaumont, Kevin Lee*
City of Corona, Melissa Estrada*
City of Riverside, Bobby Gustafson*
City of Riverside, Ed Filadelfia*
City of Riverside, Greg Herzog*
Eastern Municipal Water District, Al Javier*
Eastern Municipal Water District, Doug Edwards*
Elsinore Valley Municipal WD, Jesus Gastelum*
Elsinore Valley Municipal WD, Sudhir Mohleji*

Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Eddie Lin*
Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Joshua Aguilar*
Orange County Water District, Greg Woodside*
Orange County Water District, Kevin O'Toole*
SBMWD/RIX JPA, Jennifer Shepardson *
SBMWD/RIX JPA, Marissa Flores-Acosta*
WMWD/WRCRWA, Mallory Gandara*
Yucaipa Valley Water District, Ashley Gibson*
Yucaipa Valley Water District, Madeline Bluea*

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kahn Soares & Conway, LLP, Theresa (Tess) Dunham*
LeClaire & Associates, Joseph LeClaire*
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Bruce Whitaker*
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, T. Milford Harrison*
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Mark Norton*
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Rick Whetsel*

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Haley Mullay*
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Cindy Li*
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Keith Person*
West Yost, Samantha Adams*
WSC, Michael Cruikshank*

*Participated via conference call

STAKEHOLDERS ABSENT:

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
City of Banning
City of Redlands
City of Rialto

Irvine Ranch Water District
Jurupa Community Services District
San Geronio Pass Water Agency
Temescal Valley Water District

Call to Order/Introductions

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force (Task Force) meeting commenced at 10:02 a.m. in a virtual Zoom Meeting, in response to, and in compliance with, COVID-19 regulations. Brief introductions were made.

Approval of March 15, 2021 Meeting Notes

The March 15, 2021 meeting notes were approved as posted.

Draft Annual Santa Ana River Water Quality Report – SAWPA

Rick Whetsel, of SAWPA, gave update on the status of the Annual Santa Ana River Water Quality report. The report is currently being reviewed. A draft report is anticipated to be complete around the end of April 2021, with a final report is planned to be ready for the Regional Water Quality Control Board around the end of June 2021.

Draft Basin Plan Amendment Update – KSC/Regional Board Staff

Tess Dunham, of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP, gave an oral status update on the Basin Plan Amendment (BPA) process. The subject of transitioning over to a 5-year cycle for the Ambient Water Quality Update reports has come back up during the Scoping Committee meetings. The Task Force has previously been advised that completing another round of the Ambient Water Quality Update on the three-year cycle would be necessary to ensure no gaps or issues are missed moving forward. Upon further discussion, there is a want to move out the next AWQ Update as it may provide much needed benefits to the Task Force in this transition between the last AWQ Update and the 2019 Recycle Water Policy deadline in 2024. Some benefits of utilizing the 5-year cycle would be cost savings to go towards other planning priorities, better focus for the Task Force on the interim goals and reports, and additional time to update and possibly improve the AWQ process/procedure for the next report cycle. Cindy Li, of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), mentioned that she would discuss with upper management at the RWQCB to determine whether or not the

RWQCB would be willing to negotiate that transition sooner, so that the Task Force can decide how to strategically project budgetary needs for various upcoming Task Force planning priorities.

The Basin Plan Amendment is still scheduled to be on the agenda for the June RWQCB meeting, but will depend on when the BPA is posted for public review and comment. The June RWQCB Board meeting has been changed to June 18, 2021.

Review Draft Proposals to address Task Force FY 21 – 22 Priorities – KSC

Mark Norton reviewed the draft *Request for Proposals for Consulting Services to Assist the Basin Monitoring Program Task Force Implement 2021-2022 Planning Priorities* (RFP) to discuss recent edits made to the document based on feedback from the Task Force and Scoping Committee. Tess Dunham, of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP since the document was last seen by the Task Force. One note of potential change was made about the dates for the next cycle of the Ambient Water Quality Update; the dates listed for the AWQ process and completion would be subject to change, but this should not affect those that are submitting for the RFP as the RFP is only addressing the procedure of how the AWQ should be completed, not actually completing the analysis and reporting required for the AWQ Update. Ms. Dunham will be presenting an overview and process of the BPA to the SAWPA Commission at the May 4 SAWPA Commission meeting.

The RFP will be posted on the SAWPA website tomorrow afternoon, making proposals due one month later on May 13, 2021. Consultants can submit proposals on specific individual Tasks, the entire RFP, or even partner with other consultants, to respond to the RFP. There will need to be a team put together to review the submissions to this RFP, if there is any interest in assisting with this process please reach out to Mark Norton at mnorton@sawpa.org.

Update on AB 377

Tess Dunham, of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP, provided an oral report on AB 377 legislation. There have been amendments made to the legislation to support the intent and goals of the original legislation, but those amendments have not changed the level of opposition towards the bill.

Schedule Future Meetings

The next Basin Monitoring Program Task Force meeting, which will be conducted virtually due to COVID-19, has been scheduled for Monday, May 24th, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.