

AGENDA ITEM # 1

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COMMISSION OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COASTAL WATER RESEARCH PROJECT
AUTHORITY**

**HELD AT THE OFFICES OF THE AUTHORITY
7171 Fenwick Lane, Westminster, California**

**Friday, June 9, 2000
9:30 a.m.**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Janet Hashimoto – *US Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX*
Stan Martinson – *California State Water Resources Control Board*
Arthur Coe, Chair - *Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region*
Gerard Thibeault - *Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region*
Bob Horvath - *County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County*
Robert Ghirelli - *Orange County Sanitation District*
Ing-Yih Cheng - *City of Los Angeles*

STAFF PRESENT

Stephen Weisberg – *Executive Director*
Bryan Nece – *Administrative Officer*
M. James Allen - *Principal Scientist*
Steven Bay - *Principal Scientist*
Eddy Zeng - *Principal Scientist*
Kenneth Schiff - *Principal Scientist*
Richard Marsh– *Legal Counsel*

OTHERS PRESENT

Not Recorded

Commissioner Coe called the meeting to order at 9:40am.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MARCH 31, 2000**
- 2. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF MARCH 31, 2000**
- 3. QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS AT MARCH 31, 2000**
- 4. MINUTES OF CTAG MEETING HELD MARCH 2 & 3, 2000**

Upon the motion of Commissioner Martinson and seconded by Commissioner Horvath the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Executive Director reported that SCCWRP's national visibility was increasing. As examples, Dr. Weisberg indicated that he was asked to give the keynote talk at the Massachusetts Marine Monitoring Symposium on the activities of SCCWRP in facilitating regional monitoring. He also stated that at the end of this month, SCCWRP would be hosting two national committees, the Heinz Center Coastal and Oceans Committee for developing a National Environmental Report Card and the Steering Committee for the Global Ocean Observing System.

Dr. Weisberg reported on the excellent journal publication rate of the staff, indicating that SCCWRP has experienced a 95% acceptance rate for articles that have been submitted in the last four years. He also reported that the next annual report, which should be published at year end, will be SCCWRP's largest ever with 29 articles. He indicated, though, that it was taking almost 18 months to complete the report and he wished to discuss scheduling of the annual report. He was asked to prepare a memo identifying reporting options for discussion at the next Commission meeting.

Dr. Weisberg stated that Jan Stull, the Chairperson of CTAG for the last 15 years, had retired and that SCCWRP had presented her with a plaque of appreciation at her retirement party. He reported that Bruce Posthumus had been elected Chairman, and Frank Palmer was re-elected as Co-Chairman, of CTAG. Dr. Weisberg indicated that CTAG had asked him to bring up a few issues before the Commission for clarification regarding the form and function of the committee. The Commission indicated that they were satisfied with how CTAG was functioning and CTAG should be empowered to define their own membership and procedures.

6. CONTRACT APPROVAL

The Executive Director requested that the Commission endorse the following contracts that have been, or will be offered to the Authority:

- 1) State Water Resources Control Board
Development of Benthic Index for Southern California Bays and Harbors
(\$100,000) (RP# C-4) State Agreement Number 9-152-250-0

This project will use data collected during the Bight'98 Regional Survey and from the State's Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program to develop an index for assessing benthic community health in southern California bays and harbors.

- 2) State Water Resources Control Board
Estimates of Trace Metal Contributions to San Diego Bay from Vessel Anti-Fouling Paint & Underwater Hull Cleaning Activities (\$42,000) (RP# A-3)

This project will assess the emissions of trace metals from vessel activities. Also, it will determine the increased contributions that occur during underwater hull cleaning activities. Finally, it will be used to evaluate the different underwater hull cleaning techniques to determine which techniques are most efficient while maintaining trace metal emissions to a minimum. This additional information will assist the SDRWQCB develop management actions to improve the water quality in San Diego Bay.

- 3) State Water Resources Control Board
Development of Nutrient Water Quality Criteria for Newport Back Bay (\$75,000)
(RP# D-4) State Agreement Number 9-184-180-0

The SARWQCB developed a phased TMDL for total inorganic nitrogen (TIN) for Newport Bay. One of the reasons they selected a phased approach is that the TIN water quality objectives (WQOs) were established using a limited amount of data. This contract will assist in TMDL development by: 1) reviewing the available literature to assess if the WQOs are adequate for protection of beneficial uses identified in the waterbody, 2) review the historical monitoring data to assess the status of the chemical, physical, and habitat characteristics of San Diego Creek and Newport Bay.

- 4) Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
Development of a Contaminated Sediments Management Plan for the Los Angeles Region (\$2,033,000)

The Contaminated Sediments Task Force (CSTF) was formed in 1997 pursuant to state legislation (Senate Bill 673) mandating the development of a long-term management plan for dredging and disposal of contaminated sediments in Los Angeles County. The CSTF has identified a number of data gaps that must be addressed before the management plan can be completed. The LARWQCB has inquired as to whether SCCWRP would be interested in serving as the lead contractor for studies to determine pollutant sources in the watersheds, compile a data base of sediment quality in southern California, develop recommendations about sediment quality guidelines for southern California, and conduct pilot studies of contaminated sediment treatment technologies.

- 5) EPA
Microbiology Data System (\$130,000) (RP# E-4)

This is an add-on to our contract for developing an integrated data system that allows automatic collation of shoreline microbiology data collected by multiple agencies in San Diego County using internet technology. The add-on will allow us to extend the system to the remainder of southern California.

- 6) Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Estimates of Pollutant Inputs to Santa Monica Bay via Aerial Deposition
(\$50,000) (RP# A-2)

Aerial deposition is one source that is virtually unmonitored and whose contribution to the overall pollutant load is unknown. Although the Los Angeles metropolitan area exhibits among the worst air quality in the nation, no current information exists to assess the relative risk to the ocean from aerial deposition compared to other, better-characterized sources. This project will conduct measurements to estimate the mass loading of pollutants via aerial deposition to marine waters using a combination of source air-quality measurements, air transport and transformation models, and model verification using microlayer measurements at varying distances from shore.

- 7) Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority
Review of Alameda Corridor Discharge Monitoring (\$50,000) (RP# E-7) ACTA
Agreement Number 443

The Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA) is a public agency that is constructing a major modification of the rail transit system in Los Angeles County. Because of the high water table in the construction zone, large volumes of groundwater will be extracted and discharged into Dominguez Channel on a daily basis during construction. The Los Angeles Regional Board has ordered an independent peer-review of the results of the special studies being conducted to ensure that the work is credible and the conclusions scientifically defensible. SCCWRP has been asked by the board to coordinate the peer-review activities.

- 8) State of California – Department of Transportation:
Task Order Consulting Contract

The contract calls for development and evaluation of test management practices and assessment of runoff impairments.

- 9) City of San Diego
Task Order for Stormwater project

Commissioner Ghirelli moved for approval of all contracts. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinson. The motion was carried unanimously, with Commissioner Martinson abstaining on contract numbers 1, 2, 3, and 8; Commissioner Thibeault abstaining on contract numbers 3 and 8; and Commissioner Hashimoto abstaining on contract number 5.

7. RESOLUTION OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REGARDING CHARLES CARRY

Steve Weisberg pointed out that Charles Carry, who will soon be retiring, had assisted in starting the Agency 30 years and had been an integral part of SCCWRP ever since. He asked the Commission to pass a Resolution honoring Mr. Carry for his professional contributions to the organization.

Upon the motion of Commissioner Horvath and seconded by Commissioner Ghirelli, Resolution #00-3 was unanimously approved. On behalf of the Commission, Dr. Weisberg presented Mr. Carry with a plaque of appreciation.

8. MODEL POTW MONITORING PROGRAM

The Executive Director reported good progress on the Model POTW Monitoring Program. He indicated that consensus with CTAG had been reached on the effluent and benthic components. He also reported that CTAG had reached agreement on the shoreline bacterial component and was planning to meet jointly with the county health departments next week, as the model program that has been designed requires their close coordination. Dr. Weisberg proceeded to provide a short description of the draft shoreline bacterial monitoring element.

9. RESOLUTION # 00-4 ESTABLISHING RULES GOVERNING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND PERSONNEL, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Commission entered into closed session to discuss Agenda Item 9 and 10.

After returning from closed session Commissioner Ghirelli indicated that the Personnel and Finance Committee had earlier discussed the resolution and endorsed its approval with one amendment. The amendment limits jury duty to 40 hours of paid time with Director's discretion to approve more.

Commissioner Ghirelli motioned for approval of the Resolution Number 00-04 with the one amended change regarding jury duty. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thibeault and carried unanimously.

10. EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Commissioner Ghirelli indicated that the Personnel and Finance Committee had met and was pleased with the Executive Director's performance over the past year. He indicated that the Committee recommended the following revisions to the one year employment contract effective July 1, 2000: 1) increase the Director's base salary to \$100K and 2) award the Director a \$4,000 bonus payable July 31, 2000 in recognition of his outstanding performance during the past year. All other provisions of the contract would remain as previously adopted. Commissioner Ghirelli motioned for approval of the Employment Contract for Dr. Weisberg. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cheng and carried unanimously.

11. FISCAL YEAR 2000/2001 RESEARCH PLAN AND BUDGET

Executive Director Weisberg presented the proposed fiscal year 1999/2000 research plan. He said that CTAG had endorsed the research plan from a technical standpoint and he indicated that the Personnel and Finance Committee had recommend adopting the 2000/2001 research plan and budget. The operating budget for the next fiscal is \$2,865,296.

Upon motion of Commissioner Horvath, seconded by Commissioner Thibeault, and unanimously carried, the fiscal year 1999/2000 research plan was approved and the fiscal year 1999/2000 operating budget was adopted.

12. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY

Commissioner Thibeault motioned for approval of the investment policy effective July 1, 2000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Horvath and carried unanimously.

13. OTHER BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

14. FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

The Executive Director will develop alternative annual report schedules and present them at the next Commission meeting.

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Coe asked if any members of the public wished to address the Commission. There were no requests.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Coe adjourned the meeting at 12:10pm.

ATTEST:

Bryan Nece
Secretary