

AGENDA
NEWPORT BAY WATERSHED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

August 19, 2015
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Irvine Ranch Water District
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92618

Peer Swan, Chair
Irvine Ranch Water District

Michelle Steel, Vice Chair
County of Orange

Beth Krom
City of Irvine

Dr. Allan Bernstein
City of Tustin

William von Blasingame
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control
Board

Marshall 'Duffy' Duffield
City of Newport Beach

Michele Martinez
City of Santa Ana

Sandra Genis
City of Costa Mesa

Andrew Hamilton
City of Lake Forest

Dean Kirk
The Irvine Company

Carla Navarro
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Meeting information available at
<http://ocwatersheds.com/programs/ourws/wmaareas/wmacentraloc/nbexeccomm>

The Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee welcomes you to this meeting and encourages your participation. This agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. No action shall be taken on any items not appearing in the following agenda except as otherwise provided by law. Any member of the public may ask the Executive Committee to be heard on the following items, as those items are called. To speak on an agenda item, please provide a speaker request card to the Committee Staff. To speak on a matter not appearing in the agenda, please provide a speaker request card to the Committee Staff indicating Public Comments.

Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM # 1. MINUTES OF THE MAY 20, 2015 MEETING

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of the May 20, 2015 meeting

ITEM # 2. REVIEW OF PROGRESS SINCE 2010 EXECUTIVE ACTION PLAN

Presentation by Chris Crompton, County of Orange

Recommended Action: Review and file

ITEM # 3. FUTURE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FIELD TRIP OF KEY NEWPORT BAY WATERSHED PROJECT AREAS

Recommended Action: Consider field trip and potential dates

ITEM # 4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

ITEM # 5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

ITEM # 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

ITEM # 7. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting date: November 18, 2015

**AGENDA STAFF REPORTS
NEWPORT BAY WATERSHED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
AUGUST 19, 2015**

DISCUSSION CALENDAR, ITEMS # 1 - 5

ITEM # 1. MINUTES OF THE MAY 20, 2015 MEETING

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of the May 20, 2015 meeting as follows:

Date and Location: May 20, 2015, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Irvine Ranch Water District
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA 92618

Participants: Peer Swan, Chair, Irvine Ranch Water District
Michelle Steel, Vice Chair, County of Orange
Marshall “Duffy” Duffield, City of Newport Beach
Sandra Genis, City of Costa Mesa
Andrew Hamilton, City of Lake Forest
Dean Kirk, Irvine Company
Michele Martinez, City of Santa Ana
Carla Navarro, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
William von Blasingame, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM # 1. MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 19, 2014 MEETING

The minutes of the November 19, 2014 meeting were presented to the Executive Committee.

First/Second: Ms. Martinez/Mr. Kirk

Motion: Approve minutes of the November 19, 2014 with amendment to Item # 3 Big Canyon Watershed Selenium Mitigation Program per Carla Navarro

Outcome: Unanimously approved

ITEM # 2. OVERVIEW OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Skorpanich provided a brief history of the Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee. She elaborated on the composition of the Management and Executive Committees, organizational structure, goals, and the role of the Executive Committee as the policy body to help advise and

direct on watershed initiatives, including regulatory driven activities. Executive Committee members will receive an updated copy of the Executive Action Plan later this year.

Motion: Receive and file
Outcome: Unanimously approved

ITEM # 3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

First/Second: Ms. Martinez /Ms. Genis

Motion: Approve Peer Swan as Chair and Michelle Steel as Vice Chair for 2015 calendar year

Outcome: Unanimously approved

ITEM # 4. US EPA APPROVAL OF SANTA ANA REGIONAL BOARD BASIN PLAN AMENDMENTS FOR RECREATIONAL STANDARDS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR NEWPORT BAY WATERSHED

Mr. Crompton provided a historical perspective on the processes for amending the recreational standards for fresh water streams and flood control channels in the Basin Plan. He explained how these amendments were a collaborative effort between the Counties of Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange along with the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority. The process was lengthy and complex but in June 2012 the Santa Ana Regional Board approved the proposed changes to the Basin Plan. The next steps were approval from State Water Resources Control Board and then US EPA.

Ms. Cross elaborated on the specific amendments to the Basin Plan and the potential implications of US EPA's decisions. On April 8, 2015, the US EPA submitted a decision letter with partial approval of some amendments and with disapproval of other amendments. Certain changes were not addressed in the decision letter. It is not clear whether this was an oversight, or reflected a decision by US EPA. Regional Board staff will request written clarification from US EPA regarding those amendments not addressed in the decision letter. The changes to beneficial uses for water body segments in the Newport Bay Watershed is unprecedented and is the first time it has occurred in California.

Motion: Receive and file

Outcome: No action was taken

ITEM # 5. SELENIUM TMDL PROJECT STATUS

a. Peters Canyon Wash Channel Water Capture and Reuse Pipeline Project

Mr. Bennett discussed how the Peters Canyon Pipeline Project will divert nuisance groundwater and surface water flows containing high concentrations of selenium and nitrates from selected tributaries to Peters Canyon Channel and deliver them in a pressure pipeline to the Orange County Sanitation District (OCS D) for treatment and reuse. The project includes installation of a pipeline conveyance system with diversion structures that begins on the west side of Peters Canyon Channel near Walnut Avenue where the Caltrans Ground Water Treatment Facility (GWTF) is located. It ultimately discharges into the Main Street sewer for treatment and reuse by OCS D and recharge by the Orange County Water District following reverse osmosis treatment. This project is a key component to achieving compliance with the Selenium Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) in the Newport Bay Watershed. The Peters Canyon Pipeline is expected to remove selenium loading to Peters Canyon Wash Channel and San Diego Creek by 40-43% (154 lbs per

year). Funding partners for this project are the Cities of Irvine and Tustin, County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District, Caltrans, and Irvine Ranch Water District.

b. Santa Ana Delhi Channel Diversion and Trash Removal Project

Mr. Chesanek affirmed that this project is very similar to the Peters Canyon Pipeline Project, since it too will remove selenium. In addition to selenium removal it will also address current and future TMDLs for sediment, toxics, bacteria and nutrients. This is a multi-jurisdictional project involving the Cities of Santa Ana, Costa Mesa, Irvine and Newport Beach, IRWD, County of Orange, and Orange County Flood Control District. The project proposes to divert water from the downstream reach of the Channel to Orange County Sanitation District sanitary sewer system prior to entering Upper Newport Bay. By diverting the low flows, pollutants would also be removed. Trash will be addressed by incorporating a Coanda screen that removes trash in conjunction with screening and settling chambers. The project will reduce the amount of trash impacting the Bay. The County and cities are discussing the preliminary design concepts and a potential funding agreement.

Mr. Hamilton questioned the amount of water being diverted. It was confirmed that these projects would save approximately 6 cubic feet per second (cfs) or 4,400 acre-feet per year.

First/Second: Ms. Genis/Ms. Navarro

Motion: Receive and file

Outcome: Unanimously approved

ITEM # 6. STATEWIDE TRASH POLICY IMPLICATIONS FOR ORANGE COUNTY

Mr. Hamilton asked that this item be moved to the discussion calendar. He requested clarification on the impact of the trash policy on street sweeping regulations for local jurisdictions. Mr. Berchtold responded that the trash policy is still going through the approval process with the Office of Administrative Law and US EPA. There are no specific requirements related to street sweeping, but it can be an element of a program that a local jurisdiction implements to control trash. The Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Board will strive to give cities the flexibility to achieve compliance under this new trash policy. This trash policy is more prescriptive than current trash regulations with local jurisdictions having to select between Track 1 or Track 2. The Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Board is required to incorporate the new policy into the MS4 permit within 18 months of the effective date.

First/Second: Mr. Hamilton/Ms. .Genis

Motion: Receive and file

Outcome: Unanimously approved

CONSENT CALENDAR – ITEM # 6 - 8

ITEM # 7. SELENIUM TMDL STATUS

ITEM # 8. CIENEGA SELENIUM REMOVAL DEMONSTRATION PILOT PROJECT STATUS

First/Second: Ms. Genis/Ms. Martinez
Motion: Receive and file Items # 7 and #8
Outcome: Unanimously approved

ITEM # 9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Ms. Skorpanich advised the Executive Committee of staff changes for the upcoming year.

ITEM # 10. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Swan commented that agencies in the Newport Bay watershed should be mindful that the drought conditions in combination with accumulated debris in the catch basins could be a potential problem when Orange County receives a significant amount of rainfall.

ITEM # 11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ITEM # 12. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting date: August 19, 2015

Attendees:

Alex Waite, City of Tustin
Amanda Carr, City of Irvine
David Webb, City of Newport Beach
Devin Slaven, City of Lake Forest
Fiona Sanchez, Irvine Ranch Water District
Kurt Berchtold, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
Mark Tetteimer, Irvine Ranch Water District
Phil Jones, County of Orange
Rick Bennett, Irvine Ranch Water District
Terri Reeder, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
Tyrone Chesanek, City of Santa Ana
Wanda Cross, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

Committee Staff, County of Orange:

Mary Anne Skorpanich
Chris Crompton
Jian Peng
Beatrice Musacchia
Ray Serafico

ITEM # 2. REVIEW OF PROGRESS SINCE 2010 EXECUTIVE ACTION PLAN

Presentation by Chris Crompton, County of Orange

Recommended Action: Receive and File

The Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee requested the creation of a focused strategic plan, referred to as the Executive Action Plan, and approved it in 2010 (see attachment). The Plan includes:

- Description of each program area
- Regulatory requirements
- Compliance activities to date
- Anticipated compliance activities in 3-5 year horizon
- Financial forecast based on anticipated compliance activities

The Plan also serves as an reference handbook for members of the Executive Committee and includes information on:

- Watershed planning in Orange County
- Governance of the Central Orange County Watershed Management Area
- Accomplishments
- The cooperative agreement that established the Executive Committee
- Funding agreements

The presentation will review the key areas of the Executive Action Plan and the progress made in the key compliance areas in the 5-year period since approval. An update of the Plan will be brought to the Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee at a future meeting.

ITEM # 3. FUTURE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FIELD TRIP OF KEY NEWPORT BAY WATERSHED PROJECT AREAS

Recommended Action: Consider field trip, locations, and potential dates.

The Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee has previously conducted a field trip to upland areas of the watershed with eroding channels. A second field trip to areas in the lower watershed could visit sites discussed in recent Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee meetings including the IRWD Wetlands, the Big Canyon Wash ponds, and the locations of diversion projects being constructed or planned for construction on Peters Canyon Wash and Santa Ana-Delhi Channel.

ITEM # 4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

ITEM # 5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

ITEM # 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

ITEM # 7. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting date:

November 18, 2015