

**ACTION MINUTES
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Date and Location: February 4, 2016 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Laguna Niguel Council Chambers
30111 Crown Valley Parkway
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

****Audio recording for the February 4th meeting is available [here](#). Recording times noted in the minutes correspond to that item on the recording.****

ITEM # 1 Roll Call/Self-Introductions (Recording: 00:01:38)

Sandra F. Jacobs, Chair, Santa Margarita Water District
Jerry McCloskey, City of Laguna Niguel
Mary Aileen Matheis, Irvine Ranch Water District
Betty Burnett for Rick Erkeneff, South OC Wastewater Authority
Carlos N. Olvera, City of Dana Point
Susan Hinman, Municipal Water District of OC
David Shissler for Rob Zur Schmiede, City of Laguna Beach
Ed Mandich, Trabuco Canyon Water District
Dave Harrington, City of Aliso Viejo
Mike Vaughn, City of Rancho Santa Margarita
Debbie Neev, Laguna Beach County Water District
Carol Moore, City of Laguna Woods
Victor Cao for Supervisor Lisa Bartlett, County of Orange
Bob Baker, City of San Clemente
Raymond Miller, City of San Juan Capistrano
Ed Sachs, City of Mission Viejo

ITEM # 2 Public Comments (Non-Agenda Items) (Recording: 00:04:45)

None

ITEM # 3 Approval of Minutes (Recording: 00:04:55)

The minutes of the November 19, 2015 meeting were presented to the Executive Committee.

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of the November 19, 2015 meeting

Motion: *Approve minutes*
First/Second: *Mr. Baker/Mr. Olvera*
Abstained: *Mr. Sachs*
Outcome: *Approved*

ITEM # 4 El Toro Water District Recycled Water Expansion Project Distribution System (Recording: 00:05:21)

Presenter: Dennis Cafferty, El Toro Water District

Mr. Cafferty provided an overview of the El Toro Water District's Recycled Water Expansion Project Distribution System, prioritized by the Executive Committee in and funded through Proposition 50. Grant funding supported construction of a distribution system that provided recycled water to portions of the Cities of Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest and Mission Viejo.

Recommended Action: Receive and file

Motion: *Receive and file*
First/Second: *Mr. Vaughn /Ms. Jacobs*
Outcome: *Approved*

ITEM # 5 Strategic Visioning Process Update (Recording: 00:29:00)

Recommended Actions:

- 1) *Approve Ad Hoc recommendation to combine Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plan (Plan) goals for promoting water use efficiency and increasing water supply and reliability.*
- 2) *Approve three strategic priorities recommended by the Ad Hoc committee:*
 - a. *Develop sustainable water supplies;*
 - b. *Cultivate storage for potable and recycled water, and stormwater/low flow capture; and*
 - c. *Foster regional projects to maximize water resources.*
- 3) *Direct Management Committee to develop recommendations for objectives and weighting for the Plan.*
- 4) *Approve modification of the FY 2016-17 budget to reallocate line item 11 – Water Bond grant submittals – of \$60,000 for an update to the Plan. In addition, approve using the re-allocated funding in FY 2015-16 as well as FY 2016-17.*

Motion: *Full recommendation approval*
First/Second: *Ms. Matheis/Mr. McCloskey*
Outcome: *Approved*

ITEM # 6 Orange County Water Reliability Study (Recording: 00:43:30)
Presenter: Karl Seckel, Municipal Water District of Orange County

Karl Seckel, Assistant General Manager for the Municipal Water District of Orange County, provided an overview of the Orange County Water Reliability Study. The study seeks to assess current water supplies, future water demands and portfolios of potential projects to close future gaps between supply and demand.

Recommended Action: Receive and file

Motion: *Receive and file*
First/Second: *Ms. Matheis /Mr. McCloskey*
Outcome: *Approved*

ITEM # 7 Executive Officer's Report (Recording: 01:21:05)

Mary Anne Skorpanich, County of Orange, provided the following information to the Committee:

- SWRCB recently approved an amendment to the Ocean Plan that governs desalinization and brine disposal
- February 10 – 12, 2016 is the Urban Water Institute Conference www.urbanwater.com
- Free online course on water resource management by the Geneva Water Hub <http://www.genevawaterhub.org>
- Public Policy Institute of California issued an annual report recently titled “Improving the Federal Response to the Drought” www.ppic.org
- On April 19, 2016 the SWRCB will be holding a public hearing for the proposed General Order on Recycled Water
- California Water Environment Association will be holding their conference in Santa Clara, CA on April 26 – 29, 2016

Update on the Study for Aliso Creek Ecosystem Restoration:

- Tentatively selected plan will be released for public review in April 2016, Orange County will host a public meeting to provide a briefing and receive feedback from public and agency representatives; the comment period will close in July 2016
- Final report anticipated by November 2016 will be presented to the Chief of the Army Corps of Engineers for approval, allowing the project to formally proceed to design and construction
- The Federal government will be responsible for 65% of the project cost and local agencies for 35% of the total project cost
- Other options will be pursued at the local level should there be no federal interest in the project

ITEM #8 Executive Committee Member Comments (Recording: 01:25:50)

- Mr. Cao invited Committee members to attend the upcoming Orange County Coastal Coalition workshop on April 28, 2016
- Mr. Harrington updated the Committee on progress with the Dairy Fork Wetland Project. The Committee approved a \$500,000 funding recommendation for the project in the 2015 Integrated Regional Watershed Management Proposition 84 grant application. Groundbreaking is tentatively scheduled for Monday February 22, 2016 at 10:00 am. Mr. Harrington acknowledged city staff – Shaun Pelletier and Moy Yahya – for their efforts on the project
- Announcement of Ms. Skorpanich’s retirement from the County of Orange, effective February 17, 2016; Ms. Skorpanich was thanked for her contributions as Executive Officer for the committee

ITEM # 9 Adjournments (Recording: 01:37:17)

Meeting adjourned at 4:08 P.M. The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2016

Non-Committee Attendees

Karl Seckel	Municipal Water District of Orange County
Betty Burnett	South Orange County Wastewater Authority
Brad Fowler	City of Dana Point
Hector Ruiz	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Rick Wilson	Surfrider Foundation
Moy Yahya	City of Laguna Woods/City of Aliso Viejo
Ken Rosenfield	City of Laguna Hills
Mark Tetterer	Irvine Ranch Water District
Dan Ferons	Santa Margarita Water District
Dennis Cafferty	El Toro Water District
Devin Slaven	City of Lake Forest
Thomas Wheeler	City of Lake Forest
Bob Hill	El Toro Water District
Rich Schlesinger	City of Mission Viejo
Celia Kutcher	OC Chapter, California Native Plant Society
Shaun Pelletier	City of Aliso Viejo
Janna Lee	City of Rancho Santa Margarita
Joey Soto	Soto Resources
Nancy Palmer	City of Laguna Niguel
E. Max Maximous	City of Rancho Santa Margarita
Richard Gardner	Capo Beach resident

Committee Staff: Mary Anne Skorpanich, Marilyn Thoms, Jenna Voss, and Yvette Hanna