



**SAWPA COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 19, 2020**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

David J. Slawson, Chair, Eastern Municipal Water District  
Kati Parker, Vice Chair, Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
Kelly E. Rowe, Secretary-Treasurer, Orange County Water District  
Brenda Dennstedt, Western Municipal Water District  
T. Milford Harrison, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

None

**ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS  
PRESENT; NON-VOTING**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

Rich Haller, Karen Williams, Carlos Quintero, Dean Unger, Mark Norton,  
David Ruhl, Kelly Berry

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof, LLP

The Regular Commission meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Chair Slawson on behalf of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California. The record will reflect this meeting was conducted virtually.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-25-30 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 12, 2020, and Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 17, 2020, any Commission member may call into the Commission meeting without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconferencing requirements.

Executive Order N-33-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 19, 2020, ordered all individuals to stay at home or at their place of residence. In concert with state and local efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and until further notice, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority will be holding all Board and Committee meetings by teleconference and virtually through the Zoom app.

As set forth on the posted meeting agenda, this Commission meeting was accessible to the public by teleconference and through Zoom. Members of the public who were unable to participate by teleconference or virtually were invited to submit comments and questions in writing via email for the Commission's consideration. All votes taken during this meeting were conducted via oral roll call.

**2. ROLL CALL**

An oral roll call was duly noted and recorded by the Clerk of the Board.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

**4. ITEMS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED**

There were no added or deleted items.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: MAY 5, 2020**

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

**MOVED**, approve the May 5, 2020 meeting minutes.

Result:	<b>Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)</b>
Motion/Second:	Parker/Rowe
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Harrison, Parker, Rowe, Slawson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. UPDATED PERSONNEL HANDBOOK (CM#2020.31)**

Karen Williams and Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof LLP, provided the PowerPoint presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 13 – 21. A clarification of Appendix 3 (page 99 of the agenda packet) was provided: Professional Memberships should be \$300.00, and Work Boot Reimbursement should be \$175.00. General Manager Haller noted if a license is work related, the employee will be reimbursed. There was no discussion; Chair Slawson called for motion.

**MOVED**, approve the updated and revised Personnel Handbook.

Result:	<b>Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)</b>
Motion/Second:	Rowe/Parker
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Harrison, Parker, Rowe, Slawson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

**B. INLAND EMPIRE BRINE LINE RATE RESOLUTION (CM#2020.34)**

Carlos Quintero and Karen Williams provided the PowerPoint presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 182 – 224. Commissioner Dennstedt voiced concern increased rates may inhibit economic recovery efforts of Brine Line customers. A discussion ensued regarding communications with existing Brine Line customers regarding increased rates. Commissioner Dennstedt proposed an alternate motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Harrison.

**MOVED**, continue consideration of a resolution establishing new Inland Empire Brine Line rates to be effective July 1, 2020 (FY20-21) until the next Commission meeting; and, direct staff to communicate with and receive comments from Brine Line customers relating to increased rates.

Result:	<b>Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Passed)</b>
Motion/Second:	Dennstedt/Harrison
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Harrison, Parker, Slawson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	Rowe
Absent:	None

**C. SANTA ANA RIVER WATERSHED WEATHER MODIFICATION FOR WATER SUPPLY FEASIBILITY STUDY | MILESTONE REPORT (CM#2020.35)**

Garrett Cammans, President of North American Weather Consultants Inc., provided a PowerPoint presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 233 – 255. Preliminary estimated cost for a ground-based program is \$250,000 to \$450,000; an aerial program would be \$300,000 to \$900,000. The exact cost and the mix of ground vs. aerial would be evaluated in the future. Commissioner Rowe encouraged Cammans to work collaboratively with agencies currently conducting similar programs for data compilation and relating to CEQA, in particular Los Angeles county. Commissioner Dennstedt expressed an interest in the WMWD board receiving a similar presentation, including benefits to their customers. Cammans advised a presentation for all member agencies would be practical. Mark Norton noted the next step is completing the feasibility study, for which funding has already been committed. Thereafter, weather modification program funding, partners, and CEQA issues would need to be addressed. Moving forward, a technical committee meeting will be held with representatives from each member agency; Commissioners voiced their interest in participating.

**MOVED**, receive a status report on the Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification for Water Supply Feasibility Study by North American Weather Consultants Inc. and concur there is sufficient justification to complete the study.

Result:	<b>Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)</b>
Motion/Second:	Rowe/Harrison
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Harrison, Parker, Rowe, Slawson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

Chair Slawson recessed the meeting at 11:19 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:27 a.m. The Commission next considered Closed Session.

**D. CLAIM FOR MONEY/DAMAGES | CLAIMANT LARRY McKENNEY**

Rich Haller provided an oral status update. It was noted that a legible copy of the claim has been requested and will be made available upon its receipt.

**MOVED**, deny the government tort claim of Claimant Larry McKenney for money/damages submitted May 6, 2020, pursuant to California Government Code Section 910.

Result:	<b>Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)</b>
Motion/Second:	Harrison/Rowe
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Harrison, Parker, Rowe, Slawson
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

**E. COVID-19 EMERGENCY DECLARATION | STATUS UPDATE**

Rich Haller provided an oral status update on SAWPA's response to the COVID-19 emergency declaration. Commencing June 1, SAWPA staff will work onsite on a rotating basis while observing CDC guidelines.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 6.E.

**7. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

The following oral/written reports/updates were received and filed.

**A. CASH TRANSACTIONS REPORT – MARCH 2020**

**B. INTER-FUND BORROWING – MARCH 2020 (CM#2020.32)**

**C. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS/FINANCIAL REPORTING – MARCH 2020 (CM#2020.33)**

**D. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

**E. STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

**F. CHAIR'S COMMENTS/REPORT**

There were no comments/reports from the Chair.

**G. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

There were no Commissioner comments.

**H. COMMISSIONERS' REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no Commissioner requests for future agenda items.

**8. CLOSED SESSION**

Chair Slawson recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 11:27 a.m. General Manager Rich Haller, Legal Counsel Andrew E. Turner, and the Clerk of the Board were present during the discussion of Agenda Item No. 8.A.

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(2)**

Name of Party: Larry McKenney

Chair Slawson resumed Open Session at 11:46 a.m. There was no reportable action.

The Commission next considered Agenda Item No. 6.D.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

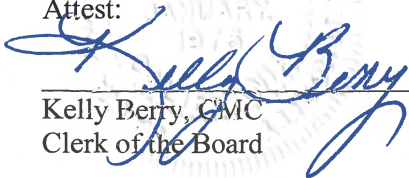
There being no further business for review, Chair Slawson adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

**Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission on Tuesday, June 16, 2020.**



David J. Slawson, Chair

Attest:



Kelly Berry, CMC  
Clerk of the Board