



**SAWPA COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 2, 2021**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Jasmin A. Hall, Chair, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Bruce Whitaker, Vice Chair, Orange County Water District
Brenda Dennstedt, Secretary-Treasurer, Western Municipal Water District
June D. Hayes, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
David J. Slawson, Eastern Municipal Water District

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

**ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS
PRESENT; NON-VOTING**

T. Milford Harrison, Alternate, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Kelly E. Rowe, Alternate, Orange County Water District
Mike Gardner, Alternate, Western Municipal Water District

STAFF PRESENT

Jeff Mosher, Karen Williams, Mark Norton, Dean Unger, David Ruhl,
Carlos Quintero, Kelly Berry

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof, LLP; Tess Dunham, KSC; Michael
Boccardo and Beth Olhasso, West Coast Advisors; Gil Botello,
SBVMWD Board Member; Nelida Mendoza, Santa Ana City Council

The Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Chair Hall on behalf of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting was conducted virtually and all votes were taken by 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: FEBRUARY 16, 2021

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

B. TREASURER'S REPORT – JANUARY 2021

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

MOVED, approve the Consent Calendar.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Dennstedt/Hayes
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Hall, Hayes, Slawson, Whitaker
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. ROTATION OF OFFICER | VICE CHAIR (CM#2021.16)

Jeff Mosher noted that Bruce Whitaker was recently appointed the SAWPA Commissioner representing OCWD, with Kelly Rowe appointed the Alternate Commissioner. Staff recommended the appointment of Bruce Whitaker as Commission Vice Chair and OWOW Steering Committee Convener in following the historical rotation.

MOVED, appoint Bruce Whitaker as Commission Vice Chair in accordance with the historical rotation provisions of Resolution No. 355 and acknowledge Bruce Whitaker will serve on the One Water One Watershed (OWOW) Steering Committee as the Convener as set forth in Resolution No. 2018-1.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Dennstedt/Slawson
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Hall, Hayes, Slawson, Whitaker
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

B. AB 377 IMPACTS

1. Task Force Impacts.

Tess Dunham, KSC noted that AB 377 would most likely result in the Regional Board and State Water Board no longer having discretion to work with the Task Force members and how they are permitted in both their NPDS as well as discharge permits as the legislation would severely restrict the Regional Board and State Water Board. AB 377 could undermine the Task Force creativity and collaborative efforts over the past decades in addressing water quality issues in a reasonable manner that has been protective of water quality. AB 377 is authored/sponsored by California Coastkeeper and was in large part put forward in response to municipal stormwater permits in the Los Angeles region and irrigated agricultural permits in other parts of the state. As currently drafted, AB 377 would impact all permittees within the Santa Ana region.

2. Regional Response

Beth Olhasso, West Coast Advisors concurred with the potential impacts to SAWPA mentioned earlier. WCA is currently working with the legislative teams within the region to compile potential impacts and assist in putting together a regional opposition letter for signature by SAWPA and its member agencies. Jeff Mosher affirmed that SAWPA will be working with WCA to prepare an opposition letter for future Commission consideration; SAWPA will be working through the legislative coordinating group to develop language and seek member agency review and input. Beth Olhasso advised AB 377 should move quickly and must be out of committee by the end of April. Commissioner Dennstedt asked if individual letters or one regional letter would be more impactful; Olhasso stated a regional letter would have more impact. Commissioner Dennstedt agreed and voiced her support.

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

C. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Michael Boccadoro and Beth Olhasso, West Coast Advisors, provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the quarterly legislative report. Chair Hall asked if there is any sense of Sacramento's priorities and how those priorities would be positioned moving forward – infrastructure, climate change, drought prevention, etc.? Olhasso noted the state is considering climate resilience bonds moving forward focused on wildfire prevention and climate change issues. Revenue from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) will continue to be utilized to fund some climate change programs in the future. Additionally, there are infrastructure bonds focusing on school facilities and housing for consideration into 2022.

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

7. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS-

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

A. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON 100-DAY PLAN STATUS

Jeff Mosher provided an oral report on the General Manager's 100-Day Plan. The initial fact-finding phase will be concluded and summarized at his next update on April 6 and how the plan will be implemented in terms of next phases.

B. CHAIR'S COMMENTS/REPORT

Chair Hall appreciated the legislative update and General Manager's 100-day plan report.

C. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Hayes welcomed SBVWMD Director Gil Botello who was recently appointed SBVMWD's Alternate Committee Member to the Project Agreement (PA) 24 Committee. Commissioner Hayes requested a copy of the legislative report PowerPoint presentation and advised she would be working to include the City of Rialto in collaborative efforts opposing AB 377. Councilmember Nelida Mendoza, City of Santa Ana, commented that she would take the issue to the Santa Ana City Council. Commissioner Slawson noted there were some concerns with AB 377 that need to be addressed and SAWPA would not support until additional information is determined.

D. COMMISSIONERS' REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Commissioner requests for future agenda items.

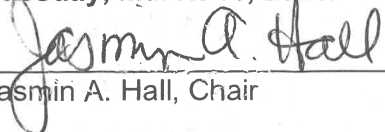
8. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

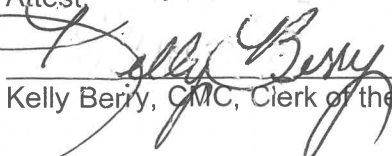
There being no further business for review, Chair Hall adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission on Tuesday, March 16, 2021.



Jasmin A. Hall, Chair

Attest:



Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board