

Basin Monitoring Program Task Force

May 17, 2011

ATTENDEES:

LeAnne Hamilton, IEUA

Lyndy Lewis, EMWD

Kristen Wardlaw, YVWD

Matt Harward, YVWD

Jack Nelson, YVWD

Edward Filadelfia, City of Riverside

Val Housel, SBMWD

Bobby Gustafson, SBMWD

Jennifer Shepardson, SBMWD

Linda Garcia, WMWD

Rebecca Schwartz, City of Redlands

Hope Smythe, CRWQCB

Greg Woodside, OCWD

Marsha Westropp, OCWD

Ben Pak, CBWM

Eric Lindberg, WE Inc.

Mark Norton, SAWPA

Zyanya Blancas, SAWPA

Regina Patterson, SAWPA

Call to Order/Introductions

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority office located at 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

Meeting Summary Approval

Mark Norton presented the March 15, 2011 Meeting Summary for approval. Marsha Westropp provided clarification on page 2 in the discussion of the WLAM. Those modifications will be incorporated into the summary. Hearing no additional comments, the summary was deemed acceptable.

Status - SAR Wasteload Allocation Basin Plan Amendment – Regional Board

Hope Smythe stated there is nothing new to report. The goal is to begin work on the Basin Plan Amendment this summer in preparation for the October board meeting. Mr. Norton invited comments regarding the Basin Plan Amendment (BPA). There were none.

Status - SAR Watershed Ambient Water Quality Update – WE Inc.

Eric Lindberg provided a brief update on the ongoing Ambient Water Quality effort. He reported over the past couple of months they have met with several of the Task Force agencies. Future meetings are scheduled in the coming weeks with the City of Banning, WMWD, EVMWD, SGPWA and a few other agencies who want to review maps and data and discuss the technical process. Because we are still at this stage of the project, rather than deliver the final technical memorandum by June 30th, a more realistic goal is to have the draft memo done by June 30th. This would provide us with the recomputation results in time for language for the Basin Plan that requires that it be done by July 1st. No budget impact is expected due to this delay. He invited agencies who have not yet scheduled a visit to do so at their earliest convenience.

Hope Smythe said this schedule will allow time to incorporate those findings in the BPA. Mr. Norton invited comments regarding the interpretive tools. Mr. Lindberg said they are still working on the analysis itself producing the change maps and the trend of water quality at key wells. Because it is the first effort, extra care and time are being taken to write the text and recommendations, making sure the recommendations and findings are commensurate with what is seen in the data.

SAR Recharge Facilities Modeling – OCWD

Greg Woodside provided a presentation on the modeling effort being done on recharge basins on facilities along the Santa Ana River (SAR) titled “*Recharge Facilities Model of OCWD’s Recharge System*”. He displayed a map of OCWD’s recharge system diversion, recharge water pipeline, GWR system pipeline, inflatable rubber dam and the transfer tube. Emphasis was made on the importance of dewatering pumping and he summarized OCWD’s recharge system in the cities of Anaheim and Orange.

This effort is driven by OCWD’s interest to better optimize its recharge facilities and OCWD’s desire to recharge more SAR water. As this is done, OCWD recharges more SAR water which will allow us to sustain more pumping from our basin. One of the ways to recharge more water is to look at new recharge facilities which will involve buying more land at approximately \$1M to \$1.5M per acre. We have expanded by buying land twice in the last 10 years.

He explained the purpose of the model for optimization of recharge and cleaning activities and having a planning tool to determine how much additional water could be recharged if new facilities are built, existing facilities are improved, or the Prado storage program is modified. The model is computer based and each has a percolation capacity demand. Water is routed based on percolation capacity and available supply including pipeline and pumping system capacities. He continued explaining the use of equations in the process.

Mr. Norton asked how much can be captured on an annual basis? Mr. Woodside said 250,000 acre-feet per year. There is some recharge in Santiago Creek and minimal grading is done to try to maximize the percolation rate. The district is looking to build injection wells along the pipeline in Santa Ana.

Future Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 22, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.

Mr. Norton said he hoped that the draft WE Inc. report would be available at the June meeting. Mr. Lindberg said the draft interpretive tools section may not be complete by then but should be shortly thereafter. Mr. Norton stated that once the draft report is provided it will be sent by email to the Task Force and the Regional Board for review and comments with a final to distribute by the end of July.

Additional Items Update

Mr. Norton reported work on the Annual SAR Report is in progress by SAWPA and the approved budget has been distributed. Invoices will be sent early to mid-July.

He further reported that regarding the regional water monitoring program, the group felt it was premature at this stage due to fiscal challenges that most cities are facing. There are some monies available in some of the TMDL Task Forces and the Stormwater Quality Standards Task Force who has discussed a monitoring program. The thought was that the beneficiaries of the regional water monitoring program might be more for the MS4 co-permittees. Discussions are taking place regarding using Middle SAR TMDL carryover funding as a source of funding. There has been no news yet so it may be held off until we are in a better situation to support it. It is still believed to be a good concept, something we trust the Regional Board is supportive of and it provides a long term cost savings. A work plan and quality assurance project plan would be needed and some money would be required to fund that.

LeAnne Hamilton requested the most recent BPA language? Mr. Norton said he will provide it by email. Ms. Smythe said she will provide the modified language by email to Mark Norton.

Adjournment

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Handouts/Presentations (available at www.sawpa.org)

1. Presentation "Recharge Facilities Model of OCWD's Recharge System" - OCWD