



**SAWPA COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 15, 2017**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Susan Lien Longville, Chair, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Ronald W. Sullivan, Vice Chair, Eastern Municipal Water District
Jasmin A. Hall, Secretary-Treasurer, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Thomas P. Evans, Western Municipal Water District
Philip L. Anthony, Orange County Water District

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None.

**ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS
PRESENT; NON-VOTING**

Brenda Dennstedt, Alternate, Western Municipal Water District
Gil Navarro, Alternate, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Bruce Whitaker, Alternate, Orange County Water District

STAFF PRESENT

Rich Haller, Larry McKenney, Mark Norton, Karen Williams, Dean Unger, David Ruhl, Mike Antos, Kelly Berry

The Regular Commission Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Longville at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was duly noted and recorded by the Clerk of the Board.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: JULY 31, 2017

B. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: AUGUST 1, 2017

MOVED, approve the Consent Calendar.

Result:	Adopted
Motion/Second:	Anthony/Hall
Ayes:	Anthony, Evans, Hall, Longville, Sullivan
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	Hall (August 1, 2017 minutes approval, only)
Absent:	None

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. MEMBER AGENCY GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT (CM#2017.104)

A PowerPoint presentation was provided by the member agency general managers with an overview of the General Managers Report and the facilitated process. The General Managers Report and recommendations represent a consensus of all five member agency general managers, and considered input from recently retired SAWPA General Manager Celeste Cantú and Interim General Manager Rich Haller. The report acknowledged the importance of SAWPA to the region, and the presentation highlighted the need for SAWPA to continue to serve the interests of the member agencies and of other interests in the region. The report identified desirable traits of a SAWPA general manager. The general managers found that there was not a common understanding of the JPAA, and agreed to seek to implement a “no surprises” rule, where the general managers would talk with one another before issues come up that are going to cause potential problems. At the same time, the member agency general managers agreed that the SAWPA general manager must have broad latitude and authority to manage the agency. What is needed is coordination that does not involve anyone interfering with one another’s authority.

The general managers expressed their desire to receive feedback from the Commission regarding the report and recommendations, and requested a focused Commission workshop be scheduled in the future to discuss and refine the report’s recommendations. They requested direction from the Commission to work with the SAWPA General Manager to develop a joint work plan to implement recommendations in the following areas: (1) practices to strengthen working relationships; (2) conforming SAWPA administrative practices related to project agreements to the JPAA; and, (3) JPAA clarifications regarding several terms in section 18, and an amendment to allow up to 10% exceedance of approved budgets based on a unanimous vote of the Commission or project committee.

The general managers suggested that clarifications to the JPAA that would not require amendments should address the definition of “project” and “administrative matters” and the definition of “operating decisions” under project agreements. They proposed forming project agreements that include non-SAWPA members on project committees, much like existing task force agreements. They noted that several projects could be consolidated under a single project committee to avoid creating an entirely new structure and taking more staff time.

Commissioner Anthony asked who would decide on the necessity of a project agreement. The General Managers noted that the JPAA defines “project”. Applying that would be a Commission decision, and the participating agency boards would have to approve.

In response to a query from Chair Longville, Interim General Manager Haller voiced his support of collaboration and communication with the General Managers and fine-tuning the process with the Commission.

A discussion ensued regarding the process moving forward, receiving Commissioners’ comments about the General Managers Report and their continuing input in this process, as well as the timing of onboarding the new SAWPA General Manager. Chair Longville suggested an initial workshop during which the Commissioners would participate in an open discussion about the report and its recommendations; a focused workshop as suggested by the general managers would take place thereafter, preferably with the new SAWPA general manager participating. Commissioner Anthony voiced his support. Commissioner Sullivan encouraged Commissioners to share their comments in order to better facilitate the process moving forward, and emphasized that there was no need to wait for the new SAWPA general manager, because this is really a Commission decision, and the new general manager would be tasked with implementing the Commission’s direction. Alternate

Commissioners Whitaker and Dennstedt voiced agreement with Commissioners Sullivan and Longville, respectively.

Commissioner Evans briefly shared several comments about the Report, its possible limitations, the identification process of a Project. He suggested that perhaps the JPAA understanding has been the most troublesome issue for the last nine months, so perhaps clarifications and amendments should be a Commission focus, along with the definition of “project.”

Commissioner Sullivan noted that OWOW is an outgrowth of SAWPA; the Commission should first review any item before it goes before the OWOW Steering Committee for consideration since the OWOW Steering Committee is a recommending body and SAWPA is the authorizing agency for any grant funds distributed.

Chair Longville voiced concern with the language under Task 3, Item 1. Communications: Ensure member agencies General Managers are informed about substantive meetings and/or conversations the SAWPA General Manager has with the agencies’ respective Commissioners, and noted this would be challenging from a management perspective. Joe Grindstaff clarified the intent of the language is to ensure trust-building and open communication among the parties, with the expectation that it would be reciprocal. Chair Longville suggested the Commission may wish to state clearly that trust-building and open communication would be reciprocal.

With the consensus of the Commission, Chair Longville directed the Interim General Manager to schedule a workshop at a future Commission meeting during which the Commissioners would have a dialogue. Immediately following that workshop, the focused Commission workshop requested by the General Managers could be scheduled.

In response to a query from Chair Longville, Joe Grindstaff thought it would be useful for the new SAWPA general manager to hear the workshop discussions.

John Rossi noted that the General Managers had to grapple with whether to propose changes to the JPAA or to try to retain it and clarify how all the pieces work. He suggested the Commission, in its discussion, should consider that question early in the process

Alternate Commissioner Navarro suggested that the focus should be on how actions are approved, since that seems to have been the whole issue.

Commissioner Sullivan expressed his desire for a continuing interactive process by and among the SAWPA General Manager and the Member Agency General Managers, rather than having decisions just made by the chair.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.A.

B. BASIN MONITORING PROGRAM TASK FORCE UPDATE (CM#2017.107)

Mark Norton announced the Regional Board recently approved an amendment of the Water Quality Control Plan to revise the nitrate/nitrogen water quality objective for the Chino South Groundwater Management Zone, which will allow more treated wastewater to continue down to Orange County and for replenishing the Chino South Basin.

Joseph LeClaire of Daniel B. Stephens Inc. provided a PowerPoint presentation with a Basin Monitoring Program Task Force Update on the draft Triennial Ambient Water Quality report results, including the watershed-wide benefits.

This item was for informational/discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.B.

C. DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM – ENGAGE UC IRVINE (CM#2017.105)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program, requesting approval of the OWOW Steering Committee recommendation to engage the University of California Irvine as a partner to the Program. Commissioner Anthony requested a future presentation to the Commission providing information on what is being done, accomplishments, and a graphic showing these communities.

MOVED, direct the Interim General Manager to negotiate and execute a subagreement, not to exceed \$105,000, with University of California Irvine as a partner to the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program.

Result:	Adopted (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Evans/Anthony
Ayes:	Anthony, Evans, Hall, Longville, Sullivan
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

D. INLAND EMPIRE BRINE LINE REACH V REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PHASE 1 (CM#2017.106)

David Ruhl presented a PowerPoint presentation with an update on the recent work, noting the contractor is ahead of schedule.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.D.

6. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

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

- A. CASH TRANSACTIONS REPORT – JUNE 2017**
- B. INTER-FUND BORROWING – JUNE 2017 (CM#2017.102)**
- C. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS/FINANCIAL REPORTING – JUNE 2017 (CM#2017.103)**
- D. HOMELESSNESS & WATER SYMPOSIUM SUMMARY (CM#2017.108)**
- E. DRAFT DWR PROPOSITION 1 ROUND 1 IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROCESS (CM#2017.109)**
- F. OWOW PLAN UPDATE 2018 STATUS (CM#2017.110)**
- G. SAWPA OWOW QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD: APRIL 1 2017 THROUGH JUNE 30 2017**
- H. SAWPA ROUNDTABLE QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD: APRIL 1 2017 THROUGH JUNE 30 2017**
- I. SAWPA GENERAL MANAGERS MEETING NOTES – AUGUST 8, 2017**

J. CHAIR'S COMMENTS/REPORT

K. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Evans requested a future agenda item to consider assignment rotations on the OWOW Steering Committee.

L. COMMISSIONERS' REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Other than those mentioned above, there were no additional requests for future agenda items.

7. CLOSED SESSION

Chair Longville recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 11:00 a.m. Designated personnel essential to the discussion of Agenda Item No. 7.A. were present during Closed Session until the discussion concluded at 11:06 a.m. From that time forward, no designated personnel were present during Closed Session.

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of Case: Spiniello Companies v. Charles King Company, Inc., Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company (Superior Court of Los Angeles BC616589)

B. PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957 – PERSONNEL MATTERS

General Manager

Chair Longville resumed Open Session at 11:30 a.m. There was no reportable action.

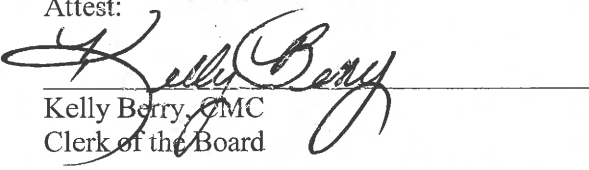
8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for review, Chair Longville adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Commission on Tuesday, September 5, 2017.


Susan Lien Longville, Chair

Attest:


Kelly Berry, CMC
Clerk of the Board

