



...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

**OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2017**

<b>Committee Members</b>	
<b><u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u></b>	
Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener, Eastern Municipal Water District	Present
Thomas P. Evans, Western Municipal Water District	Present
<b><u>County Supervisor Representatives</u></b>	
Marion Ashley, Riverside County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Shawn Nelson, Orange County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	Absent
<b><u>County Mayor Representatives</u></b>	
Jon Harrison, Councilmember, City of Redlands	Present
Laura Roughton, Councilmember, City of Jurupa Valley	Present
Jose Solorio, Councilmember, City of Santa Ana	Present
<b><u>Business Committee Representative</u></b>	
James Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present
<b><u>Environmental Committee Representative</u></b>	
Garry W. Brown, President, Orange County Coastkeeper	Present
<b><u>Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative</u></b>	
Linda Ackerman, Vice Chair, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board	Present
<b>Others Present</b>	
<b><u>SAWPA COMMISSIONERS:</u></b>	Gil Navarro, Alternate, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Bruce Whitaker, Alternate, Orange County Water District
<b><u>SAWPA STAFF:</u></b>	Rich Haller; Larry McKenney; Mark Norton; Dean Unger; Kelly Berry; Sara Villa

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside, California.

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**  
Convener Sullivan welcomed SAWPA General Manager Rich Haller.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
There were no public comments.



3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – July 27, 2017**

**MOVED**, approve the July 27, 2017 meeting minutes.

Result:	<b>Adopted</b>
Motion/Second:	Brown/Evans
Ayes:	Ackerman, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Hessler, Roughton, Solorio, Sullivan
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Ashley, Hagman, Nelson

4. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **Proposition 1 Update; Invitation to Chief of DWR Financial Assistance Branch (SC#2017.22)**

Mark Norton provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Proposition (Prop) 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Funding. Due to recent personnel changes, DWR has delayed by six (6) months release of the draft Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Round 1 Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) to February 2018. Accordingly, the grant submittal deadline will be pushed back to the fall of 2018. The PSP draft will describe how DWR intends to direct and administer the first of two implementation funding rounds of Prop 1. The first round is anticipated to be approximately \$23,000,000 with possibly an additional amount of \$6,300,000 for projects that benefit disadvantaged communities. Norton referenced the Prop 1 requirements for eligible proposed projects for funding, and listed the proposed four (4) step process: Step 1-Applicant Presentation/Consultation; Step 2-DWR Response; Step 3-Application, and Step 4-Application Evaluation. Norton requested that the Committee direct SAWPA staff to invite Ms. Carmel Brown, Chief of the DWR Financial Assistance Branch to present to the OWOW Steering Committee at a future meeting. This will strengthen the understanding of DWR's approach, and re-introduce Ms. Brown to the OWOW process. The Committee agreed.

B. **OWOW Plan Update 2018 Goals & Objectives, Version 4 (SC#2017.17)**

Mark Norton provided a PowerPoint presentation on the OWOW Plan Update 2018 Goals and Objectives, Version 4. A brief background of the development of the goals and objectives was provided. It was noted that the goals were not prioritized to reflect a portfolio approach. Future prioritization of projects will occur based on grant funding requirements and project selection criteria. The intent is for Version 4 to be used by the Pillar workgroups as they develop their chapters and recommendations for action for the OWOW Plan Update 2018. A final draft of the OWOW Plan Update 2018 will be released for public comment in the summer of 2018.

Committee Member Roughton questioned why recreation and economic development were not included within Version 4 of the Goals and Objectives. Committee Member Brown expressed concerns regarding DWR's priorities and the recommendations coming from SAWPA and how there seems to be huge discrepancies between the two. DWR is geared towards construction metrics, but how would metrics be provided for an education program? Norton stated that there is a lot of flexibility and the plan should not be oriented towards the Prop 1 Grant, and he referenced a quote within the IRWM Plan: *"The Regional Water Management groups are cautioned that the project review process contained in the plan should not contain any specific grant program related selection criteria"*.

Marilyn Thoms, Division Manager for Watershed Management, Orange County Water District; spoke on behalf of the Orange County Stakeholders and referenced a letter dated September 27, 2017, a copy of which was provided to the OWOW Steering Committee and members of the



public. The letter included questions and concerns pertaining to Version 4 of the Goals and Objectives. Convener Sullivan referenced the six goals and objectives (Page 17 in the agenda packet) and noted that more definition and collaboration are needed, and he feels that they are not ready to be adopted. Several Committee members expressed a desire to ensure the plan goals remain connected to water resources, even if broad collaboration produces other social benefits. Discussion ensued and Committee Member Evans suggested that there be collaboration in relocating the homeless out of the river to provide housing, reduce pollution, and improve water quality. Committee Member Brown expressed a desire for consistency and that he would like another opportunity to collaborate and bring the goals and objectives back for further discussion. Committee Member Solorio referenced the July 27, 2017 meeting minutes where there was discussion on how to enhance the beneficial and recreational use with an educational component, as well as economic development. It was noted that the Goals and Objectives Version 4 are too broad and the Committee should work to narrow them down. Committee Member Harrison recommended combining some of them to strengthen with a fundamental purpose. Larry McKenney suggested having a workshop to provide an opportunity for more detailed discussion and collaboration among the Steering Committee Members and Pillar chairs. Committee Member Roughton concurred. Rich Haller advised he will work with SAWPA staff and make the revisions to the Goals and Objectives and address the economic development, recreation and implementation, then bring this back to the OWOW Steering Committee at the next meeting. Committee Member Roughton suggested clarification on the objective *“Develop regional consensus for compassionate community identification”*.

**C. Allocation for Second Homelessness Symposium (SC#2017.18)**

Mark Norton provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DCI) Program Homelessness and Water Symposium No. 2. A brief background was provided on the Homelessness Symposium No. 1, co-sponsored by SAWPA in June 2017. SAWPA will seek to sponsor a second symposium in partnership with an Orange County city, and have panels to discuss how water managers can best support efforts to improve water quality by alleviating homelessness in the river. Norton noted that the Homelessness Symposium is funded by the \$20,000 budgeted within the DCI Program Grant; \$14,000 was spent for Symposium No. 1, and the remaining \$6,000 will be allocated to fund Symposium No. 2. It is recommended that the OWOW Steering Committee approve the allocation of \$6,000 from within the Project Development funding of DCI program to support a second Homelessness Symposium.

Committee Member Solorio suggested collaborating with the cities of Santa Ana and Anaheim, and requested a copy of the overall grant so he could understand the amount and purpose of the funding allocations for the DCI Program. Committee Member Hessler questioned how the second symposium will be structured differently in order to maximize tangible results versus only having discussions. Larry McKenney noted that this grant funding is specifically for fostering discussions and processing an action plan, and future phases will be to implement the action plan. Committee Member Roughton attended the first symposium, which was worthwhile and informative, and voiced support of a second symposium. Alternate SAWPA Commissioner Gil Navarro stated that he is working together with Eve Carol, a representative from ACLU and they are collaborating in developing a dialogue regarding the impacts to our watershed due to the homeless. Committee Member Solorio suggested identifying all the environmental impacts to the Santa Ana River in the watershed; for instance trash, human waste, hypodermic needles, and chlorine. There are some assets that need to be protected such as the bike trail, the recreational beneficial uses, and creeks and channels that are related tributaries where there is negative impact as well. Discussion ensued regarding having a comprehensive plan versus holding a second symposium only to discuss and spend the \$6,000. Committee Member Evans suggested



doing a pilot project. Larry McKenney noted that the key to this program is to develop proposed actions with input and involvement of representatives of disadvantaged communities.

**MOVED**, approve the allocation of \$6,000 from within the Project Development funding of the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program to support a second Homelessness Symposium.

Result:	<b>Adopted</b>
Motion/Second:	Evans/Ackerman
Ayes:	Ackerman, Evans, Harrison, Hessler, Roughton, Solorio, Sullivan
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	Brown
Absent:	Ashley, Hagman, Nelson

Committee Member Evans left the meeting at 12:24 p.m., and did not return.

**5. WORKSHOP**

**A. OWOW Call for Projects Preview (SC#2017.19)**

Mark Norton provided a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed for discussion the OWOW Call for Projects two-step process and questions for the Steering Committee members regarding the level of benefits of projects being included in the OWOW Plan Update 2018 (agenda packet pages 23-24). Committee Member Roughton concurred on the two-step submittal process, though expressed concern on the weighting of the scoring process, and suggested having a checklist for the project selection criteria. Norton noted that the next steps are to conduct a Call for Projects in early 2018 to be included in OWOW Plan Update 2018; review a preliminary project selection criteria for Prop 1; review the critical needs and the types of project that may be eligible for Prop 1 IRWM First Round and Finalize project selection criteria; and, request project proponents who wish to compete for Prop 1 Round 1 to supply necessary information.

**6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**A. Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program Update (SC#2017.20)**

Mark Norton provided and oral update of the DCI Program schedule and budget. Committee Member Solorio requested a copy of the DCI Program scope of work. Discussion ensued and Norton noted he would bring forth a more detailed budget at the next scheduled meeting.

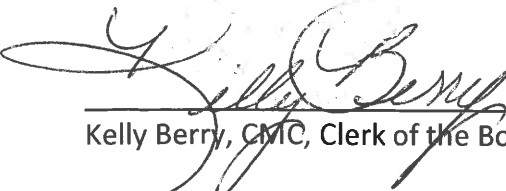
**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting came to a close at 1:00 p.m.

**APPROVED:** November 16, 2017

  
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Thomas P. Evans, Converter

Attest:

  
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Kelly Berry, CMC, Clerk of the Board