



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

OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2018

Committee Members	
<u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u>	
Ronald W. Sullivan, Eastern Municipal Water District	Absent
Thomas P. Evans, Western Municipal Water District	Present [via-conference call]
<u>County Supervisor Representatives</u>	
Marion Ashley, Riverside County Board of Supervisors	Present [arrived 11:34 a.m.]
Shawn Nelson, Orange County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	Absent
<u>County Mayor Representatives</u>	
Jon Harrison, Councilmember, City of Redlands	Present
Laura Roughton, Councilmember, City of Jurupa Valley	Present
Jose Solorio, Councilmember, City of Santa Ana	Absent
<u>Business Committee Representative</u>	
James Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present
<u>Environmental Committee Representative</u>	
Garry W. Brown, Convener, President, Orange County Coastkeeper	Present
<u>Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative</u>	
Linda Ackerman, Vice Chair, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board	Absent
Others Present	
<u>SAWPA COMMISSIONERS:</u>	None
<u>SAWPA STAFF:</u>	Rich Haller, Larry McKenney, Karen Williams, Mark Norton, Mike Antos, Rick Whetsel, Pete Vitt, Kelly Berry, Sara Villa
<u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u>	Steve Sentes, Chino Basin Water Conservation District Betty Andrews, Environmental Science Associates Peter Vorster, The Bay Institute

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:09 a.m. by Garry Brown, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California, and by teleconference at 2855 McAllister Street, Riverside, California.

- WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
 Roll call was duly noted and recorded.



2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Awaiting the arrival of Committee Member Ashley before considering Agenda Item No. 3, the Committee first considered Agenda Item No. 5.B.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – January 25, 2018

MOVED, approve the January 25, 2018 meeting minutes.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously, 6-0)
Motion/Second:	Roughton/Hessler
Ayes:	Ashley, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Hessler, Roughton
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Ackerman, Hagman, Nelson, Solorio, Sullivan

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. OWOW Plan Update 2018 Call for Projects and Procedure for Including Submitted Projects in the OWOW Plan Update 2018 (SC#2018.7)

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Opening of the Call for Projects, Setting a Procedure for Including Projects in the OWOW Plan Update 2018. Antos noted that SAWPA has guidance from the state on how to include projects in the plan, and provided reasons as to why one would want to include a project in the OWOW Plan. Antos referenced the Steering Committee roles and noted that the next step is to set a procedure and prioritization factors so that projects competing for funding can be scored and ranked. The Call for Projects will open with an email blast, tweets, and direct contact with selected agencies. The online project submittal tool will be available for anyone in the watershed to propose a project and describe how that project will help achieve the goals of the OWOW Plan Update 2018. A brief demonstration of the online data tool was provided. It was noted that once the project information data was incorporated and submitted, it will be visible to the public through a mapping protocol. Because of changes in State policy, it is SAWPA's intention to keep the submittal tool open indefinitely. It was recommended that the OWOW Steering Committee approve the opening of the OWOW Plan Update 2018 Call for Projects. It was further recommended that the OWOW Steering Committee approve the proposed procedure for managing the inclusion of projects to the OWOW Plan Update 2018 from a continuously-open call (as referenced in SC#2018.7).

MOVED, approve the opening of the OWOW Plan Update 2018 Call for Projects, and approve the proposed procedure for managing the inclusion of projects to the OWOW Plan Update 2018 from a continuously-open call.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously; 6-0)
Motion/Second:	Roughton/Hessler
Ayes:	Ashley, Brown, Evans, Harrison, Hessler, Roughton
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Ackerman, Hagman, Nelson, Solorio, Sullivan



5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

A. **DWR Proposition 1 Implementation Grants and OWOW Project Selection Weighting and Ranking (SC#2018.8)**

Mike Antos provided a PowerPoint presentation on DWR Proposition 1 Implementation Grants Project Ranking and Rating. DWR is expected to release a Draft Project Solicitation Project (PSP) in May 2018, followed by a 45-day comment period during which DWR will hold three meetings across the State to review the document. The final PSP will be released in the summer, and the Grant Proposals are due December 2018. In April, the Pillars and stakeholders will meet to discuss the project selection criteria and process. With that input, staff will bring recommendations to the OWOW Steering Committee in May and July, with the intent to have an approved weighting and ranking system in July. Project proponents have had the OWOW Steering Committee's adopted Proposition 1 eligibility criteria in hand for more than a year. In the coming months, project proponents who wish to have their projects compete for implementation grants will be asked to provide additional information to the OWOW Program online database of projects. This information will quantify each project's compliance with the selection criteria, as well as the proposed benefits the project will provide the watershed. Using this submitted data, the OWOW Steering Committee will oversee the rating and ranking process for projects to be included in the grant proposal submitted by SAWPA to DWR.

Committee Member Ashley left the meeting at 12:43 p.m., during the discussion of Agenda Item No. 5.A., and did not return.

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

B. **California Water Plan Update 2018 Pilot Study in the Watershed (SC#2018.9)**

Mike Antos introduced Betty Andrews of Environmental Science Associates and Peter Vorster of The Bay Institute; and provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Sustainability Assessment for the Santa Ana River Watershed. Andrews informed the Committee that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is really engaged at the level of providing support in the form of resources for the California Water Plan Update 2018 Pilot Study in the Watershed. The monitoring is to accomplish prioritization of, and investment in, actions, demonstrate progress, enlist support of progress, educate, and get towards the outcomes that were intended for the developed plan. Vorster provided a brief background of the history and framework of the Sustainability Assessment for the California Water Plan and the Sustainable Water Management. Andrews provided the OWOW Planning context process of identifying the goals, selecting the indicators, assessment, reporting results, and re-evaluate the plan and priorities. Andrews noted that the next step is the selection of indicators which is driven by the Goals from the OWOW Plan Update 2018, and to present the indicators at the Pillar Integration Workshop. A proposed suite of indicators will then be brought back to the Steering Committee in May. Once approval is confirmed the assessment will begin June or July, with a submittal of a Draft White Paper in September. It is anticipated that the Final Assessment White Paper can be adapted and incorporated into the OWOW Plan Update 2018.

Committee Member Ashley joined the meeting at 11:34 a.m., during the discussion of Agenda Item No. 5.B.

Committee Member Evans questioned how the indicators will be determined and how the process will go forward. Antos noted that the water retailers submit information to the State about how much water they are serving to their population, and in that reporting is an estimate of how much water per person is being used. It is anticipated to use the data and use one of our



indicators of whether we're successful at our educational efforts in the watershed to see whether people are decreasing the amount of water that they're using every day. Committee Member Hessler stated that he applauds and appreciates the Steering Committee's investment of time and that it is making a difference and going in a good direction. Larry McKenney suggested looking into a timescale of tracking the indicators and reporting back to the committee either monthly, quarterly, or annually. Antos noted it would be based off an annual update and an assessment will be meaningful in a 4-5 year plan.

Convener Brown questioned how the process will be separated between the planning of projects and allocating money for projects, and then how the completed projects and their impact on the watershed will be assessed. Antos emphasized the two-step process to improve the OWOW Plan and include projects that may be funded by the IRWM program or by other programs. SAWPA recognizes that other planning efforts will produce projects that help achieve OWOW Plan goals, while the IRWM program aims to promote activities that set goals at a watershed scale. Committee Member Roughton requested having the list of goals and objectives and the list of indicators presented at the next OWOW Steering Committee meeting, and to include in the indicators a component for human usage of the watershed and the river due to the awareness of the ecological character of the watershed. Committee Member Roughton suggested re-visiting the list of indicators semi-annually.

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

The Committee next considered Agenda Item No. 3, and followed the order of the agenda for the remainder of the meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting came to a close at 1:01 p.m.

APPROVED: May 24, 2018

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ronald W. Sullivan', is written over a horizontal line.

Ronald W. Sullivan, Convener

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Kelly Berry', is written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Berry, GMC, Clerk of the Board