

# LAKE ELSINORE & SAN JACINTO WATERSHEDS AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 15, 2019

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT

Brenda Dennstedt, Chair, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Robert Magee, City of Lake Elsinore  
Jeremy Smith, Alternate, City of Canyon Lake

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT

Phil Williams, Vice Chair, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District  
Kasey Castillo, Secretary/Treasurer, City of Canyon Lake  
Kevin Jeffries, County of Riverside

### OTHERS PRESENT

T. Milford Harrison, SAWPA Commissioner  
Tess Dunham, Somach Simmons & Dunn [via-conference]  
Greg Khalen, The Khalen Group

### LESJWA STAFF

Mark Norton, Sara Villa

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Regular Board of Directors meeting of the Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority (LESJWA) was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Dennstedt at the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, 31315 Chaney Street, Lake Elsinore, CA 92531.

#### **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: APRIL 18, 2019**

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

##### **B. TREASURER'S REPORT: MARCH - MAY 2019**

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

##### **C. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT: JULY 9, 2019**

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

##### **D. TMDL TASK FORCE REPORT: APRIL 24, 2019 & JUNE 19, 2019**

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

**MOVED**, approve the Consent Calendar.

Result:	<b>Adopted (Unanimously)</b>
Motion/Second:	Magee/Smith
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Magee, Smith
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Jeffries, Williams

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. REGULATORY AND FACILITATOR SUPPORT FOR LAKE ELSINORE AND CANYON LAKE TMDL TASK FORCE (LES#2019.12)**

Mark Norton introduced Theresa (Tess) Dunham attending via-conference call to the Board of Directors. Norton recommended that the Board of Directors execute the following; Agreement for Services, Task Order SOMA160-01 with Somach Simmons & Dunn in the amount not to exceed \$98,460 for the next two (2) fiscal years (FY 2019-20 and FY2020-21), and Agreement for Services and Task Order RISK160-11 with Risk Sciences in the amount not to exceed \$43,200 for FY2019-20 to provide conjointly strategic and regulatory support to the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force. A Request for Qualifications was posted and four (4) firms responded and were interviewed by a panel composed of representatives from three (3) task forces, LESJWA staff and Regional Board's upper management. The SAWPA task forces indicated their support of Somach Simmons & Dunn's proposal and their recommendation to the SAWPA Commission and the LESJWA Board. The SAWPA Commission approved an Agreement for Services and Task Orders with Somach Simmons & Dunn to provide support to the MSAR TMDL Task Force and Basin Monitoring Program Task Force on August 6, 2019.

Tess Dunham provided the Board of Directors with a brief background of her being a Water Quality Specialist since the TMDLs first started throughout California and has been working on the water quality regulatory issues as an attorney and consultant for over 20 years. Dunham noted that she is very excited for this opportunity.

**MOVED**, to approve and execute the Agreement for Services and Task Order No. SOMA160-01 with Somach Simmons & Dunn in the amount not to exceed \$98,460 for FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21. Also, approve and execute the Agreement for Services and Task Order No. RISK160-11 with Risk Sciences in the amount not to exceed \$43,200 for FY2019-20 to provide conjointly strategic and regulatory support for the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force.

Result:	<b>Adopted (Unanimously)</b>
Motion/Second:	Magee/Smith
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Magee, Smith
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Jeffries, Williams

**6. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

Recommendation: Receive for information.

**A. AUDITOR COMMUNICATION LETTER TO THE BOARD**

Mark Norton provided a verbal update regarding Teaman Ramirez & Smith, Inc, audit communication letter for LESJWA for the year ending June 30, 2019. The audit fieldwork is expected to be conducted in September 2019. Joshua Calhoun is the engagement partner and will be working closely with LESJWA's Chief Financial Officer, Karen Williams.

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

**B. SAWPA OWOW PROPOSITION 1 IRWM ROUND 1 GRANT APPLICATION (LES#2019.13)**

Mark Norton provided a verbal status update regarding the SAWPA OWOW Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1 Grant Application. The City of Lake Elsinore submitted a pilot project, Physical Harvesting of Algal Biomass in Lake Elsinore. This pilot project proposes the removal of lake algae through the

use of floating barge system that will remove algae from the lake and then be harvested for biofuels. The project is estimated to cost \$297,000 and no local funding match is proposed or required since it supports disadvantaged communities. The Physical Harvesting of Algal Biomass will be recommended for funding to DWR. A second project was submitted by local agencies, Canyon Lake Dredging Project, unfortunately ranked low and was not recommended for funding by the watershed stakeholders. A pre-application workshop was held yesterday (August 14) at SAWPA, and Ms. Nicole Dailey provided a PowerPoint presentation. The next steps are to continue to work with the project proponents to start the process of preparing the grant application anticipated to be submitted on November 1st.

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

**C. LAKE ELSINORE & CANYON LAKE NUTRIENT TMDL TASK FORCE UPDATE (LES#2019.14)**

Mark Norton provided a verbal status update regarding the Lake Elsinore & Canyon Lake Nutrient TMDL Task Force Update. This Update and Revision to the TMDL reflects a combined effort by the watershed stakeholders, CDM Smith, and Risk Sciences to help improve the water quality in both lakes. A public workshop was held on May 3, 2019 amongst the Regional Board staff, CDM Smith, and LESJWA staff to further discuss the TMDL Revision Technical Report. Comments are being incorporated from the result of the workshop. It is anticipated the TMDL Revision Technical Report to move forward for approval in February 2020.

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

**D. ACOE'S LAKE ELSINORE AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION INTEREST DETERMINATION (LES#2019-15)**

Mark Norton provided a verbal status update regarding the Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Interest Determination. A meeting was held with a tour of the Lake Elsinore with ACOE staff, Greg Morrison of EVMWD, and representatives of City of Lake Elsinore and LESJWA. ACOE expressed interest and recently a draft Federal Interest Determination report has been prepared and shared with EVMWD and LESJWA staff. Some concerns have arisen with the ACOE cost estimate to conduct the Phase 1 feasibility report with the estimate of \$2M with 50% (\$1M) coming from local agencies. The process is still ongoing, though further discussion is needed with EVMWD staff.

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

**E. ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS**

Mark Norton informed the Board of Directors that there is interest by the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force to examine if the LEAPS project were to move forward to look at the possibility of having flow from the upper reservoir that is going back into the lake to be disbursed using the existing lake aeration lines in the lake. This could potentially provide improved lake mixing and more oxygen for the lake and could be worth studying.

The Fishery Management has started, and Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions is anticipated to do the sampling. There are three (3) stages of sampling, with the first event scheduled in September.

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions did an evaluation on the sediment that came into the lake from the Holy Fire and there were no toxicity issues or negative impact to the lake.

**F. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

Director Magee noted that he and Chair Dennstedt worked with staff for a period of several months to try to come up with a formula to have third parties join the TMDL Task Force without being a voting member and being responsible for the Regional Water Quality Board's requests. After all efforts, CR&R pulled their application and are not continuing their nutrient reduction for compost.

**G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS REQUESTS**

Director Magee requested an update on when the Department of Fish & Wildlife will be our partners and issue a permit? The City of Lake Elsinore is trying to sample and get information of the biology and improve the menu of aquatic wildlife. Mark Norton noted there is a sampling event scheduled early September and the permit should be issued by then.

**7. CLOSED SESSION**

There was no Closed Session.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for review, Chair Dennstedt adjourned the meeting at 4:38 p.m.

**Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, October 17, 2019.**

  
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Brenda Dennstedt, Chair

Attest:

  
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Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board