

LAKE ELSINORE & SAN JACINTO WATERSHEDS AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES October 15, 2020

BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT

Phil Williams, Chair, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Kasey Castillo, Vice Chair, City of Canyon Lake
Robert Magee, Secretary/Treasurer, City of Lake Elsinore
Brenda Dennstedt, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT

Kevin Jeffries, County of Riverside

OTHERS PRESENT

T. Milford Harrison, SAWPA Commissioner
Nicole Dailey, City of Riverside
Liselle DeGrave, DeGrave Communications
Greg Kahlen, The Kahlen Group

LESJWA STAFF

Mark Norton, Karen Williams, Sara Villa

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Board of Directors meeting of the Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority (LESJWA) was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Chair Williams.

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-25-30 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 12, 2020, and Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 17, 2020, any Director may call into the LESJWA Board meeting without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconferencing requirements.

Executive Order N-33-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 19, 2020, ordered all individuals to stay at home or at their place of residence. In concert with state and local efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and until further notice, LESJWA will be holding all Board meetings by teleconference and virtually through the Zoom app.

As set forth on the posted meeting agenda, this LESJWA Board meeting was accessible to the public by teleconference and through Zoom. Members of the public who were unable to participate by teleconference or virtually were invited to submit comments and questions in writing via email for the Director's consideration. All votes taken during this meeting were conducted via oral roll call.

2. ROLL CALL

An oral roll call was duly noted and recorded by the Clerk of the Board.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

4. ITEMS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED

There were no added or deleted items.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: JUNE 18, 2020

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

B. TREASURER’S REPORT: MAY - AUGUST 2020

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

C. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT: QUARTERLY REPORT JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2020

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

D. TMDL TASK FORCE REPORT: JUNE 30, 2020 | AUGUST 17, 2020

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

MOVED, approve the Consent Calendar.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Magee/Castillo
Ayes:	Castillo, Magee, Williams
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Dennstendt, Jeffries

6. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

A. NEW LESJWA WEBSITE REDESIGN (LES#2020.22)

Mark Norton informed the Board of Directors that as part of the LESJWA FY 2020-21 budget approval, \$3,920 was budgeted to conduct the redesign of the LESJWA website to improve accessibility and ensure Americans with Disabilities Act compliance. Sol Media conducted the work based on input from Mark Norton and Liselle DeGrave of DeGrave Communications. Mark Norton introduced Liselle DeGrave and requested that the Board of Directors receive and file the LESJWA website redesign PowerPoint presentation included in the agenda packet on pages 55 through 67.

Director Dennstendt arrived at 4:08 p.m., during the presentation for Agenda Item No. 6.A.

Chair Williams noted that the website looks great and its intriguing to have the history of the lakes as a good reference.

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

B. LAKE ELSINORE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN AND SURVEY FINAL REPORT (LES#2020.23)

Mark Norton provided a brief status update on the Lake Elsinore Fishery Management Plan and Survey Final Report. In February 2019, LESJWA Board approved a task order with Wood Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. to provide services to oversee and implement the Lake Elsinore Fishery Management Plan and Survey. Mark Norton introduced Chris Stransky and John Rudolph from Wood Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. and requested that the Board of Directors receive and file the Lake Elsinore Fisheries Management Report PowerPoint presentation included in the agenda packet on pages 71 through 98. The report also includes the Lake Elsinore Aquatic Fishery and Fish Tissue Sampling and Analysis which was added to help provide the data to accompany a letter that has been submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board recommending de-listing the lake for PCBs and DDT and showing that the lake would be considered safe with no contaminants. Director Magee noted that the City of Lake Elsinore has already taken advantage of the report’s recommendation to add the striped bass. Two years ago, the Department of Fish and Wildlife attempted to pass legislation that was going to restrict the introduction of that particular fish

anywhere in the state of California. So, by adding this recommendation it will support their recognizing the biological pluses. Director Magee appreciates the good work and efforts.

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

C. LAKE ELSINORE ADVANCED PUMPED STORAGE PROJECT (LEAPS) UPDATE (LES#2020.24)

Mark Norton provided a verbal status update on the Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage Project (LEAPS) Update. The State project manager, Chase Hildeburn reported that the MOU has been executed and signed by the SWRCB Deputy Director. The MOU will be among the State Water Board, Nevada Hydro, and Cardno. All parties are coordinating to establish the project scope, budget, and timeline. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) released a Notice of Schedule in August referenced in the agenda packet on page 107. It is anticipated that the issuance of a final order for the project will be March 17, 2022. Greg Kahlen from The Kahlen Group added that in June 2020, FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement and solicited scoping comments. Due to COVID-19 public scoping meetings could not be held, and comments were requested to be submitted through mail by August 17, 2020. Last week an application was submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineering and a conference call is anticipated for the following week to further discuss on how to move forward.

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

D. LAKE ELSINORE PROPOSITION 1 GRANT APPLICATION STATUS (LES#2020.25)

Mark Norton provided a verbal status update on the Lake Elsinore Proposition 1 Round 1 Grant Application Status. The Physical Harvesting of Algal Biomass in Lake Elsinore Pilot Project has been awarded for \$297,000. SAWPA is in the process of getting everything finalized with the State and it is anticipated to be approved by the end of 2020. Work is also underway by SAWPA to prepare a Sub-Agreement between SAWPA and the City of Lake Elsinore. All grant funded related to this project will be conducted by the City of Lake Elsinore. The City of Lake Elsinore has indicated that it will be starting the administrative work including the consultant RFP preparation in the months ahead. Nicole Dailey noted that the grant is for up to three years and they will determine when to move forward on a pilot program based on the state of the lake.

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

E. LAKE ELSINORE & CANYON LAKE NUTRIENT TMDL TASK FORCE UPDATE (LES#2020.26)

Mark Norton provided the Board of Directors with a verbal status update on the Lake Elsinore & Canyon Lake (LE/CL) Nutrient TMDL Task Force update. The Fishery Management Survey and Plan was fully funded by the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force. This helps achieve compliance with TMDLs and preventing fish kills and reducing major algae blooms. The Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force has spent over \$800,000 for the TMDL Revision Update. The Regional Board submitted the TMDL Revision Update to peer reviewers, multiple college professors across the country, to review it in detail. The comments were submitted back to the Task Force and their consultants responded. The Regional Board went through significant staff changes and it has been a challenge in getting the new staff up to speed. We are anticipating the public hearing to consider adoption will be early 2021.

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

F. ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

Mark Norton informed the Board of Directors that SAWPA's General Manager, Richard Haller is retiring at the end of the year.

G. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Director Magee thanked DeGrave Communications for all the collaborative work with SAWPA staff on LESJWA's website redesign. Chair Williams added that it is important anytime you can show history in a region; it shows where we have been, and it gives us a path to where we are going.

H. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS REQUESTS

There were no future agenda items requests.

7. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

8. ADJOURNMENT


There being no further business for review, Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, February 18, 2021.



Phil Williams, Chair

Attest:



Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board