

LAKE ELSINORE & SAN JACINTO WATERSHEDS AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT

Phil Williams, Chair, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Robert Magee, Secretary/Treasurer, City of Lake Elsinore
Brenda Dennstedt, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Kevin Jeffries, County of Riverside

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT

Dale Welty, Vice Chair, City of Canyon Lake

OTHERS PRESENT

T. Milford Harrison, SAWPA Commissioner
Greg Morrison, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Ganesh Krishnamurthy, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Margie Armstrong, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Parag Kalaria, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Nicole Dailey, City of Riverside
Liselle DeGrave, DeGrave Communications
Greg Kahlen, The Kahlen Group

LESJWA STAFF

Mark Norton, Karen Williams, Rick Whetsel, 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 4:01 p.m. by Chair Williams on behalf of the LESJWA, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California. The record will reflect this meeting was conducted virtually.

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 and N-08-21 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom, this meeting was conducted virtually. 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 Board's consideration.

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.

Chair Williams requested a motion for approval of the agenda.

MOVED, approve the June 17, 2021, Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority Board of Directors meeting agenda as posted.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Jeffries/Magee
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Jeffries, Magee, Williams
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Welty

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: FEBRUARY 18, 2021

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

B. TREASURER'S REPORT: DECEMBER 2020 | JANUARY 2021 | FEBRUARY 2021 | MARCH 2021 | APRIL 2021

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

C. TMDL TASK FORCE REPORT: JANUARY 25, 2021 | FEBRUARY 22, 2021 | MARCH 22, 2021 | APRIL 19, 2021

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

MOVED, approve the Consent Calendar as posted.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Jeffries/Magee
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Jeffries, Magee, Williams
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Welty

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. LESJWA BUDGET FY 2021-22(LES#2021.7)

Mark Norton recommended that the Board of Directors approve the FY 2021-22 LESJWA budget and invoice each LESJWA member agency at the start of the new fiscal year based on contribution levels as reflected in the budget. The LESJWA Budget covers activities from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Norton provided a brief breakdown of the budget. He added that the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC&WCD) is contributing an additional \$10,000 to their costs as part of a three-year agreement; FY 2021-22 will be the second year of additional contributions.

Chair Williams asked if the TMDL Task Force members were also contributing to the TMDL's administration and activities costs. Norton confirmed there is a shared cost to administer the TMDL Task Force between LESJWA and the TMDL stakeholders. Director Jeffries remarked that he'd prefer to see funds be used for more implementation projects as opposed to studies and hopes the Joint Powers Authority will get there soon.

MOVED, approve the FY 2021-22 LESJWA budget and invoice each LESJWA member agency at the start of the new fiscal year based on contributions levels as reflected in the budget.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Jeffries/Magee
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Jeffries, Magee, Williams
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Welty

B. LESJWA ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT(LES#2021.8)

Mark Norton informed the LESJWA Board of Directors that currently the appointed authority administrator for LESJWA is the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA). This designation has remained in place since May 4, 2000. Under the JPA agreement, the LESJWA Board of Directors has authority to appoint an authority administrator, as well as to hire other staff as needed.

At this stage, SAWPA remains supportive of providing this role to LESJWA as well as remaining a funding partner to the JPA. To ensure continuity, institutional memory, maintain efficiency and effectiveness, staff recommends that the LESJWA Board of Directors formally express their support for SAWPA to continue its authority administrator role for LESJWA for at least the next three fiscal years.

Secretary/Treasure Magee indicated that he would like to take the opportunity to propose the idea to the City of Lake Elsinore of administering LESJWA and suggested the motion be substituted to having SAWPA continue the administration for only one fiscal year. This would allow time for the city to determine if they would be able to manage LESJWA. Board member Jeffries agreed with using SAWPA staff for one fiscal year and was in support of a possible reduction in administration costs.

Chair Williams stated that although there may be a cost savings in having the City of Lake Elsinore administer LESJWA, he does not believe they have the same well-rounded relationships SAWPA has with many other agencies, including regulators, in the water industry. He claimed his support in using SAWPA staff for one fiscal year and to allow the City of Lake Elsinore to submit a proposal for administering LESJWA.

Director Dennstedt specified that it is also important to note SAWPA's reputation in the water industry and how that has benefited LESJWA. She emphasized that a formal request for proposals (RFP) will need to be prepared to solicit proposals for the administration of LESJWA.

Mark Norton acknowledge that SAWPA has many strong relationships and has the unique experience of representing a variety of entities. SAWPA also has a broader voice, which helps avoid conflict of interests. He added that if the issue is the cost of administration, SAWPA staff can review and suggest cost alternatives. Chair Williams asked what the cost for developing an RFP would be. Norton said he would provide numbers at a future meeting.

SAWPA Commissioner T. Milford Harrison spoke in support of SAWPA continuing the administration of LESJWA and stated that SAWPA has the advantage of being a neutral party. He agreed that preparing an RFP for the administration of LESJWA would be appropriate.

Chair Williams made a substitute motion to approve continuing support of LESJWA administration using SAWPA staff for one fiscal year. Director Jeffries moved the motion; Secretary/Treasure Magee second.

MOVED, approve continuing support of LESJWA administration using SAWPA staff for one fiscal year.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Jeffries/Magee
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Jeffries, Magee, Williams
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Welty

C. REGULATORY AND FACILITATOR SUPPORT FOR LAKE ELSINORE AND CANYON LAKE TMDL TASK FORCE (LES#2021.9)

Mark Norton provided an oral presentation to recommend Tess Dunham from Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP for regulatory and facilitator support for the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake (LE/CL) TMDL Task Force.

Dunham has supported the LE/CL TMDL Task Force as the regulatory advisor since her agreement for services and task orders were approved by LESJWA on August 14, 2019. Dunham was originally selected through a competitive RFP process and was unanimously supported and recommended by the Task Force to support the Task Force for FY 2019- 20 and FY 2020-21. Dunham replaced Tim Moore of Risk Sciences who has now retired.

With continuing efforts to meet the regulatory requirements from the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, the support of Dunham is key for the successful approval of the LE/CL TMDL Update and Revision. Once approved, continued regulatory support will be needed as future implementation activities are proposed to benefit Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake. This new task order reflects Dunham's regulatory support for the next two fiscal years to minimize administrative expense associated with annual task orders. There was no discussion

MOVED, approve Task Order KSC160-02 with Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP in the amount not-to-exceed \$ 123,500.00; \$61,250 for FY 2021-22 and \$62,250 for FY 2022-23, to continue to provide strategic and regulatory support for the Lake Elsinore & Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote
Motion/Second:	Jeffries/Magee
Ayes:	Dennstedt, Jeffries, Magee, Williams
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	Welty

7. INFORMATION REPORTS

A. LAKE ELSINORE HARMFUL ALGAE BLOOM MONITORING (LES#2021.10)

Barbara Barry, Senior Environmental Scientist at the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, provided a PowerPoint presentation titled "*Focused Freshwater Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring at Lake Elsinore*," contained in the agenda packet on pages 87-100. The presentation provided an overview of the funded studies and opportunities for collaboration and coordination.

The study will regularly collect water quality data for more than a year to provide valuable information that can be used by LESJWA to determine future solutions that may improve overall water quality in the lake. Barry noted that they have encountered golden algae and they will continue to monitor.

Chair Williams clarified that Lake Elsinore should be tested to the level of a recreational reservoir and not a drinking reservoir. Barry stated that that is correct, the thresholds being used is that of a recreational reservoir.

Nicole Dailey, Deputy City Manager for the City of Riverside, stated that they received Barry's golden algae monitoring data and have passed it along to Wood Environmental Services. Because this type of algae normally blooms in colder waters, they feel confident it will not be an issue moving forward.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 7.A.

**B. LAKE ELSINORE ADVANCED PUMPED STORAGE PROJECT (LEAPS)
(LES#2021.11)**

Mark Norton provided a summary of LESJWA Board Memorandum No. 2021.11 titled “*Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage Project (LEAPS) Update*” on page 101 of the agenda packet. There was no further discussion.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 7.B.

**C. LAKE ELSINORE & CANYON LAKE NUTRIENT TMDL TASK FORCE UPDATE
(LES#2021.12)**

Mark Norton provided an oral status update on the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake (LE/CL) Nutrient TMDL Task Force.

Work continues by the Regional Board staff to review the Draft Staff Report/TMDL Revision Technical Report (TMDL Revision Technical Report) for Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, and the San Jacinto Watershed and respond to peer review comments. CDM Smith has completed the modeling scenarios requested by the Regional Board and will be conducting a public hearing in late summer or early fall for possible adoption.

The LE/CL TMDL Task Force activities continue to support the TMDL update and monitoring activities. The LE/CL TMDL Task Force FY 2021-22 Budget was approved by the Task Force in February. The new budget reflects a decrease in TMDL allocations for all Task Force agencies considering the COVID-19 economic downturn for cities. There was no further discussion.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 7.C.

D. LESJWA LEGAL COUNSEL SUPPORT (LES#2021.13)

LESJWA legal counsel, David L. Wysocki retired August 1, 2021. SAWPA staff recommended the following options:

- Use SAWPA’s legal counsel, Lagerloff LLP to cover legal services
- Prepare an RFP for LESJWA Legal Counsel Support

Director Jefferies stated he had no issues with either option. Secretary/Treasurer Magee recommended that SAWPA legal counsel support LESJWA for the remaining fiscal year, allowing time to prepare an RFP.

Director Dennstedt is in support of either option. She asked that a letter of recognition from LESJWA be prepared for Wysocki for his year of service. She praised his work and dedication to the water industry.

Chair Williams directed Norton to proceed with using SAWPA’s legal counsel and requested he provide a cost estimate for preparing an RFP at a future meeting.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 7.D.

E. ADMINISTRATOR’S COMMENTS

Mark Norton stated that Hope Smythe, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board’s Executive Officer will be retiring in August. Chair Williams commended her 30-plus years of service with the watershed and the region. He requested a letter of recognition be prepared for her on behalf of LESJWA.

F. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Secretary/Treasurer Magee informed the board of the 8th Annual Fishing Derby presented by the City of Lake Elsinore and the Lake Elsinore Casino. The tournament will be on June 26, 2021.

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS REQUESTS

There were no future agenda items requests.

8. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

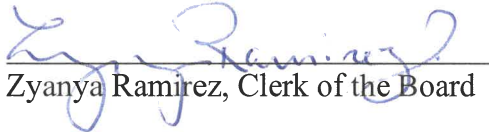
There being no further business for review, Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, October 21, 2021.



Phil Williams, Chair

Attest:



Zyanya Ramirez, Clerk of the Board