

**LAKE ELSINORE & SAN JACINTO WATERSHEDS AUTHORITY**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 21, 2021**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Phil Williams, Chair, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District  
Dale Welty, Vice Chair, City of Canyon Lake  
Brenda Dennstedt, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Kevin Jeffries, County of Riverside

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Robert Magee, Secretary/Treasurer, City of Lake Elsinore

**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, Zyanya Ramirez

**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 Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California. The record will reflect this meeting was conducted virtually.

Pursuant to the provisions of AB 361, this meeting was conducted virtually, and all votes were taken by 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 17, 2021**

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

**B. TREASURER'S REPORT: MAY 2021 | JUNE 2021 | JULY 2021**

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

**C. TMDL TASK FORCE REPORT: MAY 17, 2021 | JUNE 23, 2021 | AUGUST 30, 2021**

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

**MOVED**, approve the Consent Calendar as posted.

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

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. RESOLUTION FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AB 361 (LES#2021.15)**

Mark Norton provided an oral presentation on the Implementation of AB 361. A Resolution must be executed every 30 days under AB 361 for initial and subsequent findings under AB 361 in order to continue to utilize the relaxed teleconferencing requirements for board meetings subject to the Brown Act. AB 361 applies only to a state-declared state of emergency and not to a locally declared emergency. There was no discussion.

**MOVED**, Adoption of Resolution No. LES2021-01 Proclaiming A State of Emergency Persists, Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Gavin Newsom, and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings of all Board of Directors meetings of the Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watersheds Authority for the period of October 21, 2021 to November 20, 2021 pursuant to Brown Act Provisions.

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

**B. FY 2021-22 TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO LAKE ELSINORE/CANYON LAKE (LECL) NUTRIENT TMDL TASK FORCE (LES#2021.16)**

Mark Norton provided an oral report noting memorandum LES#2021.16 which summarizes the recommended Task Order with CDM Smith to provides further support for the LECL TMDL Task Force in the process to update and revise the technical document and additional technical support services to the Task Force.

In 2015 the LE/CL Task Force petitioned the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to reopen and revise the Nutrient TMDLs based on the wealth of new information developed over the last 10 years. Due to internal delays by Regional Board staff and staff turnover, the Basin Plan Amendment process has taken far more time than originally anticipated and further justification of the new TMDL for new Regional Board staff will be needed.

Mr. Norton noted that work with CDM Smith is in conjunction with Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP and LE/CL Task Force regulatory advisor. They're currently working on an implementation strategy. He added that CDM Smith did provide a much larger cost assessment to revise the TMDL document to reflect the latest modeling requirements set by the Regional Board. As an initial phase of the larger work effort, the LECL Task Force approved the use of \$30,000 towards CDM Smith's efforts.

**MOVED**, Authorize Task Order No. CDM160-05 with CDM Smith, Inc. for an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000.00 to further support the LE&CL TMDL process to update and revise the technical document and provide technical support services to the Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake (LECL) Nutrient TMDL Task Force through February 2022.

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

**C. CANYON LAKE ALUM APPLICATION REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (LES#2021.17)**

Mark Norton provided an oral report noting memorandum LES#2021.17 on pages 67-80 of the agenda packet. There has been fifteen semi-annual alum application to Canyon Lake dating from September 2013 through October 2021. The alum application has been successful in achieving compliance in a cost-effective manner.

Aquatechnex, Inc. has provided great alum treatment services for LESJWA in the last five years. Their contract ends December 2021. To ensure that LESJWA conducts a fair, open, and competitive procurement process for outside consulting services, a new request for proposals for future alum applications should be issued.

Director Dale Welty praised the visual results of the alum application at Canyon Lake and informed the Board that as a resident of Canyon Lake the community is very pleased.

**MOVED**, authorize staff to issue a Request for Proposals for multi-year alum applications for Canyon Lake.

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

**7. INFORMATION REPORTS**

**A. FUTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (LES#2021.18)**

Mark Norton provided an oral presentation on future funding opportunities for LESJWA.

*Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program (Still in draft form)*

This program is administered by the California Department of Water Resources. Approximately \$190M will be available statewide for projects that address drought needs but also “fish and wildlife rescue, protection, and relocation.” This grant funding will not require any local match, but it is encouraged.

Mr. Norton noted that the operators of the Lake Elsinore Aeration and Mixing System (LEAMS) project recognize that upgrades to the aging system are needed. With recent studies showing the success of oxygen injection in the restoration of lakes and its wildlife, LESJWA staff will work with LEAMS operators and the LE/CL TMDL task force to submit a grant application for improvements.

Another entry could be the Physical Harvesting of Algal Biomass in Lake Elsinore – Pilot Project. This project proposes using floating barge system to harvest lake algae for biofuels, soil amendments or disposal for composting or for biofuel development. The project was deemed to be a cost-effective means to remove nutrients contained within the algae that often die off, sink to the lake bottom, and then resuspend nutrients back into the water column further exacerbating the algae growth.

*Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Round 1 Grant program*

This program is administered through the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority. This program will require a 50% match. This round of funding is available to the upper Santa Ana River Watershed including the San Jacinto River Watershed totals \$18.5 million. A Call for Projects is expected to be released November 2021 through February 2022.

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#2021.19)**

Mark Norton provided an oral update on the Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage Project (LEAPS). Nevada Hydro filed a license application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and was accepted in July 2019. The Project is a proposed energy generation and storage project.

In recent discussions with the State Water Board project manager, it was reported that Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has not yet issued their Notice of Ready for Environmental Analysis. Further, Nevada Hydro still has not finalized a contract that allows their environmental consultant to move forward with the CEQA required work. Therefore, the State Water Board doesn't have an estimated timeline for the release of the draft EIR and have no hearings are scheduled at this time.

Greg Kahlen, Technical Director at The Kahlen Group, discussed the availability of a Permitting online dashboard that tracks Federal infrastructure projects. This dashboard was designed as a tool for the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, Title 41 (FAST-41). The following link will provide more information on the LEAPS project: <https://www.permits.performance.gov/permitting-project/lake-elsinore-advanced-pumped-storage-project>

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#2021.20)**

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

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

**D. ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS**

Mark Norton introduced the new LESJWA Clerk of the Board, Zyanya Ramirez and noted that Sara Villa took on the role of SAWPA Clerk of the Board.

**E. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the Directors.

**F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS REQUESTS**

There were no future agenda items requests.

**8. CLOSED SESSION**

There was no Closed Session.

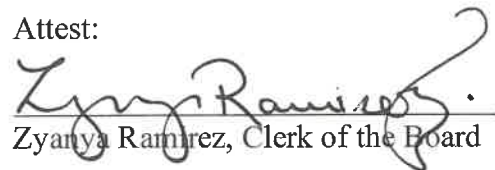
**9. ADJOURNMENT**

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, February 17, 2022.**

  
Dale Welty, Chair

Attest:

  
Zyanya Ramirez, Clerk of the Board