

San Diego Regional Stormwater Copermittees Regional Program Planning Subcommittee

Meeting Notes – FINAL

Chairperson Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego)

Date / Time	Agenda Summary
3/14/2019 Start time: 1:05 PM End time: 2:11 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order • Roll Call • Time for public to speak on items • Meeting Summary *VOTE* • Old Business • Proposed Basin Plan Amendment *VOTE* • 2018 County Regional Stormwater Survey (Joey Schmitt) • Proposed Studies in Agua Hedionda on Algal Blooms (Tim Murphy) • Workgroup Updates • Announcements • Future Meetings
Location County of San Diego 5510 Overland Avenue, 2 nd Floor Conference Room A-271 San Diego, CA 92123	

Voting Members in Attendance: (one vote per watershed)		Number of Voting Copermittees at this Meeting: 8/9	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Santa Margarita Watershed:</i> County of San Diego Ruth Dela Rosa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Carlsbad Watershed:</i> City of San Marcos Reed Thornberry (on phone)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>San Diego River Watershed:</i> City of La Mesa Joe Kuhn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Tijuana Watershed:</i> City of Imperial Beach Wbaldo Arellano (phone)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>San Dieguito Watershed:</i> City of Escondido Alicia Appel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Mission Bay Watershed:</i> City of San Diego Jim Harry
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Los Peñasquitos Watershed</i> City of Poway Tracy Beach (on phone)
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>San Luis Rey Watershed</i> Not present
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>San Diego Bay Watershed:</i> City of Chula Vista Marisa Soriano
Non-Voting Members and Members of the Public in Attendance			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County of San Diego Stephanie Gaines Rouya Rasoulzadeh Jo Ann Weber Ruth Dela Rosa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	City of El Cajon John Phillips
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	City of Del Mar/Solana Beach Fiona McHenry-Catchfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Western Solutions Sheri Dister
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	City of Carlsbad Tim Murphy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Research Joey Schmitt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	City of Coronado Jessie Powell (on phone)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dudek Bryn Evans (on phone)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Secretary Allison Gokbudak (Michael Baker International)

1. Call to Order

Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

7 **2. Roll Call**

8 Stephanie completed roll call for voting members. Eight voting members were in
9 attendance (San Luis Rey Watershed was absent).

10 **3. Non-Agenda Public Comment**

11 No comments from members of the public.

12 **4. Meeting Summary**

13 Two editorial changes made and emailed to the County:

- 14 • Line 51, corrected contact to contacted (Jon Nottage, Vista)
- 15 • Line 75, corrected updated to update (John Phillips, El Cajon)

16 **MOTION: Approve the meeting summary for February 21, 2019, as amended**
17 **(APPROVED)**

- 18 • Moved by Jim Harry (City of San Diego, Mission Bay Watershed)
- 19 • Seconded by Ruth dela Rosa (County of San Diego, Santa Margarita Watershed)
- 20 • Vote: 8-0 in favor (San Luis Rey Watershed not present)

21 **5. Old Business**

22 One request per agenda items. No questions on action items.

Old Action Items		Responsible Party	Due Date
1.	Send any agenda items for the April 30 Land Development Workgroup meeting to Rene Vidales (County of San Diego).	All Copermittees	4/28/2019
2.	Notify Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) when they have PPS agenda suggestions or ideas on presentations for work products, work plans, etc. to further collaboration among the Copermittees.	All Copermittees	Ongoing

23

24 **6. Proposed Basin Plan Amendment to Establish Biological Water Quality Objectives.**
25 ***VOTE***

26 Jo Ann Weber (County of San Diego) informed the group on the Biological Objectives
27 Workshop which will take place on April 18. This workshop will focus on the new Basin
28 Plan Amendments. She reminded the group that in previous meetings they had agreed
29 to a task order for creating speaking points for the State Water Board. She asked the

30 group if all had read the Scope of Services for Wood and Larry Walker and Associates, all
31 voting members present were in agreement.

32 Jo Ann presented a PowerPoint of her preliminary analysis of the Basin Plan
33 Amendments to the Biological Objectives. She stated that there are two types of
34 objectives, narrative and numeric, and that this regulation includes both. A narrative
35 objective has more leeway for both the Board and Permittees, while a numeric objective
36 typically has a hard threshold on effluent limitations with immediate action
37 necessitated.

38 Jo Ann compared the 2019 Amendment draft to that which was released in 2018, the
39 narrative objective has not changed however, the numeric objective has changed. The
40 numeric objective applied to wadeable and seasonal streams, when the previous draft
41 only included wadeable stream, but implied additional items without specifying. Jo Ann
42 clarified that if the waterway meets the bioassessment field criteria, it is included in this
43 Amendment.

44 Jo Ann added that this new draft also changed the actual threshold provided. The 2018
45 draft had a CSCI threshold of 0.79, with leeway between 0.63 and 0.79, where
46 Permittees could provide lines of evidence for not complying. Jo Ann noted that on the
47 previous draft it was commented that these lines of evidence were too difficult to pass,
48 with request for removal.

49 Jo Ann informed the group that the water quality objective was obtained through a
50 reference approach. While the state is not going this route, the San Diego Regional
51 board likely will. Jo Ann presented the CSCI scores of the reference sites that were used
52 to develop the threshold, this graph showed how the reference sites were skewed
53 above a 1.0 CSCI score. Ten percent of reference sites were below 0.79, and this is
54 where the threshold value was obtained. The threshold was only developed as a
55 comparison to reference sites and is not linked to beneficial use. According to Jo Ann's
56 calculations, 63% of streams will not meet this threshold number. She also added that
57 there is no consideration for hardened or partially hardened channels, and that all of
58 these are lumped together.

59 Jo Ann noted potential issues of these Basin Plan Amendments:

- 60 • Narrative objective is unattainable and difficult to implement.
- 61 • Numeric objective will be unattainable in urban creeks, and unsure of
62 intermittent creeks

63 Jo Ann added that these Basin Amendments will not be as strong as the Trash
64 Amendments, but rather be a factor for consideration of prioritization for Phase 1
65 MS4's. She stated it appears that this would move any new TMDL to 2026, which would
66 give relief to the Copermitees. She stated that Wood will need to confirm this.

67 Jo Ann presented the Scope of Services tasks and deadlines:

- 68 • Review response to 2018 comments (March 22)
- 69 • Draft summary of 2019 proposal and implications for MS4's (April 5)
- 70 • Talking points draft for workshop (April 5)
- 71 • Draft Comment Letter (April 22)
- 72 • Final Comment Letter (April 30)

73 Jo Ann mentioned that the talking points for the workshop may be presented jointly
74 with Orange and Riverside Counties. They are attempting to get a block of time to
75 present together but will figure out how to present once they have the set time.
76 Stephanie added that at the next PPS meeting on April 11, the group will be able to
77 discuss the talking points developed by Wood. Jo Ann asked the group if they had any
78 questions or comments on the Scope of Services.

79 Alicia Appel (City of Escondido, San Dieguito Watershed) asked which budget line item
80 this was under. Stephanie stated that this task falls under Task 2A-Regulatory Support.
81 Alicia also inquired if there was money in the budget. Stephanie replied that there is
82 ample money in this task.

83 Stephanie informed the group that the City of San Diego has requested to be removed
84 from this task cost share as they are submitting their own separate comment letter. This
85 will not impact the other Copermittees right away, but rather in the 2018-19 budget as a
86 credit which will be taken from other Copermittees. Stephanie presented what the cost
87 for this Scope of Services would look like with the City of San Diego removed and will
88 email this out after the meeting. The workgroup had a general consensus for the
89 updated cost share table.

90 Alicia asked if the group would be able to cross reference the City's comment letter with
91 the one created under this Scope of Services. Jim Harry (City of San Diego, Mission Bay
92 Watershed) stated that the City will not be able to share their letter with the group as
93 they are not allowed to release things like this before official submission. He added that
94 the City will likely not be making more comments than the group. Jo Ann noted that the
95 City's comment letter for the last draft of Basin Amendments was very similar to the
96 group's.

97 **MOTION: Approve Scope of Services which will take money from Subtask 2A to review**
98 **previous comments, develop talking points, attend workshop, and create a new**
99 **comment letter on the 2019 Basin Plan Amendment. (APPROVED)**

- 100 • Moved by Alicia Appel (City of Escondido, San Dieguito Watershed)
- 101 • Seconded by: Tracy Beach (City of Poway, Los Peñasquitos Watershed)
- 102 • Vote: 7-1-0 in favor (Mission Bay Watershed abstained, San Luis Rey Watershed
103 absent from voting)
- 104

105 **7. 2018 San Diego County Regional Stormwater Survey (Joey Schmitt)**

106 Stephanie introduced Joey Schmidt from Action Research. Joey stated that this was
107 initiated to support the education and outreach efforts. The goal is to eventually submit
108 a regional message, with this being the fourth permit term survey.

109 The survey was conducted on 500 residents through cell phone and landlines in both
110 English and Spanish. The purpose of the survey was to create metrics to measure the
111 awareness of stormwater pollution issues among the general population. The
112 demographics of this survey were extremely close to the previous survey completed,
113 with an average age of 48, 58% male and 42% female, and 35% holding a bachelor's
114 degree or higher. General awareness of common pollutants is high, for both prompted
115 and unprompted responses. Knowledge of dog feces, yard clippings, and runoff,
116 however, as sources of pollution were very low. A surprisingly high number of
117 respondents reported littering (16%). Only 25% were aware of Project Clean Water, and
118 among those who were aware of Project Clean Water, 10% knew it was stormwater
119 related. Respondents would be interested in reporting issues by calling, texting, or using
120 a website. Action Research also started to ask if respondents would use an app to
121 report.

122 Joey recommended taglines could be created from these results. The taglines would be
123 used to develop messages for the regional marketing campaign, link Project Clean Water
124 back to stormwater quality, and promote the message that stormwater is untreated.
125 Joey stated that, after 2011, awareness of stormwater being untreated has decreased.
126 He suggested the group increase awareness of the utility of the website as a means for
127 reporting, educating, and other resources. Joey also suggested that irrigation runoff be
128 targeted and to focus on sprinkler maintenance and repair. He reminded the group that
129 people often are not aware of the issues they may have with sprinklers as sprinklers are
130 typically on when few people are awake.

131 Joey added that Action Research is working with the County to refine the messages they
132 would like to focus on. Stephanie clarified that while the Task Order is with the County,
133 the work is with the Education and Outreach committee, as is the Regional message.
134 She added that the main focus is the branding of Project Clean Water. Rouya added that
135 the Education and Outreach committee is working on the Scope of Work for the
136 marketing campaign at the moment.

137 Alicia asked if "See something, say something" would be a good message to encourage
138 more reporting. Joey replied that messages like that actually receive a lot of pushback,
139 and make people not want to report. Joey stated that positive messages are more
140 successful. There were no further questions.

141 **8. Proposed Studies in Agua Hedionda on Algal Blooms (Tim Murphy)**

142 Stephanie introduced Tim's presentation as an informational item for everyone in the
143 group.

144 Tim Murphy (City of Carlsbad) informed the group that a couple weeks ago the City of
145 Carlsbad was approached by Lawrence Berkeley national laboratory. The lab had
146 received money from Poseidon (the operators of the desalination plant) to look at algal
147 blooms in the Agua Hedionda lagoon, where the desalination plant is located. Algae and
148 blooms can affect their membranes, with the plant having to shut down their entire
149 production a couple times due to algal blooms. Tim stated that Lawrence Berkeley
150 intends to gather data and model nutrients in the watershed. This project is currently
151 moving forward and going through processes for permitting with fish and wildlife. Tim
152 added that the second part of this project will be Lawrence Berkeley submitting a grant
153 proposal to Proposition 1 to study harmful algal blooms. The scope of that project will
154 include Buena Vista lagoon, as well as the San Marcos watershed and Agua Hedionda.
155 Lawrence Berkeley will collect data with remote sensing and data sondes and perform
156 modeling and predictive modeling. Tim said he is not entirely certain what Lawrence
157 Berkeley will come up with this data and modeling, but it got the attention of the City of
158 Carlsbad.

159 Tim informed the group that originally, they wanted their watershed to get together
160 first to talk about this, but their response is due tomorrow. Larry Walker and Associates
161 is working on the proposal for the City of Carlsbad. Tim informed the group that the
162 suggestions made were to form a stakeholder group or tech advisory committee. The
163 comprehensive work product from Lawrence Berkeley will look at all research done on
164 the nutrient modeling with algal blooms within the state and potentially the nation. Tim
165 added that Lawrence Berkeley will be submitting the grant proposal tomorrow but is
166 unsure if the City of Carlsbad will be submitting a letter of support. Tim added that while
167 the City of Carlsbad is not sure if they want the data sondes out in all the watershed
168 collecting the data but would like to have some influence on the research. Tim informed
169 the group that they will be bringing it to their watershed meeting next week. If grant is
170 provided the City of Carlsbad will form a technical advisory committee to see the
171 regional implications that may be involved from the research. Tim was uncertain if there
172 was interest at the regional level, but Berkeley Lawrence can present to this group or to
173 an individual watershed group. If any Copermittee is interested, let Tim know and they
174 can get more information

175 Ruth dela Rosa (County of San Diego) asked how much the grant was for. Tim replied
176 that it will be for \$2 million. He added that the initial funding through will be through
177 Poseidon, but they will be partnering with UC Merced for the remote sensing. Tim noted
178 that they have only done most work in northern California. He said that it's important
179 for stakeholders to be involved as this research will be performed by outsiders, and they
180 will need regional guidance.

181 Jim said that the City of San Diego would be interested in getting involved.

182 Stephanie reminded the group that if anyone has anything they would like to bring
183 forward in the spirit of collaboration, they can email her to be added to the agenda for
184 the next meeting.

185 **9. Workgroup Updates**

186 Stephanie stated that there have been a few phone calls and signature-page packages
187 received for the MOU. She asked the group if they had any questions on it.

188 John Phillips (City of El Cajon) informed the group that the City of El Cajon has approved
189 the MOU and they will have the signature pages to Stephanie soon.

190 The next meeting for the Land Development Workgroup will be April 30, from 9AM to
191 12PM. The next meeting for the Education and Outreach Workgroup will be May 8, from
192 10AM to 12PM. There were no further questions on workgroups.

193 **10. Announcements/Other**

194 Stephanie clarified that the “Announcements” item in the agenda will henceforth
195 include other related discussion topics. The item should now be listed as
196 “Announcements/Other”. There were no announcements.

197 Jo Ann had two items to add. She reminded the group that they had received a draft
198 memorandum on the Regional Trash Report for responses to the board’s questions on
199 the report. The group has until next Friday to look and make comments. She informed
200 that the County paid for this task. Jo Ann added that while they initially wanted to meet
201 and speak with Helen about their responses to her concerns, they are now leaning
202 towards sending her the memorandum, so everything is in writing as the responses
203 were more technical than originally supposed. She told the group that no comments
204 have been received so far.

205 Jo Ann’s second update was on a meeting with Regional Board about the Bacterial
206 workgroup with San Diego and Orange County. This will pertain to the human source
207 pathway to meet TMDL compliance with Helen Yu involved. Jo Ann added that they
208 were hoping to have a proposal to give to the group but are unsure at the moment. She
209 will report the outcome of the meeting to the group in April. She is unsure of the exact
210 date, but it will happen in April.

211 Alicia informed the group that she was contacted by Helen about the City of Escondido’s
212 Track 1 submittal. While they met all the checklist requirements, Helen still had some
213 comments. Alicia added that they had to provide jurisdictional maps, information about
214 land use, etc. Alicia said that Helen was very easy to work with and they were given two
215 weeks to respond.

216 Alicia also added that the City of Escondido was contacted by Erica at the Regional
217 Board about their drinking water discharges. They have several jurisdictions reporting
218 large water main breaks as potential illicit discharges. She asked the group if anyone
219 could provide feedback on experiences with interacting with the board about drinking
220 water. Alicia was looking for defined limits or standard operating procedures of when to
221 report breaks to the board as means to comply with the 24-hour reporting requirement.

222 Jim said that he will check with the City of San Diego to see if they have one. Stephanie
 223 shared that the County has contacted the Water Authority agencies to work with the
 224 various operations departments and identify when planned discharges will occur, and
 225 when any emergency discharges have occurred. The County will describe their process
 226 and outcomes when they hold the upcoming non-stormwater discharge meeting with
 227 Copermittees. Stephanie also stated she will check to see if the County has any such
 228 process in place.

229 **11. Future Meetings**

230 The next PPS meeting will take place on April 11, 2019 at 1:30 PM

231 Stephanie called the meeting closed at 2:11 PM.

	New Action Items	Responsible Party	Due Date
1.	Email new costs which remove the City of San Diego from the Scope of Services pertaining to Basin Amendments	Stephanie Gaines	3/14/2019
2.	Interested Copermittees to inform Tim Murphy if they would like more information on the study for Algal Blooms by Lawrence Berkeley.	All Copermittees	As soon as possible
3.	Jo Ann to provide an update from the Bacterial workgroup meeting with the Regional Board	Jo Ann Weber	April 2019
4.	Notify Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) of any PPS agenda suggestions or ideas on presentations for work products, work plans, etc. to further collaboration among the Copermittees.	All Copermittees	Ongoing

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