

**Tijuana River Watershed Management Area
Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2017 8:30 am to 10:00 am
County Operations, 5510 Overland Avenue, 4th Floor Room 472**

Attendees:

Organization
City of Imperial Beach (IB)
City of San Diego (SD)
County of San Diego (County)
Amec Foster Wheeler (Amec)
D-MAX Engineering, Inc. (D-MAX)
Dudek (Dudek)

1. Call to order: 8:30 am

2. Roll Call

All participants introduced themselves.

3. Time for public to speak on items not on the agenda

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

4. Approve minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from February 2017 were approved without further edits or revisions.

- **Action item:** D-MAX will post meeting minutes on the Project Clean Water website.

5. 2017-2018 Work Plan and Watershed Budget

The work plan, overall budget and jurisdictional cost share breakdown were presented and discussed. The watershed program includes Watershed Coordination, Monitoring Support Services, Reporting and Assessment Services, As-Needed Services, SMC Monitoring and Coordination, Regional Monitoring and Assessment Reporting Services, Special Study Support Services, and Regional Bight Coordination. Tasks to be completed under Bight Coordination will be on an as-needed basis upon authorization. IB manages the contract for this work, costs are shared using the standard 45-45-10 formula, and a standard 5% contract administration fee is assessed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve shared costs of \$341,744, as laid out in the 2017-2019 work plan and supporting budget attachments. The motion was unanimously approved (County, IB, and SD all voted in favor).

6. Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report (RMAR) Chapter Comments

The Tijuana River WMA Draft RMAR Chapter and comments were discussed. The group discussed comments submitted and added additional comments as summarized below. Comments will be addressed in the revised draft.

- RMAR chapter process overview: the scope of work is one draft report and one final report. Comments on the draft will be incorporated, including available feedback from the regional RMAR ad hoc group, and then the final will be produced.
- An executive summary was not included in the draft section. The draft executive summary will be developed after the final chapter has been prepared and will have its own separate review and comment period.

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- Municipal Permit Provision D.4.a(2) requires the critical beneficial assessment be completed for each of the following waterbody types listed in the provision: Coastal Waters; Enclosed Bays, Harbors, Estuaries, and Lagoons; and Streams. SD requested additional discussion of coastal waters. Consistent with the approach in other watersheds, the critical beneficial use assessment focuses on the highest priority water quality conditions (HPWQCs) per watershed. Text will be added to the sub-section to explain the beneficial use of REC-1 at the Pacific Ocean Shoreline is primarily impacted by discharges from Mexico, therefore, was not identified as a HPWQC in the WQIP.
- SMC data will be analyzed as part of the Provision A.4 assessment.
- Third party data will be included in a manner consistent with the approach used in other watersheds.
- The overall conclusions regarding the health of the watershed should be clearly presented.
- Discharges from Mexico are known to have a significant impact on the health of the Tijuana River and Estuary and the Pacific Ocean shoreline. Note in the recommendations that due to the binational nature of the watershed, for long term improvement in receiving water quality and attainment of beneficial uses, increased efforts and responsibility from other agencies outside of the RAs are needed.
- **Action item:** Amec will address these comments in the revised draft. An executive summary will be developed once comments have been incorporated and it appears findings or methodologies are accepted.

7. Special study update

Amec and Dudek are finalizing the revised draft Phase I Sediment Study report. The revised draft will be submitted to the Copermitttees for review upon completion.

- **Action item:** Amec/Dudek to complete the revised draft of the Phase I Sediment Study report.

8. Other items (time permitting, no action will be taken)

A. Update on action Items from previous Watershed Group meeting

(Note that the status provided below is as of the date of the meeting)

Re: Meeting Minutes

D-MAX will post October 2016 and November 2016 meeting minutes on the Project Clean Water website. *Not completed.*

Will be posted after the PCW website training where log in information is distributed.

Re: The budget will be voted on during the March 2017 meeting.

The watershed program budget was voted on and approved during this meeting.

Re: Special study update

Amec/Dudek to complete revised draft of the Phase I Sediment Study report. *Not completed. Revisions in progress.*

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The next meeting will be held on April 18, 2017 from 8:30am to 10:00 am at County Operations, 5510 Overland Avenue, 4th Floor Room 472.