

**Tijuana River Watershed Management Area
Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2018 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm
Dempsey Holder Safety Center, 950 Ocean Ln, Imperial Beach, CA 91932**

Attendees:

Organization	Names
City of Imperial Beach (IB)	Chris Helmer
	Wbaldo Arellano
City of San Diego (SD)	Heather Krish
	Ming Lai
	Joe Cosgrove
County of San Diego (County)	Joanna Wisniewska (WPP)
	Rouya Rasoulzadeh (WPP)
Amec Foster Wheeler, a Wood Group Company (Amec)	Matt Rich
	Brenda Stevens
	Greg McCormick
D-MAX Engineering, Inc. (D-MAX)	John Quenzer

Notes: WPP – Watershed Protection Program, DPR – Department of Parks and Recreation

1. **Call to order:** 1:00pm
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**

IB motioned to approve the minutes from the January 2017 meeting. County seconded. Meeting minutes were approved with no further edits.

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

5. **Update on FY19 watershed shared costs budget vote**

The Draft Fiscal Year 2019 scope, budget and shared cost spreadsheets were distributed via email on January 25. Votes were submitted from each jurisdiction via email by Monday, January 29.

“Yes” votes were received from all three jurisdictions to approve:

1. 2018-2019 (FY19) Tijuana River shared costs budget and associated scope of work. This budget item was approved for a total of \$344,243 (\$330,006 contract cost plus 5% contract administration fee).
2. Optional sediment analyses at SMC bioassessment monitoring sites. This budget item was approved for a total of \$4,173 (\$4,000 plus 5% contract administration fee).
3. Optional links to the final and preliminary final annual reports to make the reports more interactive and easier to navigate electronically (in discussions, this has been referred to as a “smart document”.) This budget item was approved for a total of \$4,173 (\$4,000 plus 5% contract administration fee).

The City of Imperial Beach will manage the contract.

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The City of SD noted that its vote was “with the understanding that [sediment special study] funds can be directed towards other activities in the watershed if the group votes to do so.” Additionally, Bight site selection was finalized, and only one site was selected in the Tijuana River watershed. Since two Bight sediment sampling stations were budgeted for, an additional \$20K can be allocated for alternative use(s) if approved by a unanimous group vote.

6. Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team/Watershed updates

- IB filed a lawsuit against IBWC to force them to address trans-boundary flows that pose one of the most significant threats in the San Diego region to ecological and public health. SD and County have not joined lawsuit at this time.
- The San Diego Water Board issued an order directing the United States International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) to submit technical reports pertaining to an investigation of pollutants, contamination, and nuisance from transboundary flows in the Tijuana River Valley. The order states: “numerous beneficial uses are impaired by the transboundary flows, most importantly those associated with protection of aquatic life (e.g., warm freshwater, estuarine, marine habitat, and rare and endangered species, etc.) and protection of human health (e.g., contact and non-contact water recreation, fishing, shellfishing, etc.). Monitoring to date, however, has not been focused to adequately address the scope and magnitude of the threats to the environment and human health resulting from these flows.” The monitoring program proposed in Order No. R9-2018-0056 is designed to more fully understand the sources of the pollutants and the extent of the impacts of these flows to the Tijuana River Valley. The public comment period ends April 2, 2018.

7. CEDEN compatible format for jurisdictional outfall monitoring data

In order to ease the processing of dry weather CEDEN data next year, Amec Foster Wheeler developed a template to be provided to the RAs’ dry weather labs. The template comprises all dry weather analytes in the watershed, and provides a list of names, fractions, methods, matrices, units, etc. that are accepted by CEDEN. This will prevent additional vocabulary requests except for genuinely new analytes. These templates have been used successfully for the delivery of wet weather analytical results and could streamline the processing of dry weather data.

8. Regional Board GIS data request

The San Diego Water Board notified Copermittees that the GIS data, layers, and shapefiles used to develop the maps generated and maintained by the Copermittees for the Water Quality Improvement Plans, Annual Reports, and Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program documents, must be submitted directly to the San Diego Water Board by March 9, 2018 to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Regional MS4 Permit. Amec Foster Wheeler compiled files and layers used for the Water Quality Improvement Plans and Annual Reports.

GIS files were submitted to the Water Board on a CD, and uploaded to Project Clean Water on March 9, 2018. The zip file contains a readme file that describes that content of the files.

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Next year, an appendix to the Annual Report will be added to include this data as an electronic deliverable.

9. Future meeting locations and content

The group discussed the potential of continuing to have future meeting locations rotate between jurisdictions or within the watershed to visit projects of interest. The group was in favor.

- **Action item:**
 - Amec and IB will look into alternative meeting locations for future meetings.
 - County will cancel the hold on the room at the COC.

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

Update on action items from previous Watershed Group meeting

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

- **Re: Approve minutes from previous meeting**

D-MAX will post meeting minutes on the Project Clean Water website. *Completed*

- **Re: Draft FY19 Watershed and Shared Costs Budget**

- Consultant team to provide more information about the optional sediment monitoring proposed for the SMC Bioassessment monitoring. *Completed*

- Consultant team to send the group a request for voting on the 2018-2019 budget via email. This will be structured as three voting items: (1) watershed shared costs excluding optional tasks, (2) optional additional cost to create a smart document, and (3) optional additional cost for sediment sampling at SMC bioassessment sites.

Completed

- **Future meeting locations and content**

Amec and IB will look into alternative meeting locations for the February 20 meeting.

Completed

The next meeting will be held on April 17, 2018.