



SGVCOG Joint Water Policy Committee/TAC Approved Minutes

Date: July 19, 2017
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- 1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM.
- 2. Roll Call

Water Policy Committee Members Present

S. Pedroza, Claremont
N. Lyons, Diamond Bar
J. Nelson, Glendora
J. Capoccia, Sierra Madre
D. Mahmud, South Pasadena

Water Policy Committee Members Absent

Monrovia
Rosemead

Water TAC Members Present

V. Hevener, Arcadia
A. Tachiki, Monrovia
M. Lombos, F. Villaluna, LACDPW
M. Gouveia, E. Chavez, USGVMWD

Water TAC Members Absent

Covina
Sierra Madre

Ex Officio Members Present

S. Green, LA County Sanitation District
K. Gardner, R. Serna, Watermaster

Ex Officio Members Absent

Foothill Municipal Water District

Guests

M. Cansino, Pomona
R. Tahir, TECS Environmental

B. Pence, Congresswoman Napolitano
E. Reyes, SGVMWD
J. Shimmin, South Pasadena

C. Gabaldon, CGRME
M. Lyons, S. Helland, S. Heieh, Assembly
Member Holden
M. Lutz
H. Lee, Sen Hernandez
K. Kearney, Bradbury

SGVCOG Staff

P. Hawkey
E. Wolf

- 3. Public Comment. There were no public comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 4. Water Committee/TAC Meeting Minutes – 6/21/2017
There was a motion to approve the minutes. (M/S: J. Capoccia/J. Nelson).
[MOTION PASSED]

AYES:	Claremont, Diamond Bar, Glendora, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, Arcadia, Monrovia, LACDPW, USGVMWD
NOES:	

ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	Monrovia, Rosemead, Alhambra, Covina, Sierra Madre, Foothill Municipal Water District

PRESENTATION

ACTION ITEMS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. AB 1180 (Holden)

D. Mahmud reviewed the history of AB 1180 ending with what the current version of the bill is attempting to do, namely give the LA County Flood Control District the authority to raise a stormwater related fee. She reviewed how the revenue raised will be allocated: 40% returned to the jurisdictions where the money was raised, 50% for regional projects, and 10% for administration. She noted that the only opposition at this point is from the Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Association.

Several concerns were raised. First, members wanted to know if the 10% dedicated to administration was the right amount; perhaps that is too high. Second, members were concerned that the 50% toward regional projects lacked specificity as to how those projects would be selected. One member noted that the bill gives taxing authority to the county that it did not have before, expanding their power. The Watermaster was concerned that the bill is vague regarding the proposed projects capturing “new” water, as opposed to taking water that currently goes to the spreading grounds.

There were supportive comments as well. Members noted that, given the MS4 permit structure, AB 1180 is a step in the right direction, and may be the best, if not only, opportunity to help fund compliance. One member offered that this county-sponsored bill would be an easier approach to raising funds than passing a city tax increase. Finally, members also discussed what, if any, role the subregional COGs would or should play in administering the funds within their subregions. The committee declined to take a position on the bill at this time.

INFORMATION ITEMS

6. Legislative Updates

- State Legislation

J. Nelson updated members on the various drought response bills. AB 1654 (Rubio) and several other bills were competing approaches to drought response. The Rubio bill preserved local control whereas other bills vested more control over reforms in the hands of state regulators. The chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water gutted each of the bills and asked members to convene and work out their differences. The only bill to survive is AB 1323 (Weber) which tasks the Department of Water Resources with convening a working group to that end. Members requested that since the Governing Board has already accepted the Water Committee’s recommendation to support the Rubio bill (now gutted), that the Governing Board send a letter to the committee stating its support for the principle of local control embodied in AB 1654.

- Federal Legislation

S. Green updated members on HR 465, stating that congress members are beginning to work on bipartisan changes to the bill.

7. State Audit of Regional Boards MS4 Permits

- D. Mahmud reviewed the purpose of the audit and noted that the SGVCOG has been asked for our input to the audit. Water Policy Committee officers and COG staff will provide background and documentation.
8. Regulatory Updates
- 303(d) List
- M. Lombos updated the group on the County's comment letter submitted to the State Water Board, in which they requested that the Public Hearing be held in the Los Angeles area. The County has so far not received a response.
9. Water Boards Update
- State Board
- D. Mahmud stated that the State Board has issued a response to a request for extension of implementation of new water quality standards for TCTP.
- Regional Board: Industrial Permit meeting
- J. Nelson discussed a meeting she attended with the Regional Board regarding Industrial Permittees, and cities' responsibility to monitor their compliance. She stated that for the most part, recyclers are trying to comply but are unfairly taking the blame for other businesses' noncompliance. Recyclers would like more frequent inspections in order to confirm their compliance. Nelson stated that Glendora is accomplishing inspections through a contracted program paid for through business licensing fees. The Regional Board plans to initiate an education campaign aimed at closing the gap in inspections.
10. LA County Water Resilience Update. There was no discussion of this item.
11. Water Supply Update
- K. Gardner discussed the Watermaster's five-year plan of fee increases to purchase supplemental water to augment the basin. She stated that the basin is currently 28 feet below operating range. Gardner also gave an update on the concern that there may be invasive quagga muscles in the State Water Project system. This has limited the Watermaster's ability to accept deliveries of SWP water from northern California. Tests so far have been inconclusive.
12. Litigation Update
- D. Mahmud updated the Gardena case. The hearing date has been postponed. Regarding the San Diego case against MWD, Metropolitan won appellate court reversal of the trial court's ruling in favor of San Diego County Water Authority but it's expected that San Diego will appeal to the State Supreme Court.
13. Stormwater Outreach Updates
- Supervisor Barger, June 22nd
- J. Nelson discussed the SGVCOG meeting with Supervisor Barger where we talked about the County's Water Resilience plan and how it aligns with the regional approach to MS4 compliance that the COG has been advocating. Nelson stated that the Stormwater Funding group will be adopting the SGVCOG Stormwater Policy (with modifications). This action will establish our policy as a county-wide approach.
- Flood Control Tour w/ Congresswoman Napolitano, Aug 3rd
- E. Wolf reviewed the itinerary and objectives of the tour.
14. E/WMP Updates. There was no discussion of this item.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

CHAIR'S REPORT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.