

# Rio Hondo Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes

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Tuesday, November 15, 2022  
1:00pm - 3:00pm  
WebEx Meeting

## Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)  
Tom Love, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Agency)  
Kelly Gardner, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Agency)  
Kristen Ruffell, LA County Sanitation Districts (Agency), Chair  
Brent Maue, City of Pasadena Public Works (Agency)  
Jill Fosselman, Resident (Community)  
Mark Hall, Greater LA County Vector Control District (Community)  
Edward Belden, Resident (Community)  
David Dolphin, Alhambra (Municipal)  
Jalaine Verdiner, Los Angeles County (Municipal)  
Gloria Crudgington, Monrovia (Municipal)  
Dawn Petschauer, Pasadena (Municipal)  
Richard Watson, Richard Watson and Associates Planning (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

\*Committee Member Alternate

## Committee Members Not Present:

Thomas Wong, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Community)  
Daniel Rossman, The Wilderness Society (Community)  
Carmen Masud, Arcadia (Municipal)  
Sal Mendez, El Monte (Municipal)  
Sarah Rocha, Irwindale (Municipal)

See attached attendance sheet for full list of attendees.

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## **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Kristen Ruffell, Chair of the Rio Hondo (RH) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), welcomed Committee Members, and called the meeting to order. Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) staff and Chair Ruffell facilitated Committee Member introductions. A quorum was established.

Committee Member Dawn Petschauer provided a self-introduction as the newest member of the WASC.

District staff and Chair Ruffell provided a brief WebEx tutorial and direction on submission of public comments to the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) website.

## **2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 20, 2022 and October 18, 2022**

District staff presented the meeting minutes from the September 20, 2022 and October 18, 2022. Motion to approve meeting minutes by Member Kelly Gardner, seconded by Member David Dolphin. The Committee voted to approve the September 20, 2022 and the October 18, 2022 meeting minutes, with 10 votes in favor and 2 abstained (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

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#### 3. Committee Member and District Updates

District staff provided an update, noting the following:

- On November 15, 2022, the Board of Supervisors (Board) voted to continue meeting virtually, acting under the authority of Assembly Bill 361 which authorizes public committees to meet without complying with all the teleconferencing requirements of the Brown Act. The Board is reviewing its position every 30 days. If the Board decides to no longer approve findings to continue teleconference meetings under AB 361, the WASC has the authority to make their own AB 361 findings. District staff will provide additional guidance if and when that occurs.
- On October 4, 2022, the Board of Supervisors voted to advance all nine Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs). The approved Board letter is available on the SCWP website under the resources drop down menu and includes funding for the continuing projects. Project Managers of new continuing projects should submit their respective Transfer Agreements and Addendums for execution for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY22-23).
- Scoring Committee reviews began on October 6, 2022. The Scoring Committee schedule can be found on the SCWP website [here](#). The Scoring Committee scored the four RH WASC projects on November 9, 2022.
- FY22-23 Q1 Quarterly Reports from the period of July to October were due November 15, 2022. Quarterly reports must still be completed even if there was no activity done on the project.

#### 4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Julie Millett gave an update on activities conducted since the previous WASC meeting. The presentation slides can be found on the SCWP website.

#### 5. Ex Parte Communication Disclosures

There were no ex parte communication disclosures.

#### 6. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

#### 7. Presentation and Discussion Items

##### a) Presentations for Scientific Study Program

##### i. Regional Pathogen Reduction Study

Presentation by Bruce Hamamoto. The latest science will be used to support the reduction of human pathogens and protect human health.

Member Tom Love noted that the Regional Board needs to be on board with the study since they would be implementing the results. Bruce Hamamoto confirmed that the Regional Board is aware of the study and willing to participate and review the results of the study but have made no firm commitments. The State Board and other Regional Boards across the state are also willing to see the results of the study but want to see specific data for each region.

Member Dawn Petschauer commented that the Regional Board is committed to seeing the study results before considering any implementations. Member Dawn Petschauer asked if there were any data already collected in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area from the LRS Adaptation to Address the LA River Bacteria TMDL for the ULAR Watershed Management

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Group study. Bruce Hamamoto noted that a literature review will be done to identify gaps in current monitoring studies to reduce redundancy. There was a conversation on how funding allocations could be decreased if monitoring data from other studies already existing in this region can be used, which has not yet been determined.

Member Edward Belden asked if there are more details on the budget that could be sent out to members.

Chair Kristen Ruffell asked District staff to invite Bruce Hamamoto back to answer the additional questions from Members Edwards Belden and Dawn Petschauer. District staff confirmed that Bruce Hamamoto will be invited back to provide additional responses.

District staff noted that additional details on the proposed budget can be found in the project application available on the SCWP website.

Member Edward Belden asked whether the Regional Board has the authority to change its criteria, or if changes would need to be made concurrently with the State Board. Bruce Hamamoto replied that Regional Boards may have regionally specific regulations.

#### **b) Presentations for Infrastructure Program**

- i. Kinneloa Yard Stormwater Capture Project Preliminary Design and Feasibility Study**  
Presentation by Merrill Taylor. Site restoration and regional and onsite stormwater capture and infiltration diversion facility located beneath open space at Kinneloa Yard.

Member Kelly Gardner asked about the contamination present at the site. Merrill Taylor explained that the Department of Toxics Substance Control has identified arsenic and metals below the surface, which is why infiltration is assumed to be zero and excavation of all contaminated soil is proposed to be removed.

Watershed Coordinator Richard Watson mentioned that all known contamination will be removed and agrees that infiltration should not be proposed in case any additional unknown contamination exists. Watershed Coordinator Richard Watson further noted that the project is a good multi-benefit proposed use of the unused open space and could be a good starting point for future projects along Eaton Wash to divert and treat water.

#### **c) Continue Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs**

District staff invited Committee Members to nominate candidates for Vice-Chair or Co-Chairs. Member Brent Maue nominated Member Dawn Petschauer for the position of Vice-Chair. Member Dawn Petschauer accepted the nomination.

#### **8. Public Comment Period**

There were no public comments.

#### **9. Voting Items**

##### **a) Continue Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs**

Member Brent Maue motioned to approve Member Dawn Petschauer as Vice-Chair for the RH WASC, seconded by Member David Dolphin. The motion was approved, with 10 votes in favor, 1 in abstention, and 1 absent at the time of the vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

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#### **10. Items for Next Agenda**

The next meeting will be tentatively held Tuesday, December 20, from 1:00pm - 3:00pm. See the SCWP website for details. Items proposed for the next meeting agenda include:

- a) Regional Program Infrastructure Projects Presentations

District staff noted that Bruce Hamamoto will be invited back to answer questions regarding the Regional Pathogen Reduction Study.

#### **11. Adjournment**

Chair Kristen Ruffell thanked WASC members and the public for their attendance and participation and adjourned the meeting.

## RH WASC - November 15, 2022

RH WASC - November 15, 2022						
		Quorum Present			Voting Item	
Member Type	Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve 9-20-2022 and 10-18-2022 Meeting Minutes	Approve Dawn Petschauer to serve as Vice Chair for the Rio Hondo WASC
Agency	Julian Juarez	X	Ramy Gindi		Y	Y
Agency	Tom Love	X	Patty Cortez		Y	
Agency	Kelly Gardner	X	Tony Zampiello		Y	Y
Agency	Kristen Ruffell	X	Alysha Chan		Y	Y
Agency	Brent Maue	X	Kris Markarian		Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Thomas Wong		Bryan Matsumoto			
Community Stakeholder	Jill Fosselman	X			Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Mark Hall	X	Mark Daniel		Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Edward Belden	X			Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Daniel Rossman		Liliana Griego			
Municipal Members	David Dolphin	X	Latoya Waters		Y	Y
Municipal Members	Carmen Masud		Paul Cranmer			
Municipal Members	Jalaine Verdiner	X	Fernando Villaluna		Y	Y
Municipal Members	Gloria Crudgington	X	Alex Tachiki		A	Y
Municipal Members	Sal Mendez					
Municipal Members	Dawn Petschauer	X	James Tong		A	
Municipal Members	Sarah Rocha					
Watershed Coordinator Non-Voting Member (RWA Planning)	Richard Watson	X	Julie Millett			
Total Non-Vacant Seats	17			Yay (Y)	10	10
Total Voting Members Present	12			Nay (N)	0	0
Agency	5			Abstain (A)	2	0
Community Stakeholder	3			Total	12	10
Municipal Members	4				Approved	Approved

## Attendance

RH WASC - November 15, 2022

Mark Hall, GLAmosquito

Dawn Petschauer

Serena Zhu

Paul Choy

GABRIELA GONZALEZ

Richard Watson

Cas, CWH

yisak kim

yisak kim

Tom Love

Robert Gomez

Tori Klug (Regional Coordination)

Chris Lee

Don

Julie Millett

David Dolphin

Eric Bonilla

Brent Maue

Gloria Crudgington

Jill Fosselman

Fernando Villaluna

Alex Tachiki

Edward Belden

JALAINE VERDINER

Julian Juarez

Kelly Gardner

Ryanna Fossum (Regional Coordination)

Bruce Hamamoto

Kristen Ruffell

Brianne Logasa

Oliver Galang

Melanie Morita-Hu

Merrill Taylor