

# **Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee**

**Jan. 17, 2008  
Meeting Minutes**

## **Committee Members Present:**

Mark Adelson, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board  
John Bahorski, City of Cypress  
Karen I. Baroldi, Orange County Sanitation District  
Garry Brown, Orange County Coast Keeper  
Tim Casey, City of Laguna Niguel  
Paul D. Jones, Irvine Ranch Water District  
Tony Olmos, City of Brea  
Joe Parco, City of Santa Ana  
Hector B. Salas, Caltrans  
Mary Anne Skorpanich, Watershed and Coastal Resources Program  
Sat Tamaribuchi, The Irvine Company  
Dick Wilson, City of Anaheim

## **Committee Members Absent:**

William J. Cooper, UC Irvine  
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative

## **Orange County Transportation Authority Staff Present:**

Art Leahy  
Paul Taylor  
Monte Ward  
Ellen Burton  
Kia Mortazavi  
Ken Smart  
Kurt Brotcke  
Marissa Espino  
Dan Phu  
Ryan Maloney

## **Members of the Public**

None

### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

Monte Ward called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Art Leahy joined the committee during the first presentation and welcomed committee members. Art said he looked forward to developing the environmental freeway mitigation program with the committee members.

### **2. Approval of November 2007 Minutes**

The minutes from November 2007 were submitted and approved unanimously.

### **3. Committee Chair/Vice-Chair Appointment**

Monte opened the floor to nominations for the committee chair and vice-chair positions. Garry Brown was nominated as Chair, and Mary Anne Skorpanich was nominated as Vice-Chair. In the absence of any competing nominations, a motion was made to close the floor for nominations and carried. By unanimous verbal vote, Garry Brown was selected as Chair and Mary Anne Skorpanich was selected as Vice-Chair. Garry Brown presided over the remainder of the agenda.

### **4. Presentation Items**

#### **a. Transportation Programming Process**

Kurt Brotcke presented an overview of the call for projects and how those funds are allocated to transportation projects. Kurt presented a sample call for projects to demonstrate the requirements for future environmental mitigation.

Several questions were asked about the qualifications for a project to be “new” and qualify for transportation funds. Several members asked that projects that had been proposed, but not completed due to lack of funding, still be included as “new” projects. It was suggested that it projects identified in a planning process might be more beneficial, seeing as there was an established need for the project. Kurt said that this issue could be addressed using the project guidelines.

A member commented that many watershed projects required a long-term maintenance commitment. It was suggested that project requirements might require a project to maintain its benefits for 20 years, similar to state Proposition 13 state funds.

Several members also commented that in addition to maintenance, funds should be allocated to measure the effectiveness of watershed projects after a few years. If no funding is available, the County of Orange and local cities are responsible for monitoring water quality. One member suggested that federal matching funds may be available for monitoring.

It was recommended that the committee select projects that were consistent with established water management projects in order to work in sync with regional water boards and support established TMDL’s. A member defined TMDL’s as a formalized process to restore water quality in response to specific pollutants, such as copper or pesticides.

Monte Ward explained that as a committee charged with developing transportation related water quality control measures, the committee would develop the method to allocate funding for projects and serve as the approval board for projects, with its recommendations passed onto the OCTA Board. It was suggested that sub-committees be formed for each of Orange County’s three watersheds, in order to develop projects targeted for each watershed.

**b. Orange County Water Quality Issues**

Richard Boon from the Orange County Regional Water Monitoring Program presented an overview of the status of watersheds and their respective contaminants in Orange County. While Richard discussed several pollutants, metal contamination (zinc and copper) within the Costa Mesa waterway was of particular interest to the committee due to its likely origin as brake pad material from roadways.

Several questions regarding the best management practices for managing metal and pesticide contamination were asked, and Richard responded that soil infiltration to filter metals was common, and educational programs addressed pesticide overuse. Monte clarified that educational programs would qualify for funding, provided they were part of an overall response and other agencies contributed funding.

In response to Richard's presentation of anticipated TMDL's, a member clarified that 2019 was the current "best guess" of when Orange County would adopt total daily loads (TMDL requirements) or have to show improvements to meet standards. The extensive list that Richard presented could represent a list of priorities or opportunities, a committee member suggested.

**5. Work Plan Status**

In response to a question about the planned timeline of the committee, Monte Ward explained the general plan was to arrive at an approval process, begin a call for projects, and then authorize projects. While funding from Renewed Measure M (M2) begins in 2011, project funding could start immediately as part of the Early Action Plan. Monte said a tentative timeline would be a call for projects in 2009-2010, with funding allocation beginning in 2010.

Monte expects the next step is to form a working group, including committee members as well as additional needed expertise, and then determine the need for a consultant.

There was interest from several members in working from a watershed management plan to develop water quality controls and objectives. Monte Ward said the plan is in development, and the committee needed to identify a set of priorities.

There was interest from several members in receiving additional information about Orange County watersheds, maps, cities and nearby roadway so that members would work from a common base of information.

**6. Public Comments**

None

**7. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Feb. 14, 2008 in Room 103/104.

**8. Committee Member Reports**

None

**9. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:59 a.m. was made and passed unanimously.