

Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee

January 13, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich, County of Orange-Watershed and Coastal Resources Program
Vice-Chair, Garry Brown, Orange County Coastkeeper
John Bahorski, City of Cypress
William Cooper, UCI
Paul D. Jones, Irvine Ranch Water District
Joe Parco, City of Santa Ana
Hector B. Salas, Caltrans
Sat Tamaribuchi, Environmental Consultant
Dick Wilson, City of Anaheim

Committee Members Absent:

Mark Adelson, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
Tim Casey, City of Laguna Niguel
Gene Estrada, City of Orange
Chad Loflen, San Diego Water Quality Control Board
Tom Rosales, Manager of the Southern California Wastewater Authority

Orange County Transportation Authority Staff Present:

Marissa Espino, Senior Community Relations Specialist
Janice Kadlec, Public Reporter
Charlie Larwood, Planning & Analysis Section Manager
Hal McCutchan, Environmental Programs Manager

Guests

Ken Susilo, Geosyntec
Wallace Walrod, Orange County Business Council

1. Welcome

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich welcomed everyone and began the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

2. Approval of November 2010 Minutes

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Nov. 10, 2010 meeting minutes. A motion was made by John Bahorski and seconded by Paul D. Jones to approve the Nov. 10, 2010 meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously. The following people abstained because they were not at the Nov. 10, 2010 meeting; Hector Salas, Sat Tamaribuchi, and Dick Wilson.

3. Tier 2 Grant Program Study's Work Plan

Ken Susilo gave an overview of the Tier 2 Grant Program Work Plan, which included objectives, scope of work, and data collection.

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich asked if monitored data was used in the work plan. Ken Susilo said land use data was used, which was monitored from specific land uses.

Sat Tamaribuchi asked if Geosyntec was looking at storm flow. Ken Susilo said yes, the study is wet weather driven at this point. Sat asked if dry flow would eventually be looked at. Ken said another element would have to be looked at for dry weather flow.

Paul Jones asked if they were looking at a first wash rain condition band of BMPs and then a huge band of BMPs for dry weather flow. Ken Susilo said in that condition they would have to integrate what the low flow would be.

John Bahorski suggested using a three-quarter inch flow would be a happy medium. Ken Susilo said in areas where bacteria versus watershed flow are noted; upwards of 98% compliance can be obtained.

Sat Tamaribuchi said he believed a target needed to be set for water quality problems, such as storm water related and low flow related. One system should be designed to deal with the constant flow as in the summertime. It could be bacteria, or nutrient, or several things but it is coming out of the storm drains system. The cities are going to be responsible for this in the end. A system is needed that allows for dealing with this low flow problem. Hector Salas asked if low flow was part of the M2 transportation nexus or is it part of plant irrigation or something not related to transportation. Ken Susilo said Geosyntec will need clear a definition of what is needed and then it can be incorporated into the Plan.

Paul Jones asked if in the criteria section, could dry weather be factored into the weighting criteria. Ken said yes. Sat Tamaribuchi said what is really being looked at are water quality problems. Some water quality problems are driven mostly by low flow and some are driven by high flow. It seems what is needed is an evaluation of low flow. The ECAC will have to make the choice weighting this with other things such as geographical distribution.

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich said there seem to be two issues: 1) Identifying and prioritizing the problem, and 2) Identifying the solutions. The committee will need to convert this information to return on investment. Ken Susilo said the information can be incorporated into the Plan. He said the need is to capture the efficiency of dry weather and wet weather flows together. It is important to capture the scope of the approach and prioritize it – is dry weather an integral part or is the benefit of capturing dry weather flow more critical. Hal McCutchan said the best place to decide this is at the subcommittee level and the subcommittee should be meeting within two weeks.

Garry Brown suggested notifying all members of the ECAC when the subcommittee will be meeting so any member can attend if they so desire.

Wallace Walrod reviewed the Orange County Business Council's (OCBC's) roll in the Tier 2 Grant Program Work Plan. Charlie Larwood commented on some of the other studies, particularly the Freeway Mitigation Program's Environmental Oversight Committee (EOC), where the various challenges are identified from the very beginning by the various stakeholder groups. Finding an avenue to be aware and resolve these conflicts is best done early on.

Sat Tamaribuchi said in the Work Plan, the final report is scheduled for November/December 2011. He asked if the completed application forms would be turned in then. Ken Susilo said no, the Work Plan presented is for the technical work. How it fits in respect to the application for funds is not worked out yet. The Work Plan presented is for the process of developing the tools, whereas, Charlie Larwood indicated that a Tier 2 Program Funding Guideline will be drafted as part of the final report.

Sat Tamaribuchi said it seemed to him the guidelines should outline how the application would be constructed. He said it would be very important to get the application form out in the July timeframe because the cities are starting to form their budgets. Garry Brown said he agreed and it would be very beneficial to be ready with an RFP in January 2012. The earlier it gets out the more participation they can anticipate.

4. Tier 2 Study Subcommittee

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich said the Tier 2 Study Subcommittee was formed to have more day to day direct oversight over the development of the study. She said along with herself, the members are: ECAC members Hector Salas, Gene Estrada, Garry Brown, and Nancy Palmer from the City of Laguna Niguel. Chair Skorpanich asked the other EOC members to get back to her if they had any other candidates for the subcommittee. It is an open meeting and anyone can attend, but they will be meeting within the next two weeks.

5. Tier 1 Call for Projects Procedure/Application

Charlie Larwood reviewed the Tier 1 Grant Program Call for Projects Work Plan and Hal McCutchan gave an overview of the Tier 1 Grant Program Call for Projects Application Procedures. Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich asked if the Grant Application was going to be an online process. Hal McCutchan said yes, it will be an online process. OCTA is also developing an electronic filing system for the invoicing and all the information.

Garry Brown said in working with ECAC member William Cooper they have had the opportunity of working with students who have to do professional papers as part of their Masters Program. Tier 1 is centered on city participation and one student is

doing her paper on city participation in Tier 1. Garry suggested this student speak about her findings at the February ECAC meeting. Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich agreed and said it would help the Committee understand what went on from the applicants' side.

A motion was made by Garry Brown and seconded by Joe Parco to approve the Tier 1 Grant Program Call for Projects Work Plan and the 2011 Tier 1 Grant Program Call for Projects Applications Procedures. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Tier 1 Purchase/Installation RFP Update

Hal McCutchan gave an update of the Tier 1 Purchase/Installation RFP Update. Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich reminded the Committee this was a Master Purchase Agreement, which Grantees can use but it is not required they use it.

7. Cienega Selenium & Nitrogen Removal Project

Chair Mary Anne Skorpanich asked to have this item tabled until the next ECAC meeting.

8. ECP Public Outreach

Marissa Espino gave an update on the Call For Projects Workshop for Tier 1 projects. The first one is tentatively scheduled for February 24th at OCTA.

Marissa Espino announced the disbanding of the Transportation 2020 (T2020) Committee. The Highways Committee will now be ECAC's advisory committee.

Marissa Espino reported Garry Brown gave a presentation to the Orange County Council of Governments on the water quality projects. They expect to ramp up the outreach in general to all stakeholders.

Charlie Larwood said he gave a presentation to the Technical Advisory Steering Committee updating them on information presented to the ECAC today.

Marissa Espino said the County Watershed Program contacted OCTA about doing a workshop involving both M2 Environmental Programs on March 2. It will consist of a presentation and a panel to answer questions from the stakeholders. She will have more details at the next meeting.

Hal McCutchan announced Marissa Espino was recognized by the OCTA Board as the December OCTA Employee of the Month.

9. Next Meeting – February 10, 2011

The next ECAC meeting is February 10, 2011.

10. Committee Member Reports

Hector Salas reported the Draft Caltrans MS4 report is out for review.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.