

# **Regional WURMP Workgroup Meeting**

## **July 15, 2009**

### **Administrative Issues**

- Third-quarter and fourth-quarter expenditure sheets from the City of San Marcos were distributed for review. These cover the final expenses from the Larry Walker Associates TMDL workshops. The amount was greater than expected, but the workgroup approved the expense for the full amount of \$24,360. Final workgroup expenditures for FY 08-09 totaled \$27,885.19.
- \$59,845.81 remains unspent from the FY 08-09 budget. The workgroup decided that this amount will be credited back to the Copermittees. The workgroup will not submit a request to the Copermittee Management Committee to roll unspent funds over to the new fiscal year.

### **Issues from the Monitoring Workgroup**

- The workgroup reviewed the proposals for targeted wet weather MS4 outfall monitoring locations. These locations will be submitted to the Regional Board as part of the Scope of Work for the MS4 outfall monitoring program on September 1. There was discussion about the land uses of areas discharging to these sampling locations in that almost all of the chosen locations are residential. The workgroup agreed to go with the watershed groups' first choice for the first year of the program with the understanding that we may want to revisit the choices in future years to see if we can get more industrial/commercial sites.
- It was noted that the proposed permit for Orange County has major residential impacts, so the first year of our sampling program, which includes all residential outfalls, could be used in our Report of Waste Discharge.

### **WURMP Permit Language Changes**

- The Regional Board staff has requested to meet with a small subgroup of Copermittees on July 23, 2009, to discuss proposed changes in WURMP permit language before wider distribution of the proposed language changes. Todd Snyder, Drew Kleis, Elaine Lukey, and Cheryl Filar will attend the meeting. This subcommittee's task will be as follows:
  - Clarify what the proposed language will mean.
  - Find out the rationale for changes, and the Board staff's expectations and goals.
  - Request the timelines for Copermittees' response to this proposal.
  - Bring all information back to the WURMP Leads group.

- Emphasize to Board staff the need for them ultimately to meet with the entire WURMP Leads group and all Copermittees.
- The subcommittee will not be proposing alternatives. They may inform the Board staff that the Regional WURMP Workgroup is opposed to replacing annual reports with periodic updates, presentations, or audits.
- If the draft language is available before the meeting, it will be distributed with a request for comments to be returned to the subcommittee members before the meeting.
- Follow-up discussion will occur at the Regional WURMP Workgroup's next regularly scheduled meeting on August 19, 2009.

### **Watershed Activities Database**

- A subcommittee is working on this task. The work will include definitions of each field (constituents, source types, etc.) to help standardize data.
- The Peñasquitos/San Dieguito database will be online soon. This database will be used for activity sharing and annual reporting. Mikhail will give a presentation on this database at the next Regional WURMP Workgroup meeting.
- The WURMP Workgroup's database will be developed in two steps: (1) In the first phase it will be a searchable database of activities. (2) Ultimately, it can be developed into a database used to support reporting functions.
- The question was raised how this task will be affected by any changes in "activities" and WURMP reports under any revised permit language. This question cannot be answered at this time.
- The possibility of rolling over excess funds from Fiscal Year 08-09 to fund this task was raised, but it is unlikely that such funds will be needed during Fiscal Year 09-10.

### **TMDL Implementation Planning**

- The Bacteria Project I TMDL will go before the Regional Board on October 14. The final draft will be open for public comment by the end of July, with comments due in late September. An update on this item was presented and email copies were distributed.
- The letter from John Robertus regarding Copermittee participation in TMDL development is due out next week.

## **Budget and Workplan for Fiscal Year 09-10**

- The Workgroup discussed Subtask 2E, Watershed Data, Reporting, and Assessment Needs. We may need to wait until we have seen the revised permit language before proceeding with this task. There was much discussion of web-based tabulation of jurisdictional/watershed data and whether to proceed with a reporting format that integrates data at the watershed scale. A sample table from the San Diego Bay watershed was distributed to provide an example of the types of data that could be collected and used for assessment, including items that are “above and beyond JURMP requirements” and could count as watershed activities. The Workgroup discussed the need for the WURMP reports to show everything that is occurring in each watershed, rather than just countable WURMP activities. It was noted that Copermittees in multiple watersheds need to meet the challenge of dividing data by watershed, subwatershed, or even smaller units. Tabular reporting has promise, but will need to be revisited after we see the proposed permit language.
- The Workgroup also discussed Subtask 2F, Land Use Planning. It is unlikely that this item will have substantial costs during Fiscal Year 09-10, so the workgroup might decide to transfer funds from this item to another task such as the Watershed Activities Database. A final decision on this transfer will be made at a future meeting. Since the workgroup’s FY 09-10 budget and workplan do not include the Watershed Activities Database as a task, a formal amendment would have to be made to the workplan and most likely run through the Copermittee Management Committee.

## **Quality of Life Initiative**

- Stephanie Gaines, County of San Diego, presented a recap of the meeting announcements from the SANDAG QOLI Ad Hoc Committee. A final decision on whether to push the timeline for the QOLI back until 2012 will be made at the SANDAG Board’s meeting on September 25, 2009. The next two SANDAG Ad Hoc Committee meetings have been canceled pending a decision on the timeline of the Initiative.
- The County has retained Weston Solutions as a consultant to provide assistance in developing the QOLI’s Water Quality Enhancement Element, with Michael Drennan, Vice President, as the lead.
- Katz & Associates is the consultant for SANDAG and will be mostly focused on the public relations and outreach approach for the QOLI as a whole.
- County staff will be meeting with SANDAG, Katz, and Weston on July 17 to review both consultants’ roles and tasks. This meeting will help frame the County’s detailed scope of work with Weston.
- The County is still waiting for feedback from upper management on the proposed list of stakeholders and participants.

- A short discussion of the results from the independent polling survey was presented. The poll was run by the Nature Conservancy and showed that those polled ranked water supply as a greater concern than the economy, and that water quality (even stormwater quality) ranked above transportation.

### **Next Meeting**

- The next workgroup meeting will be on August 19, 2009, from 1:30 to 3:30 pm at the County offices, 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite P. The agenda will include the items below and others to be determined later:
  - Follow-up of the meeting with Regional Board staff on proposed Permit language revisions.
  - Progress update on the Watershed Activities Database, including a presentation by Mikhail Ogawa Engineering of the Peñasquitos/San Dieguito database.
  - Chollas Creek TMDL implementation plan update provided by the City of San Diego (this will either occur in August or the September meeting).
  - A short discussion led by the City of Carlsbad on proposed changes in the draft South Orange County MS4 permit.
  - A short presentation by the County of San Diego on the QOLI polling results.