

**Tijuana River Watershed Management Area  
Meeting Minutes  
May 16, 2017 8:30 am to 10:00 am  
County Operations, 5510 Overland Avenue, 4th Floor Room 472**

**Attendees:**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Names</b>
City of Imperial Beach (IB)	Wbaldo Arellano
City of San Diego (SD)	Clem Brown
	Julia Chase
	Heather Krish
County of San Diego (County)	Tracy Cline
	Raiya Rasoul
Amec Foster Wheeler (Amec)	Matt Rich
	Brenda Stevens
D-MAX Engineering, Inc. (D-MAX)	John Quenzer
Dudek (Dudek)	Bryn Evans

**1. Call to order:** 8:30 am

**2. Roll Call**

All participants introduced themselves.

**3. Time for public to speak on items not on the agenda**

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

**4. Approve minutes from previous meeting**

Minutes from April 2017 were approved without further edits or revisions.

- **Action item:** D-MAX will post meeting minutes on the Project Clean Water website.

**5. Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report chapter update**

Comments received on the revised draft RMAR Chapter were addressed by Amec. Recommendations made in the ROWD may impact general watershed specifics recommendations or conclusions. Therefore, if any issues are identified while reviewing the completed regional document that require minor revisions, those comments can be addressed prior to the submittal in December 2017. Otherwise, the document is in its final version.

An executive summary to the Tijuana River WMA Section was distributed to the group on April 28, 2017. Comments were addressed and the executive summary has been submitted to Weston for inclusion in the regional document.

**6. Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team update**

The group discussed the upcoming meeting with the San Diego Water Board regarding the progress of the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team (TRVRT). The TRVRT will be reporting back on achievements accomplished in accordance with the 2-year action plan. The Responsible Agencies (RAs) are developing a presentation that will summarize progress on:

- H&H study
- Sediment Management Plan
- Property acquisition opportunities

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- Trash Clean-ups

Due to the binational nature of the watershed, many issues need to be addressed at a federal level. A brief update on how the implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan has impacted the watershed may be included.

The San Diego Water Board meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2017.

#### **7. Special study update**

The revised draft Phase I Sediment Study report was distributed to the group on April 17, 2017. Comments were received from the RAs. The group discussed the general comments including:

- Reduce data tables and figures and better describe the methodology in the text.
- Clarify that the general strategies are optional and require triggers to be implemented. Specify which are already being implemented, which are enhanced, and which are new with their triggers. Line up the best strategies per target area identified.
- Expand the discussion on the contribution of sediment from Mexico.
- In the discussion of sediment contribution from open spaces, the document needs to identify which are caused by anthropogenic activities and which are naturally occurring.
- **Action item:** Amec and Dudek will address comments received.

#### **8. Water Quality Improvement Plan administrative changes**

The group decided that this topic should be discussed at the next PPS meeting, and not on an individual watershed basis. Administrative changes will be incorporated in a manner consistent with other watersheds in the region.

#### **9. Regional Board Environmental Justice Symposium: Saturday, June 10**

The San Diego Water Board is hosting a symposium open to the public on June 10, 2017 from 10AM-3PM in Barrio Logan. RAs are encouraged to attend. Topics covered are related specifically to the San Diego Bay watershed but may also apply to other watersheds.

#### **10. Upcoming grant opportunities**

Upcoming grant opportunities were discussed.

An upcoming grant opportunity is being offered through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) – A Proposition 1 Grant (Watershed Restoration & Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program) is available for projects that focus on water quality, river, and watershed protection and restoration projects. The CDFW is seeking projects that protect and restore cross-border urban creeks and watersheds. Since the TRVRT has many planned projects that address the unique ecological, flood control, water quality, and hydrological conditions associated with urban creeks and watersheds on the California-Mexico border, there may be an opportunity to apply for Prop 1 funding.

The proposal submission deadline is July 14, 2017.

#### **11. Other items (time permitting, no action will be taken)**

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**A. Update on action Items from previous Watershed Group meeting**

(Note that the status provided below is as of the date of the meeting)

**Re: Meeting Minutes**

- D-MAX will post past meeting minutes on the Project Clean Water website.  *April meeting minutes have been posted.*

**Re: Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report (RMAR) Chapter**

- An executive summary will be distributed for review. RA's will have one week to review and comment on draft executive summary  *The draft executive summary was distributed to the RAs on April 28, 2017.*

**Re: Monitoring Update**

- Once all data are received, Amec will provide a brief memo to the RAs summarizing sampling activities. *In progress. Waiting on final data from lab.*

The next meeting will be held on June 27, 2017 from 8:30am to 10:00 am at County Operations, 5510 Overland Avenue, 4th Floor Room 451.