

**Tijuana River Watershed Management Area  
Meeting Minutes  
October 17, 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)	Brianna Menke
	Heather Krish
	Julia Chase
	Ming Lai
County of San Diego (County)	Rouya Rasoulzadeh (WPP)
Amec Foster Wheeler (Amec)	Matt Rich
	Brenda Stevens
D-MAX Engineering, Inc. (D-MAX)	John Quenzer
Dudek (Dudek)	Bryn Evans

Notes: WPP – Watershed Protection Program, DPR – Department of Parks and Recreation

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**

County motioned to approve the minutes from the September 2017 meeting. IB seconded. Meeting minutes were approved without further edits or revisions.

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

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

- Additional jurisdictions and agencies have joined the potential lawsuit against the international boundary water commission (IBWC), including County (Department of Environmental Health), SD, Port of San Diego, City of Chula Vista, and the San Diego Humane Society. San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) has also filed a suit against IBWC, regarding bacteria and trash.
- A tour of the Tijuana River Valley is planned for local management (mayors, council members, etc.). The tour may include hot spots in the Tijuana River Valley as well as examples of best management practices (BMPs) implemented throughout the watershed. The tour is planned to occur in the next three weeks.
- A \$2M cross-border study has been proposed by the State.
- The Water Board will be opening a requisition to fill a full-time position in their office to lead efforts related to the Tijuana River Watershed.

6. **Water Board Environmental Justice Action Plan**

- The Environmental Justice Action Plan was discussed at the last Water Board meeting. The Plan lists the water quality priorities for the Tijuana River Watershed as sewage, trash and sediment. Voting on the plan was postponed until the

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December meeting. This will allow the Water Board to get input from the state-level water quality improvement committee at the upcoming meeting held in Sacramento.

**7. FY17 WQIP Annual Report**

The group discussed the Draft FY2017 WQIP Annual Report. The Draft included the loads calculated from actual rainfall, in addition to the loads with rainfall above the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile excluded. The group decided that it was helpful to see the comparison, but for reporting, only the load calculated in accordance with the WQIP (excluding rainfall over the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile) should be presented. Additional direction may be submitted with comments on the Draft, which are due to Amec by October 25.

Major changes in the document include:

<b>Executive Summary</b>	Layout, presentation of information, language
<b>Section 1: Introduction</b>	Section updated to better introduce the document.
<b>Section 2: Overview of TJ River WMA</b>	Introduction to TJ River WMA updated.
<b>Section 3: Monitoring and Assessment</b>	Special Studies Summary (3.3) updated to reflect 1617 progress.
<b>Section 4: Implementation and Progress toward Achieving Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporated Outcomes Box</li> <li>• Rearranged section organization to present progress toward goals before strategies</li> <li>• Progress toward numeric goals updates</li> <li>• Individual RA strategy/Optional WMA strategies sections</li> </ul>
<b>Section 5: Adaptive management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential Triggers for adaption (Section 5.1)</li> <li>• Incorporated Outcomes Box</li> <li>• Section 5.3 Updates</li> </ul>
<b>Section 6: Conclusions</b>	Conclusion will be updated to reflect final outcomes in next draft

The group discussed updating the cover letter to summarize how the informal comments received from the Water Board were addressed. The group was in support of this option, but want to discuss it at the ad hoc meeting to ensure regional consistency.

**8. Watershed Special Study Planning for FY18**

The group discussed the Draft scope of work (SOW) developed by the Consultant Team for a public friendly document providing an overview of watershed actions performed beyond the requirements of the MS4 Program. Since elected officials seem to be taking action, to avoid duplication or conflicting efforts, the RAs decided to postpone any further action on the Special Study until a direction is taken on the lawsuit. In the meantime, the Consultant Team will continue to revise the executive summary to be more public friendly. The topic will be revisited in January 2018 to better focus the goals of the special study efforts once other watershed actions are further underway.

- **Action item:** RAs to discuss with their management what they would like to see completed. Add an agenda item for an early 2018 watershed meeting to revisit potential Special Study options.

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**9. Bight Planning Update**

During the kick-off meeting in September, six elements were identified as areas of interest to potentially be addressed under Bight '18 projects:

- Sediment quality
- Ocean acidification
- Harmful algal blooms
- Microbiological water quality
- Trash
- Areas of special biological significance (ASBS)/marine protected areas (MPAs)

Break out groups affiliated with each element are meeting separately to identify their key monitoring questions, potential management actions to address the issue, create conceptual study designs, and determine if participating organizations are willing to contribute effort to study these questions.

- **Action Item:** Amec will continue to provide updates on Bight programs.

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

**A. Rescheduling Meetings**

Due to the holiday week, the next watershed meeting will be rescheduled. Additionally, subsequent meetings may be moved to Tuesday afternoons to allow for all RAs to attend.

- **Action Item:** Next meeting to be rescheduled to November 28, 2017 from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. Calendar appointment to be sent with new time.

**B. Update on action items from previous Watershed Group meeting**

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

- **Re: Approve minutes from previous meeting**

D-MAX will post meeting minutes on the Project Clean Water website.  *Completed*

- **Re: FY17 WQIP Annual Report**

Amec to include loads calculated from actual rainfall in addition to the loads with rainfall above the 85th percentile excluded in the First Draft report due October 11, 2017. An update will be provided at the next WQIP group meeting.  *Completed*

- **Re: Watershed Special Study Planning for FY18**

- Amec to distribute electronic copy of Draft SOW. RAs to comment on Draft SOW prior to next meeting.  *Completed*

- **Re: Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team update**

The Consultant team will distribute the Tijuana River Valley/Goat Canyon Flood Hazard Maps to the group.  *Completed. Consultant team distributed maps with September meeting minutes.*

The next meeting will be held on November 28, 2017 from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm at County Operations, 5510 Overland Avenue, 4th Floor Room 472.