

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
GROUNDWATER REPLENISHMENT SYSTEM STEERING COMMITTEE
Monday, October 9, 2023**

OC San Director Wanke called the Groundwater Replenishment System Steering Committee meeting to order in the OCWD Boardroom. Public access was also provided via Zoom webinar. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, the Secretary called the roll and reported a quorum.

Committee Members

Chad Wanke
Cathy Green
Ryan Gallagher
Kelly Rowe
David Shawver
Van Tran

Alternates

Roger Yoh
Bob Ooten
Dina Nguyen (absent)
Andrew Nguyen
Steve Sheldon (absent)
Pat Burns (absent)

OCWD Directors Bilodeau and Whitaker were also in attendance.

OCWD Staff	OC SAN Staff
Mike Markus, Mehul Patel, Gina Ayala, Leticia Villarreal	Robert Thompson, Jennifer Cabral

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Rowe and carried [6-0] as follows.
Yes – Wanke, Green, Gallagher, Rowe, Shawver, Tran

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the GWRS Steering Committee meeting held July 10, 2023, are approved as presented.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. Consideration to Change GWRS Steering Committee Meetings from Quarterly to Semi Annually

Executive Director of Operations Mehul Patel shared that the GWRS Steering committee was formed as part of a joint operating agreement between OC San and OCWD. He pointed out that one of the requirements for the water district is to present the operating and maintenance budget for GWRS to show OC San that OCWD is investing properly in the system. He stated this typically occurs in April of each year. He suggested April remain as one of the months if the committee should decide to move forward with changing the meeting schedule.

Upon motion by Director Wanke, seconded by Director Shawver, the motion to change GWRS Steering Committee Meetings from Quarterly to Semi Annually failed on a 4-2 vote:

**Ayes: Wanke, Gallagher, Shawver, Tran
Nos: Green, Rowe**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. GWRS Operations Update

Executive Director of Operations/GWRS Mehul Patel reported that the production goal for this year was 134,000 AF based upon the completion of the final expansion prior to the start of the fiscal year which started July 1st. He stated production to date is 28,041 AF and if averaged 134,000 AF over the course of the fiscal year they should be closer to 33,775 AF thus resulting in a shortfall of about 5,700 AF. He noted that construction at Plant 2 lasted from August 7th to October 3rd which did not allow for taking of plant water during that time resulting an average of 95 MGD during that period. He stated production was back to averaging 115 - 120 MGD once construction was completed in October. He anticipates production to be back up and close to production goal by the next update.

4. OC San Plant No. 2 Salinity Investigation Update

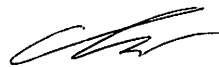
General Manager of OC San Rob Thompson provided an update on Plant 2 salinity issues. He stated that seawater intrusion has been found in the collection system and advised that they have been looking into what could be the cause of the problem. He stated it's clear it's infiltration; most likely cracks in lines, across the sandy inland areas and a relationship was found between the tides and salt level in the sewer lines. Mr. Thompson reported that the effort is being made towards finding the source of contamination. He stated they have identified a cost-effective way to find this answer with a handheld instrument that does not require lab studies. He noted that updates on this issue will continue as the investigation and repairs progress.

5. GWRS Third Quarter Outreach Report (July – September)

Director of Public Affairs Gina Ayala reported that for 2023, OCWD and OC San worked jointly to apply for awards to commemorate the GWRS expansion; and to date 13 rewards have been received. She highlighted that OCWD continues to give tours to the community, educational institutes, water industry and international visitors. She advised that third-quarter tours totaled 25 with approximately 300 guests. She noted OCWD held 7 speakers bureau engagements and had a total of 71 global news hits for the GWRS. She reported that OCWD was approached by Public Cable Authority to do a one-minute public service announcement about the GWRS to the cities of Fountain Valley, Stanton and Westminster.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.



OC San Director Chad Wanke, Chair

10-09-2023 GWRS Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report

2024-01-12

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