

Meeting Minutes

CCLEAN Steering Committee

May 13, 2008

10:00 – 12:00

Monterey Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant

Participants:

Barbara Pierson: City of Watsonville, (831) 768-3179

Dane Hardin: Applied Marine Sciences, (831) 426-6326

Ray von Dohren: Carmel Area Wastewater District, (831) 624-1248

Akin Babatola: City of Santa Cruz, (831) 420-6045

Garrett Haertel: Monterey Region Water Pollution Control Agency, (831) 883-6176

Karen Worcester: Central Coast Water Board. (805) 549-3333 (Speaker phone)

Bob Geyer: City of Watsonville, (831) 768-3149

Mike Higgins: RWQCB (805) 542-4649

Patrice Parsons: Monterey Region Water Pollution Control Agency, (831) 883-6121

Greg Antosz: Monterey Region Water Pollution Control Agency, (831) 883-1118

Agenda Items:

1) **Review of last meeting minutes:** The minutes from the 04-22-08 meeting were approved with addition of a comment that Mike Higgins will be the primary lead from the Regional Board for CCLEAN, although Karen will still be involved in Regional issues. They will be posted on the website. The financial summary will also be posted on the website.

2) **Financial Update:** In the fiscal year 07/08 the City of Watsonville has collected \$211,241 from the member agencies and has spent \$187,625

The breakdown is:	Applied Marine Science	\$80,334
	Weston Solutions	\$20,000
	Kinnetic Laboratories (KLI)	\$72,857
	Monterey Bay Analytical	\$ 200
	City of Watsonville	\$ 1960

Administration Fee (7%)	\$12,275
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All the CCLEAN agencies are current on their payments and additional invoices are coming in.

3) **Follow up discussion of setting up a workshop for including stormwater agencies into CCLEAN:** Karen has all the pieces to put together a Region Monitoring Workshop, but she feels that it is premature to have a Workshop until the Regional Board decides what monitoring will be required of the stormwater agencies. She will have more time to work with Dane on a frame work or strategy of a program that stormwater agencies could fit

into after June 3rd. Stormwater Agencies have received a draft proposal that includes low impact development (LID) requirements, but it has not been approved. Garret asked about the current Monterey Regional stormwater permit and the Salinas stormwater permit. Karen said the Salinas permit fits together with the Ag Waiver monitoring program and CCAMP, where the emphasis is on evaluation of toxicity and then going up stream to find the cause. A discussion ensued about different approaches to a regional monitoring program. One being a task oriented approach, which is how CCLEAN has been historically, which conveys a finite period of time, as opposed to an environmental stewardship approach, where each agency is educated that they have an obligation to measure their impact on coast waters, which will continue as long as they have any discharge. This obligation is delineated in the Clean Water Act.

The ASBS agencies (municipalities and companies that discharge stormwater into Areas of Special Biological Significance) have a July 1st deadline to develop a monitoring program. Dane has presented them with a monitoring program that they have responded to favorably. Dominic Gregorio has encouraged the agencies to join CCLEAN and after our last meeting, the agencies' representatives present indicated that they felt a regional program would be the most efficient way to do a monitoring program. Dane has a CCLEAN budget for a program that includes both point source dischargers and ASBS agencies. There are still a few blanks that need to be filled in. He has asked 2 bioassay laboratories to submit bids for screening effluent for endocrine disruption activity, but has not heard back from them yet. We still have to decide how to divide up the cost. He wanted to distribute the budget for the Steering Committee to evaluate. Ray suggested that the monitoring program for the ASBS agencies should be approved by Dominic before we can approve it. Greg wanted to make sure that the work Dane is doing for the ASBS agencies are not being billed to CCLEAN. Dane assured us that cost is being absorbed by Applied Marine Sciences as business development. We decided that Dane should come back with the budget after the ASBS agencies have agreed to it and Dominic has approved it. It would also be helpful if the budget could be presented as how much it would cost if the ASBS agencies and the Dischargers did separated programs and how much it would cost if we worked together in a single program. Since there would be overlapping components it seems there should be cost savings if we worked together.

- 4) **Election of New Officers:** Barbara informed the group that several people had suggested to her that new officers should be elected. Questions were raised about how the election of officers was delineated in the MOA. The MOA states that there will be a Chairperson and a secretary, but there is no definition of how often the officers will be changed. Akin has been the Chairman for 2 years, Greg Antosz was the chair before that, and Steve Wolfman was the first Chairman of CCLEAN. We surmised from the reading of the current MOA that the Secretary/Treasurer shall be from the lead agency and be included in the administrative work that the lead agency provides; and that a request to change the lead agency can be done at anytime with a majority vote of the Steering Committee. Each agency has only one vote. A change in the lead agency would have to be approved by the governing boards and councils of the 5 CCLEAN Agencies. To make it easier to transfer

contracts and purchase orders with consultants, the change would have to occur at the end of the Fiscal Year. All agencies and CCLEAN operate within the same dates for their FY. We also decide that on an annual basis the Chairperson would be up for a vote of approval. We will do the vote at our April or May meeting. If a majority of the member disapproved of the chair, or the chairperson does not want to continue in office, a new chairperson would be elected at the June meeting and take office at the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1st. Barbara moved to accept the new protocol, Garrett seconded the motion and all members present approved the motion. The motion was approved. Mike Higgins asked to speak before we did our vote of approval of the Chairman. He was concerned that Akin was having difficulty advocating the use of the SPMD for our effluent sampling and being an effective chairman at the meeting at the same time. Karen mentioned that the committee needed facilitation, to get to the point of making decisions. Ray added that at the last meeting the discussion between Dane and Akin about the sampling methods had gone on way too long and he had no idea what they were talking about. Akin apologized if his discussion had not informed other members of the committee, but he felt that a debate is appropriate to come to a decision. There was a general consensus that this one issue, the effluent sampling method, was not a good reason to displace Akin from being Chairman of the Steering Committee. A vote took place, and all 4 agencies with representatives present approved of Akin as Chairman. Akin will be the chair for the next year.

- 5) **Annual Report and CCLEAN requirements in the Permits.** Dane has scheduled a meeting with Karen and Mike to discuss what is required for the annual report this year. He is hoping that he can produce a minimal narrative that describes what CCLEAN has done this year, since it has been a transition year and he has had to put a lot of time and energy into developing a new program. Akin suggested that members of the steering committee should be involved in this discussion. Garrett e-mailed CCLEAN before the meeting to solicit an understanding for the requirements to change from weekly sampling of the treatment plant effluents for TSS, pH, Conductivity, and ammonia during the POP sampling to monthly sampling year round for these constituents. Dane explained that he and Karen had decided that it is more representative to use results from year round sampling instead of weekly sampling during the month the SPE sampler was running. Patrice and Barbara said that it was actually easier to do the monthly sampling because these analyses were done at least monthly already. The constituents are added to the monthly sampling of Nitrate-N, Orthophosphate-P, Dissolved Silica, and Urea.

6) **Technical Document:**

- A) **Integrated High Volume Water Sampling Methods:** Mike opened the discussion saying that the results from the two methods are not really comparable because the SPE method pumps a discrete sample several times a day through a particle filter and then through the resin beads over a month period and the SPMD is submerged in the effluent flow during the month. He suggested we go to the

scientific literature to compare the sampling methods instead of comparing the results from the 2 methods experimentally. The real question is what is being asked by both CCLEAN and compliance regulations. If the question is total loadings to the Bay, both the dissolved phase and the particulate phase have to be included. Mike also wants to make sure that the detection limit of the analyses for each constituent be below the effluent permit limit. Both high volume sampling methods achieve these objectives.

Greg asked Mike, "What method does the Regional Board prefer". Mike answered that the Steering committee has to decide. Greg said that MRWPCA is going to continue sampling with the SPMD because of future projects they are working on, but they would be happy to do the SPE method for compliance sampling. Akin agreed that Santa Cruz would be willing to do both methods as well. It was decided that Watsonville, Carmel, and MRWPCA will use the SPE method for compliance sampling and Santa Cruz will continue to use the SPMD method. Dane will talk with Axys and determine what constituents in Table B can be analyzed with their method (SPE) and at what detection limit. Metals will continue to be sampled with 24 hour composites.

- B) Flow through Bioassay:** Dane has talked to 2 Bioassay Laboratories, Toxscan and Granite Canyon, about doing endocrine disrupting screening. Dane has been given a ball park figure of \$10,000 - \$20,000 per sample. He will forward additional information to members of the steering committee when he receives it.
- C) QAPP:** Karen, Mike, Dane, and Garrett will meet to discuss the QAPP. Akin expressed strong interest in the content of the QAPP to avoid the weaknesses of the current version, including performance requirements of contracting laboratories; preferential uses of validated methods whenever available, etc.

7) **Report from Meetings:**

- A) Dane met with a graduate student of Don Weston. They collected sediment samples at 4 CCLEAN station in the Bay. They will be analyzed for pyrethroids and benthic in fauna,
- B) Akin gave us an update on the weekly CIWQS meeting he attends. There is a meeting today of the CIWQS Steering Committee that Akin is missing (see attached Agenda). Mike will be attending a CIWQS meeting tomorrow in Sacramento. A staff member of the Regional Board will review information that is entered into CIWQS before it is available to the public.

8) **Project Update:**

- A) **River Sampling:** This will just be the Pajaro and San Lorenzo Rivers. The cost will be covered by Watsonville and Santa Cruz respectively. The sampling occurred during the same time period as the Effluent sampling. Akin informed the Steering Committee that at a future date, probably in the next fiscal year, San Lorenzo River will no longer be part of this project.
 - B) **Effluent Sampling:** The wet weather sampling occurred in February and March of 2008.
 - D) **Sediment Sampling:** Dane went out on the Bay with a graduate student of Don Weston's from UC Berkeley. They did sediment sampling at 4 of the CCLEAN sites on the Fulmar, the Sanctuary's research boat. These samples will be analyzed for pyrethroids and benthic infauna.
 - E) **Mussel Sampling:** Mussel sampling was done during the wet season.
 - F) **Offshore Ambient Monitoring:** The wet weather sampling will be done in February and March of 2008.
 - G) **Proposition 50 Grant:** The next sampling from the WWTP will be done the week-end before June 8th.
- 9) **Set Date for the next Meeting:** The next meeting was set for Tuesday, July 1, 2008 at the Monterey Regional WWTP in Marina from 10:00 to noon. A Discharger's only meeting will be on July 8th at MRWPCA from 10:00 to noon

Items not on the Agenda:

- 1) We discussed the issue of turn around time for analysis. Axys Laboratories take a long time to get the results to us. Dane explained that this occurs when there has been a possibility of contamination and they ask him if he wants the samples to be re-run. He usually has them re-run to guarantee the integrity of the sample results. Bob asked if we should write into the contract that the results have to be delivered to CCLEAN after a specific amount of time. Dane said that it hasn't been an issue because the Regional Board has been flexible about reporting. Now that CCLEAN is doing the compliance monitoring for the effluent, this may be more of an issue. Barbara will e-mail the contracts that CCLEAN has with the 3 consultants (AMS, KLI, and Newfields) to the committee members. NewFields and KLI have contracts with Axys. Mike said that the Regional Board needs to set a deadline for the submittal of compliance data, but if the deadline is too hard to comply with they are willing to change the deadline. CIWQS deadlines correspond with the deadline in the dischargers permits.
- 2) Akin suggested that CCLEAN could become a legal entity with a 503C agreement, and save a portion of the 7% administration fee that we pay the lead agency. Bob and Ray thought the cost of legal counsel and administration cost would be more expensive than the 7%.