

City of Newport Beach

Coastal/Bay Water Quality Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: June 9, 2011
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Fire Conference Room

1. Welcome/Self Introductions

Committee Members present:

Chairwoman/Mayor Pro Tem Nancy Gardner
Mike Henn/Mayor
Dennis Baker
Randy Seton
Janet Rappaport
Jim Miller
Tom Houston

Guests present:

Amanda Griesbach, Heal the Bay
John McCullough, Vessel Assist
Darrel Ferguson, Coast Keepers
Monica Mazur
Dan Purcell
Jack and Nancy Skinner

Staff present:

Dave Kiff, City Manager
Bob Stein, Assistant City Engineer
Shane Burckle, Water Conservation Coordinator
Shari Rooks, Public Works Specialist

2. Approval of Previous Meeting's

The minutes from the joint Harbor Commission/CBWQ May 11, 2011, meeting were approved.

3. Old Business

(a) Bay and Ocean Bacteriological Test Results

Monica Mazur reviewed recent water quality test results (two months worth of data) within Newport Bay and along the ocean shoreline.

ACTION: **Shane Burckle** to forward the Orange County Environmental Resources Stormwater Division live data sampling link to Committee Members.

4. New Business

(a) Presentation by Amanda Griesbach of Heal the Bay. Amanda presented the **2010-2011 Annual Beach Report Card** to the committee. Please see PowerPoint presentation attached.

- The Annual Beach Report Card was released on May 25, 2011, and is posted on the Heal the Bay website – www.healthebay.org. Go to the tab “documents” to see the Annual Beach Report Card.
- There are approximately 600 monitoring stations overall.
- There were 21 fewer beaches in Orange County monitored this year due to the State Funding cutbacks.
- 46% of the stations had poor grades, and 22% had failing grades during wet weather this year.
- There were 68 beaches that made the “Honor Roll” with A+ grades.
- No funds for next year – Senate is discussing the change of power from Department of Public Works to the State Water Quality Control Board but no resolution to date.
- Source Identification Pilot Project – study taking place this summer and next is a collaboration between Stanford, UCSB, UCLA and SCCWRP focusing on 8 of the most problematic beaches in the state in an attempt to put together a protocol reference book for dealing with source of effusion.

(b) John McCullough of Vessel Assist presented and discussed a proposed **Monofilament Retrieval Program**. Please see PowerPoint presentation attached.

ACTION: Chair Nancy Gardner to contact Harbor Commission regarding the opportunity for John McCullough to make his presentation at an upcoming Harbor Commission meeting.

5. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- **Jack Skinner** discussed the interesting EPA epidemiology study results for West Coast beaches and in particular the findings for Avalon. Those sitting on the beach in Avalon had a higher illness rate than those swimming.
- The study at Malibu was done at a point down the beach from where the Malibu Creek enters the ocean and found that the illness rate for those sitting on the beach was exactly the same as for those swimming.
- The study in Dana Point found a higher illness rate when the berm was open than when it was closed and was able to attribute it to fecal matter from birds, focusing on Norovirus as a major source of illness for swimmers.
- **Bob Stein** updated the group on the selenium issue. CNB has entered into direct discussions with the Regional Board for Big Canyon to find out what we need to do to try to avoid the TMDL process. We want to simply to lay out what we think the work plan should be for the selenium mitigation and what the goals should be and bypass the whole “frogs fiasco.” The Regional Board is open to that idea and they are doing some research before they get back to us. Outlook is hopeful.
- We’ve identified the two hot spots in Big Canyon (actually residential) and the plan is to capture those hot spots, divert them to the sewer and see if we see noticeable results. Regional Board is receptive to this pro-active solution.
- We have tons of selenite - in some areas it comprises almost 45% of the selenium load. Question is can we stop the conversion from selenium to selenite? The hypothesis is that the conversion is happening in stagnant areas (golf course ponds).
- **Randy Seton** read that the City was partnering with O.C. Coast Keeper on an abalone project and wanted to learn more about that and also wondered if the committee should discuss any obligation to post signs warning about PCP levels.

6. Topics for Future Agendas

- (a) Bacteriological Dry-Weather Runoff Gutter Study (Phase III)
- (b) OCTA Measure M2
- (c) Coastal Dolphin Research Program
- (d) Banning Ranch Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- (e) Big Canyon Project
- (f) Cienega Project
- (g) Shark Mobile
- (h) Prop 84 ASBS Grant Program
- (i) Update on "Green Streets"

7. Set Next Meeting Date

To be determined. The next meeting may be held at the Back Bay Science Center.

ACTION: Chair Nancy Gardner to investigate possibility of holding an upcoming CBWQ meeting at the Back Bay Science Center.

8. Adjournment

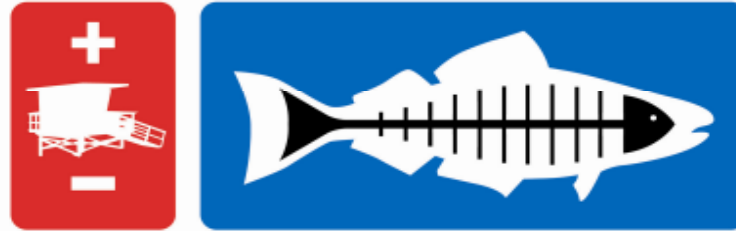
The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 pm.

Heal the Bay's 21st Annual Beach Report Card 2010-2011

Amanda Griesbach
Staff Scientist



BEACH REPORT CARD



- A - F grades for beach water quality
- Easy-to-understand translation of bacteria indicator data
- Data from public agencies (environmental health departments and POTWs)
- Endorsed by the State Water Resources Control Board and Beach Water Quality Workgroup as an effective education tool

BRC Grading Scale

Grade	Points
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	≤59%



Total Points Available

By Component:

- Geometric Mean 29 points
 - Single Sample Standard 71 points
- 100 total points



Overview

- Expansion to OR/WA
- California's grades
- Honor Roll
- Beach Bummers
- Orange County grades
- Newport Beach grades
- Monitoring funding
- Future research



BRC Expansion

- 1st Annual Report covering CA, OR and WA
- ~600 monitoring locations
- OR/WA monitors starting Memorial Day – Labor Day
- www.beachreportcard.org



California's Dry Grades

- **A/B grades**
 - 90% of locations during AB411
 - 88% of locations during year-round dry
- **Southern California** (Santa Barbara-San Diego)
 - 91% A/B grades during AB411
- **San Francisco Bay Area** (Marin – San Mateo)
 - 95% A/Bs during AB411 (ocean-side)
 - 73% A/Bs during AB411 (bay-side)



California's Wet Grades

- Dramatic difference between wet and dry weather water quality
- 46% of monitoring locations received fair/poor grades during wet weather
 - 22% F grades



California's Honor Roll

- Beaches with zero exceedances during dry weather
- 68 out of 324 beaches (21%) scored a perfect A+



Beach Bummers

1. Cowell Beach (Santa Cruz)
2. Avalon Beach (LA County)
3. Cabrillo Beach (LA County)
4. Topanga State Beach (LA County)
5. Poche Beach (Orange County)
6. North Beach Doheny (Orange County)
7. Arroyo Burro Beach (Santa Barbara)
8. Baker Beach (San Francisco)
9. Colorado Lagoon (LA County)
10. Capitola Beach (Santa Cruz)



Orange County

- Monitored 21 fewer beaches than before state funding problems began in 2008.
- Began to integrate multiple agencies' efforts into model monitoring program.
- Waiting Regional Water Quality Control Board's approval for implementation.



Newport Beach

- Excellent overall water quality
 - Refer to grades



Beach Monitoring Funding

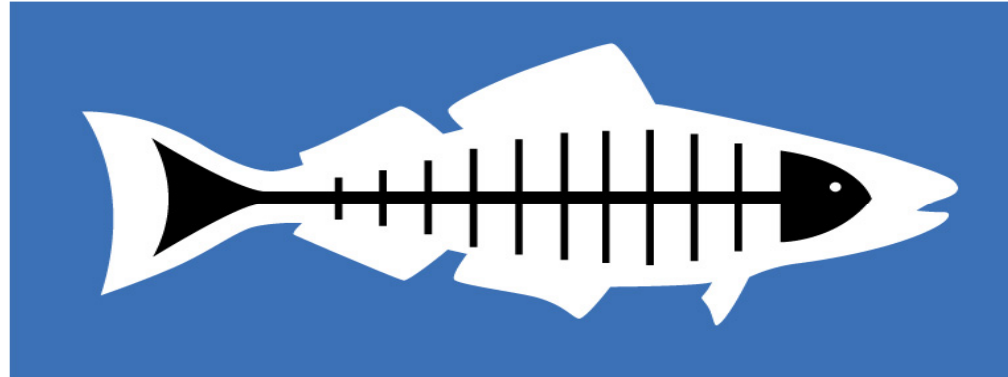
- State beach monitoring funds completely cut in 2008
- Federal BEACH Act
 - ~\$500,000 in funding
 - Inadequate amount for public health protection
- Steady decline in monitoring
 - 72 beaches not monitored during the summer period
 - 2,770 fewer samples year-round
- No secured state funding after 2011



Upcoming Research

- Source Identification Pilot Project (SIPP)
- Top 12-16 of California's most polluted beaches
- Final Product
 - Source tracking protocol
 - Used to ID pollution sources at chronically polluted beaches

Questions?



Heal the Bay

www.healthebay.org

www.beachreportcard.org



Reel in & Recycle



PRESENTER:
JOHN MCCULLOUGH
VESSEL ASSIST NEWPORT



Reel In & Recycle

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Boat U.S. Foundation

Photos 1



Photos 2



Photos 3





We thank you for your interest.