



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
April 9, 2009

USIBWC APPOINTS CITIZENS' FORUM BOARD MEMBERS; MEETING SET FOR APRIL 16 TO DISCUSS COASTAL OBSERVATIONS AND MONITORING IN SOUTH BAY

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has announced the appointment of new board members to the USIBWC Citizens' Forum. The purpose of the forum is to promote the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community about the Commission's projects and related issues in San Diego County. A public meeting with the new board will be held at 6:30 p.m. on April 16 at the Imperial Beach Community Room, 825 Imperial Beach Boulevard, Imperial Beach, California. All board terms had expired and the USIBWC opened up applications to the general public.

The USIBWC selected the following new board members:

- Jack Bransford, Otay Valley Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee, San Diego County Fish & Wildlife Committee, San Diego County Wildlife Federation
- Jo Brooks, Board Member of San Diego Coastkeeper.
- Scott Huth, City of Coronado Public Services Director, Chairman of the San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Technical Advisory Committee
- Ben McCue, Coastal Conservation Program Manager for Wildcoast
- Oscar Alberto Pombo, water and sanitation specialist
- Carolyn Powers, Chair of C.A.R.E.
- Oscar Romo, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve
- Carlos Sanchez, south county resident
- Richard Tynan, Tijuana River Valley Equestrian Association
- Michael Williams, Seaview Homeowners Association

In announcing the appointments, U.S. Commissioner C.W. "Bill" Ruth said, "These new board members have demonstrated their interest and commitment to improving the quality of life in San Diego. The USIBWC looks forward to working with them to share information about Commission projects and to learn more about the community's concerns."

Board members serve as volunteers for a two-year term.

The new board will conduct its first meeting on April 16, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Imperial Beach Community Room, 825 Imperial Beach Boulevard, Imperial Beach, CA 92132. During the first half of the meeting, USIBWC staff will present an overview of the Commission's mission and projects, with an emphasis on activities in San Diego County, as part of an orientation for the new board.

During the second half of the meeting, Dr. Eric Terrill of Scripps Institution of Oceanography will provide a presentation on the study results of a monitoring program conducted by Scripps and its partners. The objectives of the study were to: identify and track plumes from the South Bay Ocean Outfall, the pipe that discharges treated effluent from the USIBWC's South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant into the Pacific Ocean; characterize land-based sources of coastal pollution with a focus on the Tijuana River, which flows from Mexico into the United States; and identify regional oceanographic conditions that lead to high concentrations of certain bacteria on South Bay beaches.

A complete agenda is attached. The event is free and the public is encouraged to attend. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may call 619-662-7600 or e-mail sallyspener@ibwc.gov.

For more information:

Sally Spener
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USIBWC CITIZENS' FORUM
Thursday, April 16, 2009
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Imperial Beach Community Room
825 Imperial Beach Boulevard
Imperial Beach, CA 92132

Agenda

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

- Welcome and Introductions – Steve Smullen, Area Operations Manager, USIBWC
- Introduction of New Board Members
- Board Member Orientation
 - Overview of IBWC Mission and Projects
 - San Diego County Activities
 - Board Member Roles and Responsibilities

7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

- Coastal Observations and Monitoring in South Bay San Diego – Dr. Eric Terrill, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- Public Comment
- Suggested Future Agenda Items
- Board Discussion

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time.

For more information, call 619-662-7600 or e-mail sallyspener@ibwc.gov