



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
RESTORATION AUTHORITY

DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES

**San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority
Independent Citizens Oversight Committee**

May 8, 2025, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

375 Beale Street, 1st Floor, Claremont Room (112)
San Francisco, CA 94105

For additional information, please contact:
Mark Kalnins, Clerk of the Oversight Committee: (510) 286-1212

Agenda and attachments available at:
www.sfbayrestore.org

1. Call to Order

Jim Fiedler, Chair, Independent Citizens Oversight Committee started the meeting at 9:30am.

2. Determination of Quorum

Mark Kalnins, Clerk of the Oversight Committee

The clerk determined that the following committee members were present: Jim Fiedler, Dr. Terry Young, Arthur (Art) Deicke, Susan Ives, Demece Garepis. A quorum was determined to be present.

3. Public Comment

The clerk determined that there were no public comments.

4. Introductions and Announcements

Members introduced themselves. The following staff also introduced themselves: Karen McDowell, Mark Kalnins and Linda Tong, San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (SFBRA) Deputy Manager. One member of the public was present, Emily Perales, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Karen notified the OC Members that Amy Hutzler, SFBRA Executive Officer, would also be attending today's meeting. Karen also provided an update about an upcoming SFBRA staff-supported site visit on May 23 and welcomed the OC Members to attend.

5. Approval of Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2025

Item 5: [Draft Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2025](#)

Art Deicke moved for approval of Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2025. The motion was seconded by Demece Garepis. All committee members were in favor.

The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Review of the Draft Report and Recommendations to the Governing Board; and Discussion of Possible changes to letter, and finalizing the Letter and Recommendations to the Governing Board

Jim Fiedler, Chair, Independent Citizens Oversight Committee

Item 6: [Draft Report to Governing Board](#)

The meeting was temporarily paused at 9:55am and reconvened at 10:05am. The Members held a discussion and conducted review of the Draft Report and Recommendations to the Governing Board. Active edits to the text of the letter were made at the direction of the chair.

An edited version of the letter was shared to an overhead screen, consisting of committee members' edits plus some other tracked changes. This version was used to consolidate changes during the meeting.

Upon completion of the review, the clerk checked for public comments and there were no public comments.

Dr. Terry Young moved for approval of the draft letter as edited and displayed on the screen, subject to any minor changes to the text and letter by staff. The motion was seconded by Demece Garepis. All committee members were in favor.

The motion was approved unanimously. The Letter and Recommendations to the Governing Board covering FY 23/24 have been approved.

7. Executive Officer Q&A

Amy Hutzal, Executive Officer

Jim Fiedler recommended to move this item to before Item 6 to allow more time for discussions with Amy. The OC Members discussed various topics with Amy Hutzal and expressed their appreciation for her participation in the meeting.

8. Oversight Committee Meeting Schedule and Next Steps

Jim Fiedler, Chair, Independent Citizens Oversight Committee

Members held a discussion of the Oversight Committee meeting schedule and next steps, including: letter presentation to the Board at the June 6th Governing Board Meeting; process for providing Committee Members stipends; status of Committee Member terms; SFBRA overall meeting schedule and type; and feedback about what went well and what can be improved for next year.

Karen McDowell reported that Demece Garepis and Art Deicke were at the end of their first member terms and asked for email notification from these members regarding their

willingness to extend their terms for a second term. Recommendations regarding members' terms will be made to the Governing Board in December.

The clerk checked for public comments and there were no public comments.

9. Adjourn

Karen McDowell announced the next meeting of the Committee will be in 2026 after the FY 24/25 Annual Report text is approved by the SFBRA Governing Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55am.

Note: Agenda items may be taken out of sequence at the discretion of the Oversight Committee. Any person who has a disability and requires reasonable accommodation to participate in this public meeting should contact Taylor Samuelson no later than five days prior to meeting.

Questions about the meeting or agenda can be directed to Taylor Samuelson at Taylor.Samuelson@scc.ca.gov.