

NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Minutes for the meeting of the North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA) Board of Directors.

Date: March 4, 2016
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Location: Novato Sanitary District 500 Davidson Street, Novato, CA 94945

Directors Present: Directors present included:

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Agency/Organization</u>	<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Agency/Organization</u>
Jack Baker	North Marin Water District	Damon Connolly	County of Marin
Keith Caldwell	Napa Sanitation District	Chris Pegg	City of Sonoma
Judy Schriebman	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District	Paul Jensen	City of San Rafael
Brad Sherwood	Sonoma County Water Agency	Pam Drew	City of Novato
Jack Gibson	Marin Municipal Water District	Pam Meigs	Ross Valley Sanitary District
Adrian Cormier	Bel Marin Keys CSD	Brant Miller	Novato Sanitary District
Kathy Hartzell	Central Marin Sanitation Agency	Juliana Inman	Napa County FC&WCD

Directors present represented 14 out of the 18 agencies signatory to the Association MOU.

Board Actions:

1. **Call to Order.** Jack Gibson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.
2. **Public Comment.** None.
3. **Approval of the Agenda.** (See Handout) The Board unanimously approved the agenda.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Board Meeting held January 16, 2016.** (See Handout) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on January 16, 2016 were unanimously approved.
5. **Treasurer's Report.** (See Handout) The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented by Judy Kelly.
6. **Surviving The Storm Presentation.** Adrian Covert, Policy Director with the Bay Area Council (BAC) presented a Power Point depicting what the economic and environmental impacts of a 150 year storm would have on the Bay Area. Adrian described the types of storms called "atmospheric rivers" that carry the most moisture and impacts to California historically. The BAC study found that in a storm like the one modeled, damages to the region could cause over \$10 billion in damages or approximately the same amount as the Loma Prieta earthquake. Rivers and creeks would overflow, and air and road traffic would be impacted as major roadways were blocked or damaged. The model assumed the event would coincide with a high tide causing the overtopping of local levees and widespread flooding. While not modeled, a levee break in the Delta and future sea level rise would make conditions even worse. The report calls for various approaches to contend with this possible event, including building new horizontal levees along the shore, improving our surrounding wetland areas for shoreline protection and habitat benefits, and creating new sea walls and levees where needed. Adrian noted that the regional ballot measure AA, to be voted on in June, would provide funding to move ahead on this important flood planning and infrastructure work. NBWA Board members remarked that that there is an important distinction between sewer systems and drainage systems and Adrian noted SFPUC is unique in that their system handles both sewer and drainage together. It was noted the map that was sent to Bay Area residents showed the headlands/Sausalito area as a flood zone, which is inaccurate. A question was raised concerning Measure AA, asking why businesses (such as Google) would be paying the same \$12 per parcel as residential, considering their capability to pay much more. Adrian replied that several polling efforts showed that a flat rate has the strongest overall support. The report and more information is available on the Bay Area Council website <http://www.bayareacouncil.org/issues-initiatives/storm-flood-protection/>
7. **Proposed Stormwater/trash Project.** Judy Kelly, NBWA Executive Director presented a Power Point with information regarding the state's newly adopted stormwater and trash reduction regulations and outlined a proposed project for NBWA funding that would support North Bay agencies working with the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) to plan for upcoming permit amendments to North Bay water discharge permit holders. The NBWA funding would be to support two tasks in a larger BASMAA effort to get the North Bay [or Phase II permit

holders] ready for the new requirements. Deliverables for the NBWA money would be several technical memos with guidance to the Phase II permit holders on how best to address the state and regional water board requirements that are expected to be required starting in 2017 and beyond. One major issue is how the Water Board will calculate trash reduction for compliance and will require each jurisdiction to have an approved trash generation map that identifies “hot spots” for trash. The BASMAA project work will include a focus on helping North Bay permittees create the appropriate baseline maps. The Joint Technical Committee reviewed and discussed the proposed project several times during 2015 and after suggesting several changes to the original proposal, recommended approval for funding at their meeting on February 24th. Terri Flashing then answered a series of technical questions and responded to comments including a statement that the Trash Amendments creates an unrealistic expectation as there is not adequate human resources to maintain trash catchment systems and especially during a storm. Terri responded that the mandate from the state has been made, and counties do not have the ability to decide whether they will implement. Terri was asked about the project implementation timeline. She replied that August is the goal to complete all the contracted work, but it may be pushed back. A suggestion was made to get CalTrans on board with litter abatement efforts. Terri stated CalTrans is subject to the same requirements under the Trash Amendments. A question was posed as to where the 5mm standard devices and actions must capture trash down to the 5mm size] came from? (To keep cigarettes out of the waterways, as well as very small pieces of plastic) . A comment was given that working to clean up homeless encampments would have a large positive impact on trash abatement. The Board moved to fund this project at 10:45am and voted [with one no vote] to approve a \$30,293 funding request.

8. **Proposed NBWA 2016-17 Budget.** Judy Kelly, NBWA Executive Director presented power point that summarized the proposed 2016-2017 NBWA Budget that will be approved in June. She reviewed the mission, goals and recent history of NBWA project funding. She also provided details on the recently completed set of projects funded by \$1.5 million in US EPA funding that was made available through the San Francisco Estuary Partnership and NBWA for work on sediment and pathogen reduction in several North Bay watersheds. She concluded with the Draft Budget stating that there were two minor changes, Novato is now a full dues paying member and NBWA will pay a small amount for administrative support now that the previous administrative support person has retired from MMWD and the portion of that position which historically was tasked to support the NBWA Executive Director is no longer available to NBWA. The Board asked if NBWA needs to put out a bid for a contractor position. Jack Gibson looked into that, and found the answer is no. The 2016-17 budget will be approved during the June 2016 NBWA meeting.

9. **Items of Interest.** There were no items of interest discussed.

10. **Items for Next Agenda.**

- *MMWD Staff Presentation – Water Reliability Report
- *Jeremy Low – Novato Visioning Process

Jack Gibson, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL
Submitted By: Judy Kelly,
Executive Director

NEXT MEETING INFORMATION:

May 6 – Marin Community Foundation
5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200
Novato, CA 94949