

NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

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

Date: Friday, February 4, 2011
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Location: Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Center
320 N. McDowell Boulevard
Craft 1
Petaluma, CA 94954

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	Jack Gibson	Marin Municipal Water District
Steve Barbose	City of Sonoma and Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District	Mark Luce	Napa Sanitation District
Megan Clark	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District	Mike McGuire	Sonoma County and Sonoma County Water Agency
Mike DiGiorgio	Novato Sanitary District	Madeline Thomas	Bel Marin Keys Community Services District

Directors present represented 10 out of the 16 agencies signatory to the Association MOU.

Board Actions

1. Call to Order. Jack Gibson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.
2. Public Comment. There was no public comment.
3. Approval of the Agenda. (See Handout) The Board unanimously approved the agenda.
4. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting held January 7, 2011. (See Handout) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on January 7, 2011 were unanimously approved.
5. Treasurer's Report. (See Handout) The Treasurer's Report for January 2011 was accepted as presented by Paul Helliker who noted uncertainty regarding Proposition 84 grant funding and the new State budget.
6. Russian River Watershed Association Overview. Virginia Porter, Executive Director, Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) provided an overview using PowerPoint. Virginia acknowledged that NBWA was a "mentor" for the RRWA and that we share common goals. She first presented some facts about RRWA which has 9 member agencies (7 cities, Sonoma County and SCWA) and contract staff including an executive director; and staff support (RMC and ECON). RRWA was formed in 2003 and has a mission to coordinate regional programs for clean water, fisheries restoration and watershed enhancement. Virginia provided some facts about the Russian River and tributaries: 128 miles, 1,500 square miles in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties, two major reservoirs, ~ 400,000 people, and a wide variety of land use and habitats. She then described that the role of RRWA is to serve the interests of member agencies (linked to regulatory compliance) and noted that meetings are open to the public and that RRWA partners with other groups such as the RWQCB, Laguna Foundation and RCDs. Virginia summarized the components of the RRWA structure: a Board of Directors (elected officials and managers); a technical working group (agency staff), RRWA staff, an administrative agency (City of Ukiah), and annual work plan and budget (100% from member agencies). Virginia then highlighted a number of RRWA programs and noted that Stormwater Awareness/NPDES Permit Support is 70% of the RRWA budget. Virginia described a survey done in 2005 and repeated in 2009 that assessed watershed knowledge and stormwater behaviors and showed some improvement in awareness. Virginia also described RRWA's role as liaison with the Regional Board including quarterly meetings, comments on permits and projects, collaboration with staff, and coordination on training and programs. RRWA also advocates for specific projects. Virginia summarized the TMDL situation in the Russian River watershed and then described the programs related to sanitary sewer practices (residential efforts on fats, oil, and grease; mercury pollution prevention; and safe medicine disposal). Virginia also described a two year project – the Russian River Friendly Landscape Guidelines – and the efforts to date. Virginia noted recent efforts to submit a RRWA project (demonstration gardens) into the North Coast IRWMP process and then described outreach efforts such as a monthly environmental column, a student video contest, and Russian River cleanup events. Virginia described some new projects which include: an agriculture recycled water irrigation standards effort; Laguna TMDL

collaboration, and a watershed map page on web site. Virginia ended with a summary of the benefits of the RRWA approach – sharing resources, regional consistency, and an emphasis on the watershed perspective. The Board members had a number of questions. Have you applied any pressure to Kaiser regarding safe medicine disposal? (Kaiser willing to give information on drop off at other sites.) What do pharmacies do with drugs? (Some shipped out of state to Arizona for incineration.) Is North Coast RWQCB emphasizing mercury in lakes? (Lower priority for NC RWQCB.) Do you work actively on flood protection? (Not actively, only LID projects.) Has RRWA membership expanded or contracted? (Originally had two Mendocino entities, Water and Inland Power, who dropped out. Now trying to add Mendocino County and Sebastopol.) What is RRWA budget? (Current budget is \$260k and will reduce to \$220k for 2011-2012; prior years were about \$350k.) Is lower budget due to membership or economy? (Economy.) How did work with RWQCB, which differs from NBWA, get started? (Evolved over time.)

7. Water Conservation – Off the Grid. Carrie Pollard, SCWA, provided an overview using PowerPoint. Carrie described the intent of the project – to explore water conservation programs for private well users and noted the partners (Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District, City of Sonoma, Valley of the Moon Water District, Sonoma Valley Basin Advisory Panel) who provided in kind services to match NBWA's \$25,000 funding. Carrie presented the project goals: conduct residential and agricultural water use assessments; develop educational/outreach materials; investigate feasibility of targeted public outreach meetings and events; and develop a report summarizing the findings and recommendations. She then summarized the residential program which included 15 assessments through the Water Smart Home Program. This effort included toilets (29% did not meet 1992 standards); showerheads (7% did not meet 1992 standards); faucets (15% did not meet standards); clothes washers (47% did not have energy star); water softeners (2/15 had water softeners which use water); and landscape irrigation (73% had automatic system, though not necessarily used effectively). Carrie presented the recommendations for residential: promote high-efficiency clothes washers, as nearly half are inefficient; focus on replacing the remaining water guzzling toilets; and educate homeowners about water efficient landscape irrigation and practices. Carrie then described the agricultural efforts which included three vineyards and six dairies. The vineyard recommendations include: improve drip system to increase root zone; modify irrigation frequency and duration to fit soil profile; begin irrigation as late as possible – after shoot tip growth slows or stops; and use multiple methods to monitor plant water status. Carrie noted that the majority of dairy water use is for cows drinking (25 to 40 gallons per cow/day) and opportunities for efficiency included onsite reuse for barn wash down (water for cooling and equipment cleaning water) and capturing rain water from barn roofs. Carrie highlighted some existing programs for outreach and ended by stating the draft report would be out on February 24 and available for comments through March 12. The Board members had a few questions. Is there a green dairy checklist? (No, though a good idea.) Is rainwater collection cost effective for dairies? (Since need to pipe away from contaminated sources it could be.) Who is target audience? (Basin Advisory Council; intend to use report to pursue grant funds and support groundwater management program.)

8. Items of Interest. None.

9. Items for Next Agenda.

- * US Army Corps of Engineers – San Pablo Bay Restoration Program by Daria Mazey
- * Preliminary 2011-2012 Budget

Jack Gibson, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Submitted By: Elizabeth O. Preim-Rohtla

NEXT MEETING INFORMATION

March 4 – Novato Sanitary District, 500 Davidson Street, Novato, CA 94945

April 1 – Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Ctr., 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954— Conf. Rm. 2

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

June 3 – Novato Sanitary District, 500 Davidson Street, Novato, CA 94945

July 8 – Marin Community Foundation, 5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94949

No August

September 9 – Novato Sanitary District, 500 Davidson Street, Novato, CA 94945

October 7 – Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Ctr., 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954— Conf. Rm. 2

November 4 – Marin Community Foundation, 5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94949

December 2 – Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Ctr., 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954— Conf. Rm. 2