

# NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION MINUTES

July 9, 2010

## MEETING MINUTES NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

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

Date: Friday, July 9, 2010

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Marin Community Foundation

5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200

Novato, CA 94949

Directors Present: Directors present included:

Judy Arnold, County of Marin

Milenka Bates, City of Sonoma and Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District

Megan Clark, Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District

John Dupar, Central Marin Sanitation Agency

Rick Fraithe, North Marin Water District

Jack Gibson, Marin Municipal Water District

Tim Healy, Napa Sanitation District

Sandeep Karkal, Novato Sanitary District

Diane Lesko, Sonoma County and Sonoma County Water Agency

Madeline Thomas, Bel Marin Keys Community Services District

Directors present represented 12 out of the 15 agencies signatory to the Association MOU. Also Margaret Johnston represented Associate Member, Tomales Bay Watershed Council.

### Board Actions

1. Call to Order. Jack Gibson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and introductions followed.
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 June 4, 2010. (See Handout) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on June 4, 2010 were unanimously approved, with two abstentions by John Dupar, Central Marin Sanitation Agency and Diane Lesko, Sonoma County and Sonoma County Water Agency.
5. Treasurer's Report. (See Handout) The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented by Harry Seraydarian who noted that NBWA was looking better than the report indicated.
6. North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative. Caitlin Cornwall, Sonoma Ecology Center, used PowerPoint to provide an overview of the North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative (NBCAI) – [www.nbcai.com](http://www.nbcai.com). Caitlin noted that climate change is inevitable and we need to know the risks to our region's watersheds. She posed the question: How can we work together to increase the resilience of the North Bay ecosystems to climate change? Caitlin referred to a conference last year in Sonoma where it was concluded a lot of work was done on the carbon footprint but not on adaptation. She referred also to the 2009 California Climate Adaptation Strategy discussion draft and the sectors identified. She identified the NBCAI participants and suggested they could address sectors such as biodiversity and habitat, ocean and coastal resources, and water management. Caitlin provided a purpose statement for NBCAI: Implement effective climate change strategies that sustain ecological and human communities of North San Francisco Bay watersheds and described Sonoma County's "Regional Climate Protection Authority." Caitlin referred to the NBWA funded project on climate change and

watersheds that would provide watershed summaries on runoff, recharge, and stream discharge, overlay climate effects on landscape and ecological resources, and evaluate implications for a range of watershed projects. Caitlin focused on habitat restoration and stewardship and emphasized: restoring and protecting key areas; increasing resilience; and educating and working with large landowners. Caitlin suggested NBCAI and NBWA were uniquely situated to provide cutting edge efforts on the integration of climate change with land use. The Board had a comment and a question. A suggestion was made to think about sewage agencies and the threat of sea level rise and what could be done to address air emissions and create strategies to adapt. The question: Do EIRs require climate change analysis? (Yes, though focus is on emissions not adaptation.)

7. Federal Legislation – HR 5061 – San Francisco Bay Improvement Act of 2010. Marc Holmes, TBI, provided an overview of HR-5061 introduced in April 2010 and recent events. Marc thanked NBWA for our recent support letter. Marc provided background regarding the national estuary program and the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) for San Francisco Bay (developed from 1987 until 1993). He described funding for implementation provided by a national pot and efforts to obtain line item funding for specific geographic areas. Marc described efforts to obtain line item funding for San Francisco Bay and the original request in HR-5061 (\$100 million/year for 10 years). He also noted recent annual funding for other areas such as Great Lakes (\$5 billion), Puget Sound (> \$1 billion) and the recent economic issues pushing for lower amounts to be appropriated. Marc highlighted SCWA's role in pursuing funding for the North Bay under the Water Resources Act and for the North Bay Water Recycling Authority (NBWRA) through a Bureau of Reclamation authorization. Marc described recent efforts on the Senate side and a recent bill – 3539, which authorizes the EPA to spend funds but does not indicate an amount. Marc is headed to D.C. again and will draft templates asking for at least \$5 billion. Marc described how funding would be used to implement the CCMP which covers sanitation, stormwater, public education, research and monitoring, restoration, etc. Marc used wetlands restoration as an example of an accelerated effort that would provide a sea level rise buffer. The Board had a number of questions. When will agencies need to send a support letter and when will we see template? (Template will be available in the next few weeks and we do need letters from other entities.) Do we have any results from \$100s of millions to Delta restoration? (Yes, very worthwhile projects such as fish screens have been completed.) Has the water amount taken for San Joaquin farmers been lowered? (Yes, demand has been cut and invested in water management and timing.) How do we prioritize projects given needs for NBWRA, WRDA and individual projects? (HR 5061 includes a Stakeholder Guidance Committee and the EPA will establish methodology as part of their program.)

8. Proposed Projects. (See Handouts) Harry presented a PowerPoint summary of the three projects proposed for funding – The Bay Institute, Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW) (\$15k); Napa Resource Conservation District, Student and Landowner Education and Watershed Stewardship Program (SLEWS) (\$15k); and Sonoma Ecology Center, Enviro-Leaders (\$15k). Harry reviewed the budget estimates for 2010-2011 and explained the most recent amount identified for carryover – \$119,965.55; which is ~ \$25k more than our original estimate. Harry anticipates that given additional projected income and total project costs, NBWA will have an additional \$28k for projects this year. The Board unanimously approved all three projects.

9. Bay Area IRWMP Funding Options. (See Handout) Harry provided a PowerPoint presentation and described how the original Bay Area IRWMP was funded by the four functional areas. Harry summarized the funding needs identified for 2010 (Plan update – \$135k match, Coordinating Committee meetings – \$24k, website upgrade – \$24k, and project analysis – \$1.2k/project). Harry presented the funds identified to date (BAWAC-\$63k, BACWA-\$60k, BAFPA-\$25k, and State Coastal Conservancy-\$25k.) Harry noted the projected shortfall of \$10k and the request from the Coastal Conservancy. He then presented options and factors to consider. Harry also summarized the uncommitted funds in the NBWA 2010-2011 Budget (\$62.5k plus the recently identified additional carryover – \$28k). Harry then summarized the input from the Joint Technical Committee Meeting on June 15 and the Habitat/Floodplain Technical Committee meeting on June 30. After some discussion the Board unanimously approved the recommended option – To offer \$10k as a contribution for the Watershed Management and Habitat Protection and Restoration Functional Area. A suggestion was made to indicate this would be a one time contribution.

10. Items of Interest.

\* Judy Arnold – County of Marin prevailed 7-0 in State Supreme Court decision regarding Ross Valley Flood Control fees.

\* Rick Fraites – NMWD Board voted for the “Deep Green” option for Marin Clean Energy Authority (West Marin Area).

11. Items for Next Agenda.

\* Watershed Monitoring – SFEI – Regional Monitoring and focus on Watershed Monitoring.

Jack Gibson, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Submitted By: Elizabeth O. Preim-Rohtla

#### NEXT MEETING INFORMATION

No August Meeting

September 10 – Marin Community Foundation, 5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94949

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

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

December 3 – Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Ctr., 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954—Conf. Rm. 2