

MEETING MINUTES
NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

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

Friday, December 3, 2010
9:30 a.m.

Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Center
320 N. McDowell Boulevard
Petaluma, CA 94954

Directors Present: Directors present included:

Judy Arnold, County of Marin
Jack Baker, North Marin Water District
Steve Barbose, City of Sonoma and Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District
Megan Clark, Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District
Mike DiGiorgio, Novato Sanitary District
John Dupar, Central Marin Sanitation Agency
Jack Gibson, Marin Municipal Water District
Mark Luce, Napa Sanitation District
Brad Sherwood, Sonoma County and Sonoma County Water Agency
Rick Thomasser, Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Directors present represented 12 out of the 16 agencies signatory to the Association MOU and Margaret Johnston represented the Tomales Bay Watershed Council, an Associate Member.

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 November 5, 2010. (See Handout) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on November 5, 2010 were unanimously approved.
5. Treasurer's Report. (See Handout) The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented by Harry Seraydarian, who added that there may be proposals for projects in the new year.
6. Adapting to Climate Change – “State of the Science” for North Bay Watersheds. Lisa Micheli, Pepperwood Foundation, used a PowerPoint presentation titled “Downscaling Future Climate Scenarios to the Watershed Scale-NBWA Case Study” to update the Board on the project funded by NBWA. Lisa first provided some information on the Pepperwood Foundation; presenting their mission and describing a new facility. Lisa presented some general questions for the case study: How do we take climate change into account with our restoration projects? What do managers need to know regarding climate change? What can researchers tell us about climate change? Lisa noted that the technical team which includes USGS employees will develop a managers' guide for NBWA and, in parallel, is developing a scientific paper. Lisa presented visuals showing precipitation, maximum air temperature and minimum air temperature from 1970-2007. She then described 4 scenarios used in the case study using two emissions scenarios (medium and low) and two models (dry and wet). Lisa presented graphs illustrating precipitation (average monthly

by decade) for 1900-2000 and 2000-2100 and then air temperature by decade and also runoff for each of the scenarios. She also displayed graphs for runoff for sub-basins based on soil depth and underlying geology showing more extremes for a 3 year running average. Lisa presented charts for the Napa River for precipitation, recharge, and potential evaporation and then a regional water balance for the North Bay. Lisa also illustrated a “climatic water deficit” indicating more drought stress. Lisa presented more visuals on vegetation mapping and major basin comparisons (Marin Coast, Marin Bay, Petaluma, Sonoma, Napa) for temperature, runoff and water deficit. Lisa then presented sea level rise estimates based on studies by Knowles in 2010. Lisa summarized as follows: air temperature will increase, conditions will be wetter and drier with increased water deficit, and impacts will be variable across the region, with the deep alluvial deposits prone to the greatest change. Lisa noted that the North Bay had local resilient areas, which may maintain current conditions, and referred to the need to measure base flows. Lisa also referred to the North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative (NBCAI) and the monitoring network in Sonoma County and the possibility of data sharing tools. Lisa presented next steps which included evaluating effects on water quantity, habitat conversion, sediment transport and water quality. The Board had a number of questions. If we anticipate a cataclysmic event do we want to stay the course? (Need adaptive management and monitoring and need to think about emergency response.) Is Report available? (Yes, a 2 page executive summary and 10 page report is available.) Should this be presented to all member boards? (Yes – a PowerPoint is available.) Are you looking at a range given 2 versions of mitigation on emissions? (Yes, however emissions scenarios do not drive water picture.) Are there any scientists with dramatically different conclusions? (No, we used global data and models and the California data layer and picked models at 2 ends of the spectrum.) Given the variability, will air humidity be lower? (Soil humidity will be lower and there will be more energy in the system, so we should worry about more fires.) Can you run fire prediction risk? (Using 8 km scale we could run data through a meteorology model.) Have you looked at locations for monitoring stations? (NBCAI will schedule a meeting focused on monitoring.) What is source of inundation map? (BCDC study which used USGS data; USGS also looking at levee removal scenarios and a sediment study relative to marshlands.) Will PowerPoint be online? (Yes – available on NBWA website.)

7. NBWA Website Update. Harry Seraydarian used PowerPoint to present information on the NBWA website. He first showed examples of the existing website which is now ten years old and described some of the weaknesses and how those could be addressed with an update. Harry then presented the annual costs for the website (budget: \$3,644/year, upload costs of ~ \$3,000/ year) and noted the indirect costs would include Elizabeth’s time to prepare information for uploading. Harry then presented options: 1) Website redesign = \$2,400; 2) Add administrative content management modules = \$1,800; 3) 1 & 2 Combined = \$4,200, and 4) Status Quo. Harry then presented some factors to consider in making the decision: website use (use varies, up before conference); redesign costs; annual costs for site maintenance (ability to upload directly will recover administrative module costs of \$1,800 in less than one year); and indirect costs (costs for Elizabeth’s time or other MMWD staff could go up). Harry presented the recommendation to proceed with Option 3 and approve \$4,200 for website upgrade with the understanding that NBWA may only proceed with Option 1 (\$2,400) if MMWD cannot provide for additional in kind services for direct upload. The Board unanimously approved the recommendation.

8. Items of Interest.

- * SCWA now has 3 videos on YouTube as part of a monthly effort.

9. Items for Next Agenda.

- * Ross Valley Flood Control and Watershed Program Update – Jack Curley
- * BAIRWMP Update
- * WRDA and “earmarks” – Grant Davis SCWA (February 2011)

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

Submitted By: Elizabeth O. Preim-Rohtla

NEXT MEETING INFORMATION

January 7 – Marin Community Foundation, 5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94949

February 4 -- Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Ctr., 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954—Craft 1
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