

North Bay Watershed Association

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

Date: Friday, July 13th, 2018 – 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Location: Marin Municipal Water District, 220 Nellen Ave, Board Room, Corte Madera, CA 94925

Directors Present Included:

Board Member	Agency/Organization	Board Member	Agency/Organization
Teresa Barrett	City of Petaluma	Leon Garcia	Napa Co. Flood Control & Water Cons. Dist.
Michael Boorstein	Central Marin Sanitation Agency		
Pam Drew	City of Novato	Larry Russell	Marin Municipal Water District
Brad Sherwood	Sonoma County Water Agency	Brant Miller	Novato Sanitary District
Judy Schriebman	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District	Rick Fraites & Jack Baker	North Marin Water District
Pamela Meigs	Ross Valley Sanitary District	Ryan Gregory	Napa Sanitation District

Directors present represented 11 of the 18 agencies signatory to the Association MOU.

Board Actions:

1. Call to Order – Larry Russell called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.
2. Public Comment - *No public comment.*
3. Approval of Agenda – The agenda was unanimously approved.
4. Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the previous Board meeting were unanimously approved.
5. Treasurer’s Report – The NBWA budget is robust.
6. Director’s Report – Judy Kelly, NBWA executive director presented the following information:
 - o There was no written report today because Judy had a wonderful vacation in Ireland.
 - o Tessa Foster from the Sonoma County Water Agency is currently assisting the NBWA.
 - o Judy noted that she received a call from Nahal Ghoghaie, the Bay Area Program Coordinator for the Environmental Coalition for Water, regretfully informing her that the presentation on North Bay IRWMP Project Updates scheduled for today was not ready but that Nahal would be available to the NBWA at a future Board meeting.
7. Delta Decisions: How they will affect San Francisco Bay and the North Bay
Michael Patrick George, Delta Watermaster, presented his perspective on some of California’s hot button water policy issues. He covered several areas in his presentation including reasons why Delta issues should also concern water managers in the North Bay; the role of the Delta Watermaster; an overview of the complex set of water rights that govern water management in the state; the efforts underway to manage the Delta for flood, fire and climate change. He also provided an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the many agencies working in the Delta region.

Mr. George reminded the Board that the Sacramento/San Joaquin river delta is not currently healthy, and according to cal-adapt.org is in grave danger due to climate change which will bring impacts to the productivity of the watershed, will cause sea level rise, and will affect endangered

species like the Delta Smelt with rising temperature. The Delta levees are fragile, and aging infrastructure is increasing maintenance costs. In terms of water rights and allocation, the Delta is managed under a complex mixture of riparian rights, Spanish water law, and appropriative [“first in time, first in right”] law. While much of the land in the Delta is publically owned, he reminded us that public ownership is not the same as public stewardship and funds are often scarce for necessary actions. A comprehensive Delta Plan was recently completed but is currently under legal review. When the Delta Plan is fully approved [there are lawsuits on the plan now, however objections are stayed and the plan remains in force] and implemented, it will be a legally enforceable vehicle for managing the Delta. Mr. George explained that recent work by his office has resulted in the first-time collection of a major set of new data on diversions within the Delta and that this information will greatly assist future management activities. He concluded by reminding us that everyone agrees that we want the upper [Delta region] and lower [Bay] estuary to work better together. Through state-wide conservation, reliance on the Delta can be reduced, a point that Cynthia Kohler of MMWD reiterated was a state policy expressed in the 2009 water bills. See the full presentation here: http://nbwatershed.org/wp-content/uploads/minutes-agendas-newsletters/Presentation_2018-07-13.pdf

For more information about the Delta Plan please see: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-plan-amendments>

Next Meeting Information: September 7th, 2018, Novato Sanitary District, 500 Davidson Street, Novato, CA 94945

- Note that there is no August meeting

SUBMITTED BY:
Tessa Foster
SCWA Programs Technician
Tessa.Foster@scwa.ca.gov