

North Bay Watershed Association

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

Date: Friday, January 5th, 2018 – 9:30 a.m.

Location: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N McDowell Blvd, Petaluma, CA

Directors Present Included:

Board Member	Organization	Board Member	Organization
Diane Furst	Central Marin Sanitation Agency	Damon Connolly	County of Marin
Steve Hartwig	City of American Canyon	Megan Clark	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District
Leon Garcia	Napa County FC&WCD	Jack Gibson	Marin Municipal Water District
Ryan Gregory	Napa Sanitation District	Rick Fraites	North Marin Water District
Mike Healy	City of Petaluma	Brant Miller	Novato Sanitary District
Paul Jenson	City of San Rafael	Pamela Meigs	Ross Valley Sanitary District

Directors present represented 12 of the 19 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 – There was no public comment.
3. Approval of Agenda (see materials) – The agenda was unanimously approved.
4. Approval of Minutes (see materials) – The minutes from the previous meeting were approved with two abstentions.
5. Treasurer’s Report (see materials) – Judy Kelly, executive director, on behalf of Cheryl Howlett, treasure, reported that the NBWA is in good financial standing.
6. Director’s Report– Judy Kelly presented a short verbal Director’s Report, reminding member agencies that in April the NBWA will hold its next Conference at the Sheraton Petaluma. Members were alerted about the pending workshop on Changing Channels of the Russian River to be held in Cloverdale on January 26th, see napawatershed.org/events for more information. She also noted that the 3-day Biennial Bay Delta Conference would be held in Sacramento in October.
7. From Bonn to the North Bay– Ellie Cohen of Point Blue Conservation Science provided the Board with a summary of her experiences in Bonn Germany at the recent international conference of climate scientists and policy makers hosted this year by the country of Fiji and held in Germany. The meetings were a follow-up to the 2015 Paris climate accords. Ellie represented Point Blue and her hometown in the two-week series of meetings and conference presentations. While the current federal administration has backed away from the Paris agreements, Ellie reported that the US was strongly represented by state and local government officials [including Gov. Brown] and many NGO’s and who came with a message that efforts across the United States are still supporting the

accords. She briefly summarized global climate conditions noting that we must remove 18% of CO₂ currently in the atmosphere to keep global temperature rise to less than 2 degrees C by 2100. She was excited about the many opportunities in nature-based climate solutions being piloted worldwide and sees many options for the North Bay to participate in such solutions.

Q: Which is the most destructive green house gas and where does it come from? Ellie stated that current research suggests that the process of oil and gas fracking is releasing the greatest amounts of methane which is much more harmful to the atmosphere than carbon. See her presentation on the NBWA website Board Meeting page . (http://nbwatershed.org/board_meeting/).

8. Napa RCD's Carbon Smart Farming

Napa County RCD's Charles Schembre brought the climate conversation home with a review of the District's current work to better understand ways to improve soil conditions in vineyards, orchards and grazing lands while also making it possible to store and sequester more carbon emissions. He explained the many attributes of healthy soil and how those are measured. Charles noted the new effort to start up a North Coast soil health hub to better track and understand local soil health and mentioned the RCD's work with the Oregon State University soil lab to do detailed analysis on soil characteristics. He provided an overview of the work the RCD is doing on their Huichica Creek Demo vineyard where early practices are already showing positive results in increased carbon sequestration. His full presentation is available on the NBWA website here (http://nbwatershed.org/board_meeting/).

9. Items of Interest None

10. Items for the next agenda - Susan Keach, Sonoma Co drug take-back program

Next meeting information:

February 2nd, 2017 – Novato Sanitary District, 500 Davidson, Novato, CA

SUBMITTED BY:
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