

North Bay Watershed Association

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

Date: Friday, February 1st, 2019 – 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. Location: Petaluma Com. Center
 Directors or Representatives Present Included:

Board Member	Agency/Organization	Board Member	Agency/Organization
Damon Connolly	Marin County	Leon Garcia Rick Thomasser	Napa Co. Flood Control & Water Cons. Dist.
Michael Boorstein	Central Marin Sanitation Agency		
Pam Drew	City of Novato	Jack Gibson	Marin Municipal Water District
Grant Davis	Sonoma County Water Agency	Brant Miller & Sandeep Karkal	Novato Sanitary District
Megan Clark	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District	Rick Frites	North Marin Water District
Pamela Meigs	Ross Valley Sanitary District	Paul Jensen	City of San Rafael
Leon Garcia	City of American Canyon	Mike Healy	City of Petaluma
		Roland Sanford	Solano County Water

1. Call to Order – Jack Gibson called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.
2. Public Comment - No public comment.
3. Approval of Agenda, Approval of January 11th, 2019 Board Summary, Pam Meigs abstaining, and acceptance of the Treasure’s Report.
4. **The IRWMP and the Future of Regional Funding. Steve Ritchie, Assistant General Manager, Water Enterprise, San Francisco PUC.** Steve began his presentation by reminding the group about the prevalence now of the One Water way of planning and then reviewed the history of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan in the Bay Area. Money for the IRWMP was included in 3 propositions (50, 84 and 1). A plan was developed for each region, and fundable projects needed to be in the Plan as a requirement of getting funding. There are 4 functional areas; water supply/water quality; wastewater/recycling; flood control/ stormwater, and habitat/ watershed. We have a Coordinating Committee that works with DWR on selecting the projects and has been working well together over many years. We line up with DWR guidance and tend to score high on our proposals. Focused now on disadvantaged communities- not historically part of this effort since being funded through IRWMP has required the fronting of project money. Prop 1 required that 10% of the funds go to reaching out to

disadvantaged communities. The future of IRWMPO funding is not clear; Prop 3 (which did not pass) included little money for IRWMP. Other areas such as San Diego and Santa Ana are also very strong on IRWMP and a coalition might be built to influence the next round of bond money. One Water may get some legislative support, a major national group (US Water Alliance, based out of the Bay Area) has been promoting the effort nation-wide. The region has also been working together on the AQPI project and received \$19M in last IRWMP round. Money is for new radar (see NBWA presentation from November 2017 on the website for details). The Bay Area Regional Reliability Project is looking at facility planning, with BOR funding, and better ways to plan for future emergencies. Grant thanked Steve for his leadership in this type of regional approach. Brant asked about IRWMP funding and if there has been a look at if the Bay Area gets back equal to the money it gives out. A: have not seen the analysis on that, but Steve emphasized that we do need to fix the real issues that face small water districts who have major issues. Q: is there any disconnect between these regional organizations and do they need to work more together? A: Grant noted that NBWRA is project-specific and has put over \$100M in projects in the ground. Big concern is lack of IRWMP funding- do we need to rebrand it to keep it going? North Bay has gotten its fair share but where does it go from here? Do we take IRWMP and push as an evolving One Water approach, or do we push continuation of what we have? A: We need to be nimble and it's critical to keep these coordinating organizations going so we can stay in the process. Chris mentioned that the North Bay was well covered and the Bay Area is better situated to respond in a regional way with creation of all these regional groups. Steve mentioned that Paula Kehoe from the SFPUC is very involved in the One Water concept and also nationally. What about money for outreach? Steve mentioned that ratepayer funds are being used for a water center in Sonoma. Some of the Propositions included construction funds for educational centers. There is outreach money for DACs but the rest of us need to use our own funds for more routine outreach. Desalination? PUC has future needs and one possibly alternative is a regional desalination project. Getting ready to develop a public/private partnership to look at the issue. SF ready to put \$6M. In brackish water energy is much less. Many other ideas are on the table. Raising Calaveras dam is also on the list - climate change will alter when our water comes into the reservoirs and we need to be ready for that.

5. Board adjourned to travel to Casa Grande High School in Petaluma to tour the fish hatchery. For over the last 30 years, students and staff have been working to restore the fish and flows into Adobe Creek and Petaluma River close to the Casa Grande campus. The Board heard from students and the program manager about the history of the project and walked through the facility to see how eggs are being incubated in the facility. For more history and background about the hatchery see the article available on the city school website https://northbaybiz.com/Bonus_Issues/GameChangers/Casa_Grande_High_School_Fish_Hatchery.php

Meeting adjourned at 12:45

Next Meeting Information: March 1st, 2019, Napa Sanitary District, Napa CA

SUBMITTED BY: Judy Kelly, Executive Director NBWA