

North Bay Watershed Association

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

Date: Friday, July 12th, 2019 – 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. Location: Petaluma Community Center

Directors or Representatives Present Included:

Board Member	Agency/Organization	Board Member	Agency/Organization
Michael Boorstein	Central Marin Sanitation Agency	Megan Clark	Las Gallinas Valley
Elizabeth Patterson	Solano County Water	Jack Gibson	Marin Municipal Water District
Jeff Tucker	Napa Sanitary District	Jean Mariani	Novato Sanitary District
Mary Sackett	Marin County	Rick Fraites	North Marin Water District
Pam Drew	City of Novato		

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
4. June Meeting Summary was approved
5. Acceptance of the Treasure's Report.

6. Board Information Exchange.

Judy asked the group if there is interest in serving on either the Steering Committee or the Conference Planning Committee and to let Jack know. The suggestion was made that the Treasure's Report be shown from a specific date to a specific date.

Jack started the information-sharing portion of the meeting. He mentioned that the MMWD, due to careful taking of the Russian River water and the heavy rainfall, has two reservoirs at 100% and the others are at 90% or above. Megan mentioned they are working on their Strategic Plan and is going well. Three members attended training for Board members and suggested all should make an effort to get this training. Mike Prinz talked about the \$50M upgrades to their plant, and mentioned he did a tour of the Miller Creek STRAW restoration which he found very impressive. Mike B stated that CSMA hopes to have their new co-generation generator up and running soon and that the District is now cleaning up PCB's at it's Larkspur Landing District site - expected to take 4 months. The District will probably sell the property after that. Mike also mentioned his recent amazing trip to Zambia on an AIDS ride. Mike Healy mentioned that they now have a draft USGS evaluation of the ground water basin and it's in pretty good shape. Second, the City's dredging situation is dire. Have relied on USCOE in the past, the City could be doing emergency dredging soon. They have also been testing of the system to determine the risk if PGE shuts down the system. NMWD is also looking into by buying new generators. Rick said they are closing in on the final District boundaries for the next voting cycle. Jeff Tucker mentioned that Napa San will be completing their expanded distribution system, paid for through state and Federal grants. Napa is also taking the lead on a drought plan. Elizabeth talked about how they are working on the water transfer issue. The County has done some out-of-basin transfers in the past, and they are evaluating those impacts. Solano is also getting

ready to adopt an HCP for the agricultural lands and habitats of the County and the agency continues to work with partners on a solution on the Sacramento flows. At DWR, she is working on the flood program, how to recharge groundwater (even in clay soils) and getting ready to make recommendations to the Governor. The State is also beginning a conversation about managed retreat for climate. Elisabeth recommends everyone become a member of the American Water Resources Association, she just attended a regional meeting in Reno. As a future agenda item, she suggested we have SFEI discuss using sediment to stabilize wetlands. Jean mentioned that Grant Miller resigned from the Board and that they are closing out their SRF loan with a bond, saving 250,000 a year over the life of the loan. Mary Sackett, Marin Co., mentioned that Damon, with Chris Choo's help, is working on quantifying impacts to flood issues in a effort to respond to possible USCOE funding.

7. The One Water Concept and the North Bay Region.

Ken Schwarz, Horizon Water

Ken opened his presentation reminding the group that the One Water idea is not new, but there is more to be done and we continue to face challenges, even in great water years like this past year. We historically break down problems into components, but water does not easily provide for integration. One Water is really about getting the most out of all the region's water resources. Ken stated that we now have IRWMP funds for multi-benefit projects and that One Water is really working to move forward and further by seeking fuller integration along those lines. IRWMP is a good start, but where else can we go?

Ken sees lots of two-benefit projects, not many 3 and 4 benefit efforts. It would be a good start for NBWA to begin to think about the principles that should apply to any new water integration efforts. For example, SCVWD has recognized that internally they are siloed, so they are working on institutional improvements to see water in a more unified way. SCVWD is working on integrating stream stewardship, flood management and water supply.

Rick gave an example of where three districts are working together now on a supply effort. Megan asked why NBWRA and NBWA are not combined or better integrated? Jack commented that after discussion about that possibility, it was found that the missions of the two are quite different. Elisabeth mentioned the difficulties of transactional issues in an organization and how that can limit integration. Another impediment is the challenge of regulatory hurdles in permitting.

North Bay water supply. California Forward is looking at Russian River pilot project in partnership with DWR and SCWA plus tribes. There will be a conference on this soon.

North Bay groundwater. Napa is doing compliance work. Petaluma is extending recycled water to golf courses etc. In Santa Rosa, they can't get enough recycled water. There are now between 6-8 advanced treatment facilities that will be ready to take advantage of the new rules expected to be released in 2021. Project examples include groundwater banking. Windsor and Healdsburg are already doing some of this, are there more opportunities? Should we be passive with basins or aggressive with injection?

North Bay flooding. The North Bay has really been a leader here with the Napa project. Is this a possible model for the Russian and other North Bay rivers? Rick asked if we have any information about how fracking is affecting our groundwater? Ken mentioned this is a big issue in the central valley. Elisabeth said that some of the fracking permits were given out under less than professional investigations. It depends on geology. Ken said we do know that in Bakersfield, the source water is Mt Whitney, super pure water and it's a terrible thought that fracking would impact that water. The

North Bay does not have fracking but we do have lots of wells, and when we drill, there could be other issues.

North Bay Water Quality. This aspect of water management has the most regulation. That creates a lot of constraints, but what opportunities are out there? Can we share the best ideas from the region; can NBWA support that? Are we able to track good projects and help disseminate information? Data sharing on water quality perhaps is a good first start for NBWA.

Protecting aquatic habitats. On this aspect, there are many good examples in North Bay already. We should get a presentation on the opportunities of revamping Highway 37. The Resilient by Design-effort looked at this and we got an overview of this issue at the last NBWA conference. It would be good to check in again on status.

Larry reminded us that LA just passed a \$300M a year (in perpetuity) fund for integrated work of this kind. We should be looking at a similar regional bond measure. Not \$300M, but maybe \$50M is doable. It's about getting the money, not waiting for the state or the federal government. Elizabeth reminded us that Napa is a great model for this type of investment. In the new State Water Plan, there is a suite of indicators, and the Strategic Plan for the NBWA is primed to support indicator work.

8. Announcements and Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:25

Next Meeting: September 6, 2019, Napa Sanitary District, Napa, CA

SUBMITTED BY: Judy Kelly, Executive Director NBWA