

North Bay Watershed Association

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

Date: Friday, December 6th, 2019 – 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. Location: Novato Sanitary District

Directors or Representatives Present Included:

Board Member	Agency/Organization	Board Member	Agency/Organization
Michael Boorstein	Central Marin Sanitation Agency	Megan Clark	Las Gallinas Valley
Pam Meigs	Ross Valley Sanitary District	Jack Gibson	Marin Municipal Water District
Elizabeth Patterson	Solano County Water Agency	Jean Mariani	Novato Sanitary District
Mary Sackett	Marin County	Rick Fraites	North Marin Water District
Pam Drew	City of Novato	Paul Jensen	City of San Rafael
		Rob Carson	MCSTOPP

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. September and October Meeting Summaries were approved

Judy reviewed the proposed dates for 2020 Board meetings and the schedule was approved. Judy also mentioned the planning for the upcoming NBWA 2020 conference is underway and asked each Board member to promote the conference staff and other Board members of the NBWA organizations. She informed the Board that invitations are waiting reply from Mr. Huffman, Mr. Thompson, Katie Jackson of Jackson Family Wines and that we have a confirmation from Cal. EPA Secretary Jared Blumenfeld.

5. Mike Montgomery, Ex. Officer, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

Mike began by describing the Water Board priorities: contaminants, ground water, recycled water regulation and other key focus areas. He mentioned that the region has a lot of development pressure especially in the South and East Bay, sometimes in areas that have old contamination. The Board works with the developers to identify toxics and clean the sites up to residential standards and Mike mentioned that new development must consider sea level rise. Mike also talked about emerging contamination especially regarding a range of chemicals related to fire resistant (Pfos and Pfas) - orders have been issued to airports and landfills to determine significance, eventually those orders may get to wastewater. Also the State is looking at the toxicity of these compounds. Evolving science is a real challenge to regulation. One concern is that the introduction of recycled water could introduce contamination or salts into the system.

There are a number of North Bay impaired water bodies such as Petaluma River, Sonoma River, Walker and Lagunitas Creeks (for mercury) and Tomales Bay. There are programs that work with non-point sources to reduce inputs into these waters. One of the biggest efforts underway is the process of reissuing the Regional Stormwater permit and the trash reduction requirements. The Board has also focused more on industrial non-filers to get them under permit. Mike mentioned that the nutrients permit recently finalized is an example of how collaboration can work.

The Water Board is now also active in regional cooperatives related to climate change and will be modifying the Water Board plan to better address development in the shoreline areas. They are partnering with BCDC about low cost financing and other means to address the problem of sea level rise and define where that money may come from, possibly the State Revolving Fund.

Regarding challenges, the Adapting to Rising Tides report is coming out soon and will have some alarming information in it about what is coming to the Bay Area. Mike noted there are only so many projects that are in the design phase that could be funded to immediately address climate impacts so long term funding sources will be key. Mike's presentation has been posted on the NBWA website.

6. Roger Leventhal, Senior Civil Engineer, Marin County

Roger provided an overview of the Deer Island Restoration project that is just getting underway. Phase 1 Tidal Restoration project on Deer Creek is an example of where things actually happen in the near and medium term. Novato baylands are among the last of the restorable marshes. By historical standards, the creek in this project is tiny largely due to the tidal prism having been reduced over time. The original idea was to restore 190 acres. The county was awarded \$630,000 (all for design, permitting etc.) from Measure AA to start work. Now the county understands that the full tidal prism won't be immediately restored and are looking at it as a demonstration of how these projects will perform over time. Steve Moore mentioned that this restoration work is at the heart of a one water approach in the North Bay and the tie into the bigger infrastructure issues around Highway 37. Sandeep spoke about the good interagency cooperation happening around these plans and proposals. Interested Board members then walked out on the trail behind the facilities to view the general area of the proposed project. Roger's presentation has been posted to the website.

7. Announcements and Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:25

Next Meeting: January 3rd, 2020, MMWD

SUBMITTED BY: Judy Kelly, Executive Director NBWA