

North Bay Watershed Association

Board of Directors Meeting - Summary

December 2, 2022 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

MEETING HELD AT THE

Silverado Country Club

St. Andrews Room at the Members Club

1600 Atlas Peak Rd, Napa, CA 94558

Zoom was available for those to attend virtually

www.nbwatershed.org

1. **Welcome and Call to Order—Directors or Member Representatives Present Included:**

Michael Boorstein – Central Marin Sanitation Agency	Jean Mariani – Novato Sanitary District
Cory Bytof – City of San Rafael	Ryan Gregory – Novato Sanitary District
Damon Connolly – County of Marin	Pamela Meigs – Ross Valley Sanitary District
Megan Clark – Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District	Elizabeth Patterson – Solano County Water Agency
Megan Clark – Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District	Brad Sherwood – Sonoma Water
Jack Gibson – Marin Municipal Water District	Robert Rogers – Sonoma Water
Larry Russell – Marin Municipal Water District	Marin Conservation League
Jeremy Sarrow – Napa County Flood Control District	Andy Rodgers – NBWA
Rick Thompson – Napa County Flood Control District	Sabrina Marson – NBWA
Rick Fraitess – North Marin Water District	Cheryl Holt – Public
Jean Mariani – Novato Sanitary District	Kate Powers – Public
Ryan Gregory – Novato Sanitary District	Marin Conservation League
Pamela Meigs – Ross Valley Sanitary District	

Eleven NBWA board members attended the meeting comprised of 25-member agency staff, stakeholders, partners, and interested members of the public.

Call to Order – Director Gibson called the meeting to order at 9:40 am in-person and via Zoom.

2. **General Public Comment** – None

3. **Agenda Review and Approve Past Meeting Minutes** – Chair Gibson asked for any Board members to speak up if there were requested changes to the agenda. No comments.

Director Patterson moved to approve the agenda and minutes; Director Boorstein seconded—
Unanimously accepted.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

No comments. Director Boorstein moved to approve the November Treasurer Reports. Director Patterson seconded—Unanimously accepted.

5. **Executive Director Report**

Andy Rodgers, Executive Director

- Updates since last meeting
 - Attended North Bay/Coast GSAs (6) collaborative meeting on Nov 7
 - Presented to Localizing California Waters conference on November 9 – Intersections and opportunities through regional collaborations
 - Attended CASQA legislative subcommittee meeting on Nov 22
 - Evaluated grant funding opportunities for regional programs

- Administrative Activities
 - Coordinated with Board Chair, Deputy Director, Finance Manager
 - AR – Membership dues
 - AP – Subconsultants
 - Working with SFEI on NBWA website rebuild!
- Communications
 - Held 3rd in-person meeting @ Petaluma’s Ellis Creek WRF on Nov 4!
 - Distributed NBWA Fall Newsletter on Nov 29
 - Coordinated with members to host meetings west to east throughout the region – Marin, Sonoma, Napa, American Canyon
 - Regional partners
 - Subject matter experts and speakers
- Committees
 - Attended drought & fire SMART coordinated messaging campaign planning meeting with LBL/Stanford on Nov 16
 - Met with Chair, Deputy Director, and staff to progress NBWA initiatives
- NBWA FY 2022/23 Work Plan
 - Executive Director services
 - Continue transition to in-person/hybrid (including field trips) meetings
 - Member communications and advocacy
 - Convene Executive/Admin Steering Committee – January 2023
 - a. Prioritize and provide direction on implementing initiatives (small grants, regional planning, association alignment)
 - Implement focused regional initiatives
 - Water services infrastructure and land use/housing – Focused workshop #2, winter/spring 2023
 - Align missions and programs with NBWRA – Chairs meeting January 2023
 - Annual General Managers meeting – March 2023
 - Phase I (exploratory) DroughtSMART & FireSMART branding pilot – Winter 2023
 - Proposal to support convening a series of ACWA-endorsed regional industry workshops
 - Participate in regional forums
 - IRWM, RCIS, SFBRA, others
 - Convene Joint Technical Committee
 - Programmatic planning and funding
 - Communications
 - Quarterly newsletter
 - Update NBWA website
- Policy-Planning Pathway: Intersections in Local Opportunities for SGMA, Water Agencies & Environmental/Public Health
 - Tia Fleming, Executive Director, CA Water Efficiency Partnership; Andy Rodgers, Engineering Manager, West Yost; Rob Kostlivi, Director, Stanislaus County Environmental Health Director
 - Regional Collaborations
 - Map opportunities to plan meaningful actions.
 - Navigate complex relations, overwhelm, and morphing life-scapes to make a difference by leveraging local organizational assets.
 - Accelerate and equitably incentivize local water approaches at scale.
 - Functional collaborations attract funding which can accelerate and equitably incentivize local water approaches at scale

- Collaboration is a means to pool & share resources, distribute burdens, develop and deploy consistent messaging, implement economy-of-scale actions, and enhance magnitude of desired outcomes. But it needs to be a team's FUNDED focus & role in order to make it happen!
 - Thesis: Watershed/basin-scale networks are a logical organizing matrix to address watershed/basin-scale issues.
However, these networks are generally not thought of or resourced adequately to lead scaled solutions.
However, with recognition and resources these networks can successfully convene jurisdictions, provide a safe space for collaboration, foster learning, and forge new or deepen existing relationships
Over time, a portfolio of watershed-wide successes grows - seeding meaningful change and resiliency
The opportunities are our collective selves and our willingness to lend a hand and be supported
- 2022 Key Accomplishments
 - Ten guest subject matter expert presentations on wide range of topics
 - Two Board meeting/field trips
 - Climate Change(D): Weathering Extremes Together, April 8
 - Four modules posted on NBWA website – and viewable on YouTube
 - Land Use and Water Infrastructure Workshop, June 2
 - Foundational for workshop #2 tentatively scheduled for spring 2023
 - Progressed priority initiatives identified from 2021 General Managers meeting
 - Established drought & fire smart campaign pilot partnership with MWPA, Lawrence Berkeley Lab, and Stanford's Woods Institute
 - Established on-going roles or tracking with regional initiatives – Bay Area IRWM CC, North Bay Baylands Regional Conservation Investment Strategy stakeholder, CASQA legislative committee, SR37 Baylands Group
 - Presented to local, regional, and state-wide organizations
- 2022/23 Calendar Dates
 - January 6 – Tentative Social?
 - February 3 – In person/hybrid
 - March 3 – Virtual
 - April 7 – Field trip
 - May 5 - In person/hybrid
 - June 2 – In person/hybrid

The group decided to make the January 6 meeting a social connective meeting, not a “business” meeting.

April is anticipated to be a big field trip. Director Patterson suggested the McLaughlin/Knoxville regional area by the northern western side of Lake Berryessa. It's an Ecological preserve that is a result of the gold mine. Director Patterson will follow up with a contact for Andy.

Director Boorstein mentioned a past field trip across Highway 37 and possibly doing that again.

- Topics in development:
 - Regional Resiliency, SFBay Basin Plan Amendment, American Canyon Field Trip, Solano County Field Trip, Environmental Education & Grant Funding, Small Grants Program, Urban Scale Carbon Sequestration Initiatives, Regulatory Compliance Partnerships, Baylands Strategies, DroughtSMART/FireSMART, OneWater OneBay Strategic Initiatives, DWR & SWRCB Drought Assistance Programs and Resources,

Collaboration-Based Funding Opportunities, Water Management & Conveyance Innovations, Capital and Natural Assets Management, Small Grants and Scholarship Program, New Members!

This is a 'Watershed Meeting': A meeting marking a unique and important historical change

Thank you to Chair Jack Gibson and Vice-Chair Damon Connelly for your tireless and dedicated service to the North Bay Watershed Association.

- Members took time to congratulate Vice-Chair Damon Connelly in his new role in the District 12 Assembly and to Chair Gibson for his 22 years of service to NBWA as Chair.

6. Board Information Exchange and Drought Updates

Members highlighted issues and shared items of interest.

Director Meigs: They have been busy with projects, pumps and pipes. Steve Moore's fabulous general managers' report about the cost of these projects. For gravity sewer, 2-year project, and it covered Green Bray, Larkspurs, San Aselmo, Kent Woodlands, and Ross for 5.3 Million. All the projects have been in budget. One of their longest standing board members is retiring and not run for election. The election results are almost final for Dennis Bentley, who's a water engineer.

Director Gregory: They are running out of recycle water. They are selling every ounce made and are running out in the summer. They recently changed the fee structure to incentivize people to take water earlier.

Speaker topic to consider for next year is to have the GSA's in our region participate in a session where they all talk about the active management that's happening, the things they're doing. They're working with State lobbyists on some legislation to propose this year on how to help fund some of these more diligently and sustainably projects.

Director Patterson: She has been on the committee to review the integrated regional water management. Grant process, there were 17 grants submitted on round 2 of the funds available. There's about 32 million dollars available, which includes the deduction for the administrative costs that are done by the San Francisco estuary project. Projects range from small to some pretty big projects, [she detailed a couple for the group].

Director Sherwood: He thanked Chair Gibson for his work, such as development of the integrated regional waters management plan for San Francisco and helped develop the regional funding allocation for IRWMP in San Francisco, which, by his calculation, brought in over 50 plus million dollars to the North Bay, through conservation, recycled water and AQPI. He also introduced Robert Rogers, coming into Government affairs for Sonoma Water, and will be attending NBWA meetings in the future. They have a couple of issues on track that they would like support from NBWA: Groundwater fees, sustainability funding for ground waters, AQPI, the advanced quantitative participation radar system, we need to get some sustainable operation funding for those radar units, they need some additional assistance from the State and the Federal government on more long-term forecasting capabilities for our San Francisco Bay region. We're hearing from our water engineers and our folks who are working the reservoirs day to day to manage our systems better during climate change.

Director Clark: She shared thoughts on the death of Judy—they are looking for ways to honor her, like planting a tree that is the same as the one she tried unsuccessfully to save.

Director Fraites: The Water District lost one of its board members a few weeks ago. Jim Grossi died suddenly, and he was a great addition. He had incredible knowledge he was an engineer in Marin County. They'll be making an appointment probably within 40 or 50 days, to take his place. Their headquarters is still being redone.

There was an article written recently concerning their district and water. We don't have the water actually available to supply the new housing that is being demanded from Sacramento. It's going to be very difficult to get additional water for the areas where they want new construction around Novato. Water towers may be needed and they're going to be visually unappealing and it's going to cost a lot of money and we don't know where we're going to get it. If we're going to go to desalinization at some point, it's going to have to be a joint effort for us to put in. The infrastructure to try to get additional water, which is going to be difficult, because Sonoma Water provides 75% of our water. Right now, and Lake Sonoma is not looking too good. They had to get the message out there for everybody to see—These demands from Sacramento are really going to hit.

Director Boorstein: After 3, 4 years of planning 1.3 Megawatt Jenbacher engine is not only running but PG&E has approved it for full use. Both of their digestors, for the first time several years now, are running at full capacity. Both covers were replaced and brand new.

7. Guest Presentation— The Milliken Creek Flood Reduction and Fish Passage Project—Local partnerships with regional support realize completed multi-benefit dam removal and riparian corridor restoration

Rick Thomasser, Manager, Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Rick provided an overview of a project started in 2017 and completed in 2022 in partnership with local landowners to reduce flooding and restore fish passage along an important tributary to the Napa River. Work included removing a 67-year-old dam and restoring access to over 1,000 feet of spawning and rearing habitat for native steelhead trout.

Project Background

- Flood of December 31, 2005
- County works with Silverado Property Owner Association and Resort to conduct Feasibility and Cost Benefit Study 2011
- County identifies Grant Funding Opportunity and BOS approves Project for Measure A funding 2013
- County Designs project, conducts environmental review and begins construction in 2017
- Project Goals:
 - Reduce flooding on Kaanapali Drive (56 homes) through removal of a summer dam and replacement with a free span bridge
 - Construct a detention bypass at south end of golf course and drainage improvements at existing culvert on Kaanapali Dr
 - Restore access to upstream spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead trout, expand and restore adjacent riparian areas

Project Cost and Funding

Project Activity	Estimated Cost
Engineering Design and Permitting	\$547,080
Easement Acquisition	\$36,600
Bridge Removal/Replacement	\$150,000
Construction	\$1,391,611
Project Management and Grant Administration	\$48,754
Total Costs	\$2,174,045

Funding Source	Amount
Napa County Measure A	\$1,316,045
IRWM Prop 84 Grant	\$500,000
Silverado Resort (Estimated cost of Bridge)	\$150,000
56 Property Owners	\$208,000

The project included a lot of collaboration between the homeowners, and Silverado Property Owners Association, the Country Club, the County, and others. With the State and NBWA helping to provide funding. Its been about 12 years of working on this project and figuring out what to do for flooding.

Tour—The Milliken Creek Flood Reduction and Fish Passage Project

8. Announcements and Adjourn

New officers are needed—Anyone interested can email Andy.

Andy polled the group on how to use the January 6 meeting—cancel, have a meeting, host a social. The group would like to have a get together.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

Next Meeting: January 6, 2022, will be a social connective event

SUBMITTED BY: Andy Rodgers, Executive Director, NBWA