

North Bay Watershed Association Board of Directors Meeting - Summary

May 6, 2022 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

NO PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION

Zoom Meeting

www.nbwatershed.org

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

Michael Boorstein – Central Marin Sanitation Agency	Pamela Meigs – Ross Valley Sanitation District
Leon Garcia – Napa County Flood Control and Water Resources	Megan Clark – Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District
Cory Bytof – City of San Rafael	Elizabeth Patterson – Solano County Water Agency
Chris Choo – County of Marin	Andy Rodgers – NBWA
Robert Carson – Marin Countywide Stormwater Program	Sabrina Marson – NBWA
Jack Gibson – Marin Municipal Water District	Susan Stompe – Marin Conservation League
Larry Russell – Marin Municipal Water District	Ann Thomas – Public
Rick Fraites – North Marin Water District	Jeremy – Public
Tony Williams – North Marin Water District	Steven Keese – Public
Jean Mariani – Novato Sanitary District	

Thirteen NBWA board members attended the meeting comprised of 19-member agency staff, stakeholders, partners, and interested members of the public.

Call to Order – Director Gibson called the meeting to order at 9:32 am via Zoom.

2. **General Public Comment** - None

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

Director Fraites moved to approve the agenda and approve the past meeting summary. Director Patterson seconded. Unanimously accepted.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

Director Russell moved to accept the Treasure's Report - Director Fraites seconded. Unanimously accepted.

5. **Wrap-up: April 8th NBWA Conference**

Andy Rodgers, Executive Director

Andy reviewed outcomes and feedback from NBWA's first virtual conference: Climate Change(d): Weathering Extremes *Together*.

The conference was a four-module event with three panelists each. Welcome/Keynote was provided by Jared Huffman, U.S. Representative for California's 2nd Congressional District.

Total attendees: 152

Top cities represented by attendees:

- San Rafael
- Santa Rosa
- Napa
- Novato

2020/2022 Sponsorships totaled \$27,200. NBWA also has a \$1,000 credit from the Sheraton for the 2020 canceled event. Voluntary additional donations received: \$340!

Post-Event Survey Results

35 respondents (23% of total attendees)

72% of respondents attended: One Water, One Bay

77% of respondents attended: Sea Level Rise and Freshwater Drop

69% of respondents attended: Watershed Smart

37% of respondents attended: Resiliency Work Force Development

Overall, how would you rate the conference (1-5)? 4.5

How helpful was the content presented at the event (1-5)? 4.5

Was the event length too long, too short, or just about right? Just about right

How likely are you to attend a similar event again in the future (1-5)? 4.5

Did the conference inspire you to explore new partnerships or directions related to your work?

26 of 35 “yes”

9 of 35 “uncertain”

How would you rate the virtual experience? 4.2

Survey: Please indicate your interest for additional NBWA training/educational opportunities

- Watershed/Wildfire nexus
- One Water Strategy
- Tours of key infrastructure facilities and projects (ie water treatment, storage, conveyance, flood management)
- Adapting Infrastructure to Extreme Weather
- Water conservation programs/training
- Sea Level Rise adaptation programs
- Recycled/reuse water

Watch the recordings, access resources, and learn ways in which our North Bay water infrastructure agencies, watershed managers, and communities are planning, adapting, and collaborating to weather extremes together!

Access the recordings at:

www.nbwatershed.org/event/climate-changed-weathering-extremes-together

Questions/Comments

Director Garcia: Is there consideration to have future conferences be hybrid?

Andy: Yes, the committee has discussed this and having smaller events/field trips.

Director Patterson expressed support for hybrid conferences in the future for wider attendance. She also thought the conference was one of the smoothest conferences she has attended, and the content was diverse and interesting.

Director Gibson: Echoed the comments from Director Patterson and applauded the committee and technical team.

Director Mariani: She agreed the conference was well done and supports staying hybrid in the future.

6. Executive Director Report

Andy Rodgers, Executive Director

Andy provided updates on active projects including a June 2 workshop, recent meetings, communications, committees, activities, and developing initiatives since the March 4 Board meeting. Andy outlined ideas for next and future Board meeting topics and solicited feedback.

Updates since last meeting

- Visited site of future Wetlands Ecology Center, American Canyon, March 31

- Hosted NBWA Virtual Conference on April 8
- Attended IRWM coordinating committee meeting April 25
- Attended North Bay Baylands Conservation Investment Strategy (RCIS) meeting on April 26

Administrative Activities

- Prepared draft NBWA FY2022-23 budget
- Coordinated with Board Chair, Deputy Director, Finance Manager
- Paused Agreement for Drought/FireSMART campaign until FY22-23
- AR – Membership dues
- AP – Subconsultants
- Updated website and meeting packet information

Communications

- Distributed Quarterly newsletter Spring 2022
- Presented at ASCE Region 9 SF Section Equity in Resilient Infrastructure conference on April 22
- Board members and member agency staff
- Regional partners
- Subject matter experts and speakers

Committees

- Met with Conference committee March 8
- Met with NBWA Deputy Director and staff to develop priority initiatives

Quarterly Newsletter – Spring 2022

Help us expand distribution

- Partner agency contacts
- Funding agency staff
- Other department staff
- Information officers/communications
- Social media posting

Questions/Comments

Director Russell: Marin Municipal Water District is set up for hybrid meetings, should NBWA choose to move forward with this for future meetings.

Andy: He will look into availability of MMWD (and other options) for future board meetings. June meeting will be virtual.

Director Patterson: Would like to work with Andy and others to create a presentation for why IRWMP should be funded.

Chris Choo [Chat]: NBWA has had a big role in helping to get information out about IRWM funds and making sure the North Bay gets their allocation. A new round of funding is expected later this year and I expect NBWA will continue its leadership role for the North Bay.

Convene Land Use/Housing Agencies and Water/Wastewater Service Agencies

NBWA is working with local government to convene a workshop on the nexus of land use/housing and water services infrastructure for strategically coordinating improvements associated with housing development.

The Purpose of the workshop will inform and aim to identify practical and productive next steps to develop collaborative initiatives that meet the needs of land use and water services agencies in times of housing shortage and drought.

Attendees include Planning staff and Utility staff to discuss challenges and approaches to meeting these goals and exploring regional housing/infrastructure partnerships.

First Workshop will be held virtually on June 2!

FY 2021-22 Board Meetings

- June 3 – Board meeting – virtual

FY 2022-23 Board Meetings

- July 1 – in-person?
- August 5
- September 2
- October 7
- November 4
- December 2
- January 6
- February 3
- March 3
- April 7
- May 5
- June 2

Board Meeting Topics Outlook

Topics in development:

- Conference speaker outreach has produced a remarkable list of potential future speakers and collaborations!
- Basin Plan Amendment, 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, What's Next in Environmental Education, Small Grants and Scholarship Program, New Members!

Questions/Comments

Directors requested a poll for the July meeting to be on July 1 or July 8. August has historically been a skip month.

7. FY 2022/2023 NBWA Workplan and Budget

Andy provided an overview of current fiscal year revenue and expenses and a projection for year end.

Current Fiscal Year 2021-22 Year End Projection

- Membership dues collected: \$225,291
- Expenses through April 30: \$89,148
- Projected fiscal year-end expenses: \$120,233
- Encumbered/committed funds: \$89,346
- Estimated contingency reserve (carry-over): \$209,579

The proposed approach to FY 2022/2023 is

- No change to annual budget
- Maintain core programs and tasks
 - Monthly Board meetings
 - Committee meetings
 - Quarterly newsletter/Website
- Implement focused initiatives
- Participate in regional forums
- Develop and propose new programs/opportunities for consideration
- Expand NBWA visibility and membership
- Advocate funding for regional north bay initiatives

NBWA FY 2022/23 Draft Work Plan

- Executive Director services
 - Virtual transition to in-person (including tours) & virtual meetings
 - Member communications and advocacy
 - Continue Executive/Admin Steering Committee meetings for funding direction and recommendations
 - Update databases and information archives, update member operating budgets for next FY
- Implement focused regional initiatives
 - Water services infrastructure and land use/housing
 - Align missions and programs with NBWRA
 - Conduct exploratory phase of droughtSMART & fireSMART branding pilot
- Participate in regional forums
 - IRWM, RCIS, others
- Reconvene Joint Technical Committee
 - Programmatic planning and funding
- Continue Quarterly newsletter
- Plan website upgrades

Work Plan Structure - Proposed Update

- Update category title
- Add new initiative

A- ~~Overhead~~ Administrative Services

1. Board Meetings/Workshops
2. Board Meeting Minutes
3. Agency Coordination
4. Administrative Steering Committee
5. Program Development committee
6. Finance/Accounting Support

B- General Benefit Projects

7. Public Outreach Materials
8. Committee Activities
9. Website
10. Data Management
11. Legislative Action
12. Joint Technical Committee
13. NBWA Conference Expense
14. NBWA Conference Support
15. Update of IRWMP and Funding Advocacy
16. **Regional initiatives Development**
17. Contingency Reserve

C- Specific Benefit Projects

Estimated Budget for FY 2022/2023

- Administrative services \$62,000
 - General Benefit projects \$123,290
 - Special Benefit projects \$40,000
- TOTAL \$225,290
- Prior Fiscal Year carryover \$ 209,579

Proposed Amendment to Executive Director Services Agreement

Current 2020 Agreement for ED Services = \$112,160/year

Addition of two tasks to scope of work for FY2022-2023

Developing regional initiatives \$12,000

Participating in regional forums \$10,000

Proposed total amended Agreement for ED Services = \$134,160/year

NBWA budget will remain unchanged

Questions/Comments

Director Patterson: Can the 'Overhead and General Benefit Projects' title on the work plan be changed to 'Administrative Services'.

Director Bytof: Project A, B, and C of the work plan are outlined on the slides, do they need to be specific on the work plan or are they intended to be determined as the work plan goes through the year?

Andy: Project A is really to have our deputy director participate and lead the Joint Technical committee, which hasn't been very active. Andy would like to talk to the board about carry over funds as well, and how best to use them for the region. The three-category structure provides flexibility for projects.

Director Meigs: Should there be a footnote in the work plan to provide clarity?

Director Patterson moved to accept the work plan, pending the above-mentioned changes. Director Fraites seconded. Unanimously accepted.

8. Board Information Exchange and Drought Updates

Director Gibson: MMWD has completed a number of studies over the years. They are now working with Jacobs Engineering designed to search for ways to increase water supply and making it more secure. They are also working with Sonoma Water for a similar study for better integration for the North Bay water system and One Water approach. He has asked Andy to look into having the team leader from Jacobs Engineering to give a presentation to the NBWA Board on their work.

They have completed some significant infrastructure improvements to allow them to take more water (within their contract limit).

Director Garcia: American Canyon has a lot of programs going on- Recycled water delivery is being renewed. One Water is up online for water monitoring. New construction takes into consideration water conservation to maintain resiliency.

Director Meigs: RVSD's newsletter recaps their lateral replacement grant program; since 2009 they have given their customers ~\$5M toward a lateral grant replacement program and have instituted low interest loans.

Director Carson: The stormwater programs in Marin, Sonoma, Napa, and Solano put on a new and redevelopment stormwater requirements workshop on April 12 which will be online soon. It was mainly for municipal staff, but there's another one being planned for the morning of June 7th that will be open to all the private development community to assist them to best implement stormwater requirements in their projects for the north bay. Anyone interested, contact him.

Director Patterson: Did you discuss stormwater in hilly communities, Benicia is right at the waterline?

Carson: The workshop is aimed at helping folks navigate how to implement stormwater permit compliance with their projects.

Director Fraites: Brought up Director Boorstein's message in the chat: Article in today's Marin Independent Journal on recycled water by Steve Moore, GM of RVSD
<https://www.marinij.com/2022/05/05/marin-voice-new-water-ethic-should-include-drinking-recycled-wastewater/>

He commented on the article touching on water ethic and drinking recycled wastewater. He thinks the article is worth a read for everyone.

North Marin finally settled on some areas where they may be able to increase water supply. Including recycle water facility increases. There may be an opportunity to have another reservoir north of Novato; they're looking into it.

Director Clark: They are looking for a new General Manager. They are finishing their Secondary Treatment and Water Recycle expansion this year. Focusing on the Operational Control center and laboratory and will include a public education facility on the top floor. They are considering the education piece to be in a different area, due to building height requirements.

9. **Announcements and Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 am

Next Meeting: June 3, 2022, Zoom

SUBMITTED BY: Andy Rodgers, Executive Director, NBWA