

Minutes of Meeting

8:30 A.M., Wednesday, December 13,

2017

David C. Joseph Meeting Room
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Audio recordings of Board meetings are available at: [North Coast Water Board](#), go to the Board Info tab and click on Meetings.

ii. Roll Call and Introductions

Board Members present: Hector Bedolla, John Corbett, Kelli Gant, Gregory Giusti, David Noren, and Valerie Minton Quinto.

Regional Water Board staff present: Stephen Bargsten, Fred Blatt, Jim Burke, Katharine Carter, Patti Corsie, Clayton Creager, Josh Curtis, Mona Dougherty, Kason Grady, Nathan Jacobsen, Shin-Roei Lee, Jeremiah Puget, Charles Reed, Evelyn Reynolds, Matt St. John, Chuck Striplen, and Claudia Villacorta.

i. Pledge of Allegiance

Board member Hector Bedolla led the Pledge of Allegiance.

iii. Board Member Reports and Ex Parte Communication Disclosure:

- Board member Quinto attended a meeting at the Regional Board office regarding the Russian River with various stakeholders and wanted the Board to know that numerous folks noted the fantastic work that the Regional Water Board staff have accomplished on various Russian River issues.
- Board member Gant attended the Water Quality Coordination Committee (WQCC) and an Environmental Justice Summit at the State Water Board in Sacramento, and met with Regional Board staff to discuss Environmental Justice issues facing the North Coast.
- Board member Corbett met with Gary Rynearson, Green Diamond Resource Company (GDRC) and discussed timber regulatory issues.

iv. Executive Officer's Report: Matt St. John, Executive Officer introduced new staff and staff assignments. Mr. St. John welcomed Michael Huma, Engineering Geologist, and Devon Jorgensen, Engineering Geologist, to the Northern Nonpoint Source & Forestry Unit, along with Tom Magney, Engineering Geologist and Paul Nelson, Engineering Geologist to the Cleanup Unit.

State Board Liaison, Steven Moore updated the Board on:

- Budget issues
- Recent and upcoming activities at the State Water Board
- Drought issues
- Legislation passed or pending.

v. **Public Forum:**

No Public Forum speakers.

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** August 17, 2017

Motion: Board member Quinto moved to adopt, Board member Gant seconded the motion; Chairman Noren initiated a roll-call vote:

Quinto aye
Bedolla aye
Corbett aye
Noren aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Consideration of Resolution expressing appreciation to Geoffrey Hales.** Chairman Noren read the Resolution expressing appreciation to Geoffrey Hales for his many years of dedication and service on the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Uncontested Items

3. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2017-0046 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for the Willits Environmental Remediation Trust, Page Property, WDID No. 1B06008NMEN, NPDES No. CA0025143** (*Cody Walker*)
4. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2017-0047 Modifying Waste Discharge Requirements/NPDES Permit, Order No. R1-2016-0015 for the City of Healdsburg Wastewater Treatment, Recycling, and Disposal Facility, WDID No. 1B82046OSON, NPDES No. CA0025135** (*Cathleen Goodwin*)
5. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2017-0048 Modifying Cease and Desist Order No. R1-2012-0011 for the Forestville Water District Wastewater Treatment, Recycling, and Disposal Facility, WDID No. 1B83100OSON, NPDES No. CA0023043** (*Cathleen Goodwin*)

6. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2017-0038 to consider adoption of proposed Rescission of NPDES Permit and Cease and Desist Order for the City of Tulalake Wastewater Treatment Facility, WDID No. 1A84002OSIS, NPDES No. CA0023272, Rescinding Orders R1-2013-0030 and R1-2013-0029** (*Justin McSmith*)
7. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2017-0013 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for Virginia Dare Winery, WDID No. 1B83017OSON** (*Rachel Prat*)
8. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2017-0039 to consider adoption of proposed Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Specific Categories of Low Threat Discharge in the North Coast Region** (*Charles Reed*). After asking for any opposition from the public, Chairman Noren moved Action Item 8, including the change sheet, to the Uncontested Items list.

Motion: Board member Corbett moved to adopt Uncontested Items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 with change sheet; Board member Quinto seconded the motion; Chairman Noren initiated a roll-call vote:

Quinto aye
Bedolla aye
Corbett aye
Noren aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

9. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2017-0056 to consider adoption of proposed Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Disaster-Related Wastes during a State of Emergency within the North Coast Region.** Charles Reed, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Groundwater Permitting Unit, gave a presentation on the Atlas, Nuns, Pocket, Redwood Valley, Tubbs, and Sulphur fires and associated debris facts and figures, fire debris management structure, debris types, and the long-term strategy for the disaster related waste that is covered by the proposed Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements.

Comments were taken from:

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee
- Bob Legge, Russian Riverkeeper
- Mark Soiland, Local Business Owner/Stony Point Quarry

Board member Giusti moved to adopt, Board member Corbett seconded the motion; Chairman Noren initiated a roll-call vote:

Quinto aye
Bedolla aye
Corbett aye
Noren aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Workshops

No Workshop Items were scheduled

Information Items

10. **Update on Cannabis Regulatory Program.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer introduced and welcomed Brian Fuller, Engineering Geologist, and Caila Heintz, Environmental Scientist to the Compliance Assurance Unit; along with Christopher Dillis, Environmental Scientist, and Katharine Hawken, Water Resource Control Engineer, to the Cannabis Regulatory Unit. Kason Grady, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Cannabis Regulatory Unit, introduced Erin Ragazzi, State Water Board Division of Water Rights and Tim O'Brien, State Water Board Division of Water Quality. Ms. Ragazzi gave a presentation on the Statewide Cannabis Policy, Small Irrigation Use registration, Application portal, and Coordination and Outreach. Tim O'Brien gave a presentation on the Cannabis General Order and its requirements and exemptions. Mr. Grady gave an update of the implementation strategies of Region 1's Cannabis Program, including Enforcement, Interagency Coordination, Education and Outreach, and technological projects of 1) Computer Vision Project, 2) Cannabis Identification and Prioritization System (CIPS), and 3) Electronic Field Data Collection.

Comments were taken from:

- Bob Legge, Russian Riverkeeper
15. **Closed session:** The Board met in closed session to discuss significant exposure to litigation and the petitions regarding Order No. R1-2016-0004.
 11. **Update on Regional Water Board's Post Fire Response and Recovery Actions.** Regional Water Board staff gave a panel presentation on the Regional Water Board's post-fire response and recovery efforts, including the following topics:
 - Matt St. John, Executive Officer, introduced the item.

- Jim Burke, Senior Engineering Geologist, Southern Nonpoint Source & Forestry Unit, overview of the Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT) goals.
- Josh Curtis, Assistant Executive Officer, California's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) mission task to the Regional Board.
- Mona Dougherty, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer (WRCE), NPDES Unit, coordination with City and County officials for compliance with the various directives for Municipal Stormwater (MS4) Program, and applying for Cleanup and Abatement Account Grants to immediately fund erosion control measures.
- Jeremiah Puget, Senior Groundwater Specialist, Point Source Control & Groundwater Protection Division, the Urban Assessment Plan and the Threat Mitigation Projects with Best Management Practices (BMPs) for erosion control measures.
- Chuck Striplen, Environmental Scientist (ES), Adaptive Management Unit, data collection and information management.
- Claudia Villacorta, Supervising WRCE, Point Source Control & Groundwater Protection Division, fire debris management using a temporary Conditional Waiver that expires 12/31/17, and a long-term 5-year Conditional Waiver effective from 1/1/2018 to 1/1/2023.
- Stephen Bargsten, Senior ES, Nonpoint Source & 401 Certification Unit, 401 Permit process for fire recovery projects.
- Katharyn Carter, Senior ES, Adaptive Management Unit, fire recovery funding sources through the State Water Board's 2018 Nonpoint Source and 319(h) Grant funding and the near term monitoring and assessment results and plans for long-term monitoring.
- Clayton Creager, Senior Watershed Stewardship Coordinator, coordination with Cities, Counties, State and Federal partners.

Comments were taken from:

- Steve Calanog , Sonoma County Incident Captain, U.S. EPA
- Carmel Angelo, Executive Officer, Mendocino County
- Ben Horenstein, Santa Rosa Water Agency
- Bill Keene, Sonoma County Agricultural & Open Space District
- Corey O'Donald, Sonoma County & Sonoma County Watershed Task Force
- Will Stockard, Storm Water Coordinator, Sonoma County
- Sheri Miller & Janice Thomas, SWRCB Division of Drinking Water
- Bob Legge, Russian Riverkeeper

12. **Executive Officer's Report.** See item iv; no additional discussion.
13. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items.** Board member Corbett requested a review as part of the Triennial Review of the development process and consideration of alternative options to TMDLs. Board member Giusti inquired about the California Fish and Wildlife Commission to suspend the abalone season in the North Coast and the possible water quality factors. Board member Gant requested that we bring an Environmental Justice item to the Board.
14. **Other Items of Interest.** No Other Items of Interest requested.

15. **Closed session:** The Board continued closed session to finish the discussion of significant exposure to litigation and to discuss initiated petitions for the residents of Elk River.

16. **Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**

8:30 a.m., Thursday, February 8, 2018

5550 Skylane Blvd, Suite A

Santa Rosa, CA

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Chairperson _____

Date _____