

Minutes of Meeting

8:30 A.M., Wednesday, May 18, 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, Geoffrey Hales, and Valerie Minton

Board Members absent: David Noren

Regional Water Board staff present: Shawn Agarwal, Lisa Bernard, Jo Bentz, Cheri Blatt, Fred Blatt, Jim Burke, Katharine Carter, Clayton Creager, Josh Curtis, Mona Dougherty, Stormer Feiler, Craig Hunt, Nathan Jacobsen, Imtiaz-Ali Kalyan, Paul Keiren, David Kuszmar, Alydda Mangelsdorf, Justin McSmith, Jeremiah Puget, Charles Reed, Matt St. John, and Claudia Villacorta

i. Pledge of Allegiance

Board member Hales led the Pledge of Allegiance.

iii. Board Member Reports and Ex Parte Communication Disclosure:

- Board member Corbett attended and was part of a speaker panel at a Marine Coordination meeting with State Water Board and California Fish & Wildlife.
- Vice-Chair Minton informed the Board that this is Board member Hales last Board meeting.

iv. State Board Liaison's Report:

The State Board Liaison, Steven Moore updated the Board:

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

v. Public Forum:

Comments were taken from:

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee
- Bob Legge, Russian River Riverkeeper

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** March 8, 2017

Motion: Board member Corbett moved to adopt, Board member Bedolla seconded the motion; Vice-Chair Minton initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla aye
Hales abstained
Corbett aye
Minton aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed five ayes and one abstained.

Uncontested Items

2. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2017-0014 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for County of Sonoma, County Service Area 41, Zone 2, The Sea Ranch Association Onsite Wastewater Management Zone, WDID No. 1B89051RSON** (*Rachel Prat*)

Motion: Board member Corbett moved to adopt Uncontested Item 2, Board member Hales seconded the motion; Vice-Chair Minton initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla aye
Corbett aye
Minton aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Action Items

No Action Items were scheduled

Workshops

No Workshops were scheduled

Information Items

3. **Presentation on the Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Lake Clarity Crediting Program.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer (EO) introduced Dr. Amy

Horne, Board member, and Robert Larsen, Senior Environmental Scientist, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board. Dr. Horne gave a presentation on the Lake Tahoe TMDL, which is a science-based plan to restore Lake Tahoe's clarity that has three phases: 1) Science Phase started in 1959 to 2010; 2) Regulatory Strategy Phase started in 2005 to 2010; 3) Implementation Phase started in 2010 and is ongoing. Robert Larsen reviewed the Lake Clarity Credit Program (LCCP) processes; implementation tools; ways to earn credits; sharing credits across jurisdictions; and the LCCP report card results.

Comments were taken from:

- Alan Levine, Public

4. **Update on activities of the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA).** Matt St. John, EO, introduced Mark Landman, Chair, Mark Millan, Vice-Chair, and Andy Rodgers, Executive Director, RRWA, who stated that the RRWA is made up of a coalition of eleven cities, counties and special districts in the Russian River Watershed that have come together to coordinate regional programs for 1) Clean water; 2) Habitat restoration; and 3) Watershed enhancement. Mr. Rodgers gave an overview of the RRWA's watershed facts, RRWA's role in the watershed, its structure, and programs including: 1) MS4 Permit compliance support; 2) Community outreach with monthly environmental articles, social media, website and an annual high school video contest; 3) Safe medicine disposal; 4) Russian River friendly landscape guidelines; 5) Low Impact Development (LID) training; and 6) Grant funding (Storm Water Resource Plan).
5. **Update on the State Water Board's Water Quality Enforcement Policy.** Matt St. John, EO, introduced Cris Carrigan, Director, and Yvonne West, Attorney, Office of Enforcement, State Water Resources Control Board. Mr. Carrigan gave a presentation to the Board on the structure & services of the Office of Enforcement, with a review of the 2017 Water Quality Enforcement Policy with amendments, settlement considerations in Administrative Civil Liability actions, and the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Policy.

Comments were taken from:

- Don McEnhill, Russian Riverkeeper
6. **Salts and Nutrients in Groundwater: Considerations for Regulatory Actions.** Jeremiah Puget, Groundwater Specialist, Point Source Control & Groundwater Protection Division, gave a presentation and overview on how effluent and receiving water limitations are developed for regulatory actions, the various concentrations of numeric water quality objectives related to salts and nutrients, and defined the narrative objectives, along with a review of the recent changes to the Basin Plan for salts and nutrients in groundwater. Mr. Puget took an in depth look at nitrate and total dissolved solids (TDS) objectives and trends in four priority basins: 1) Smith River Plain; 2) Eel River Valley; 3) Ukiah Valley; and 4) Wilson Grove Formation.
 7. **Update on the Industrial Storm Water General Permit.** Mona Dougherty, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, NPDES Unit, gave an update on the Industrial Storm Water program by reviewing the significant changes made to the Industrial

Storm Water General Permit (IGP) effective July 1, 2015, along with the results from the 2015-2016 annual reports; and highlighted the challenging compliance issues with various industrial dischargers. The current priorities of the storm water program is to focus on enforcement measures for dischargers that: 1) Fail to submit reports; 2) Fail to sample; 3) Have inadequate best management practices; and, 4) Non-filers; and to begin enrolling soil mixers in the IGP. The future priorities are to consider enrollment of mobile industries and to work with sites not subject to the storm water program that have water quality issues.

8. **Executive Officer's Report.** Matt St. John gave an update on the Regional Board's Cannabis Regulatory Program enrollment numbers and enrollment enforcement responses. Staff continue to work with State Water Board staff to schedule the Elk River TMDL hearing before the State Water Board.
9. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items.** Board member Gant requested that a link to the Executive Officer's Enforcement Report be included on Region 1's Enforcement webpage to provide better access to the report. Board member Corbett requested an update on the Elk River Watershed Stewardship and Recovery Assessment work. Mr. Corbett also inquired about the status of the case *Friends of the Eel River v. North Coast Railroad Authority*, a case pending before the California Supreme Court where the Court will consider whether the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) applies to state agency approvals and actions for a state-owned and funded rail line, or if CEQA considerations are preempted by Federal law.
10. **Other Items of Interest.** Board member Giusti recognized and thanked Board member Hales for his outstanding work throughout his tenure as a Board member. Board member Corbett recognized Acting-Chairwoman Minton for her outstanding job as Acting-Chairwoman.
11. **Closed session:** The Board did not have closed session.
12. **Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**
8:30 a.m., Thursday, June 29, 2017

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Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Chairperson _____

Date _____