

Minutes of Meeting

8:30 A.M., Thursday, June 29, 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, Valerie Minton, and David Noren.

Regional Water Board staff present: Lisa Bernard, Cheri Blatt, Fred Blatt, Jim Burke, Steve Butkus, Terri Cia, Clayton Creager, Josh Curtis, Nick Cusick, Mona Dougherty, Michelle Fortner, Callie Grant, Nathan Jacobsen, Imtiaz-Ali Kalyan, David Kuszmar, Shin-Roei Lee, Josh Luders, Alydda Mangelsdorf, Justin McSmith, Jeremiah Puget, Berney Reed, Matt St. John, Chuck Striplen, and Claudia Villacorta.

i. Pledge of Allegiance

Board member Bedolla led the Pledge of Allegiance.

iii. Board Member Reports and Ex Parte Communication Disclosure:

- Board member Corbett had an inquiry from Jennifer Kalt, Humboldt Baykeeper Director, regarding the water credit program for the Laguna de Santa Rosa watershed, he referred her to Region 1 staff. Mr. Corbett attended a conference on Global Warming & Sea Level Rise, along with Lance Le, Water Resource Control Engineer, Planning Unit, North Coast Regional Water Board.

iv. State Board Liaison's Report:

The State Water Board Liaison, Steven Moore was not in attendance.

Executive Officer's Report:

Matt St. John, Executive Officer (EO) spoke to the Board on personnel related announcements:

- Introduced and welcomed Josh Luders, Water Resource Control Engineer, Cannabis Regulatory Unit, to the North Coast Water Board.
- Katharine Carter, Senior Environmental Scientist received a promotion to Senior (Supervisor) of the Adaptive Management Unit.
- The Cannabis Unit received eight additional positions from the Governor's budget, increasing the total Cannabis program team to 17 at Region 1. A new Cannabis Division will be formed, including a new Division Chief.
- Region 1 received one new engineer position of five Statewide positions, for the Agricultural Lands Program for FY 17/18. This will allow for development of the region's Vineyard and Orchards permit in earnest within the next couple of years.

v. **Public Forum:**

Comments were taken from:

- Alan Levine, Coast Action Group
- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee
- Felice Pace, on behalf of Environmental Protection Information Center

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** May 18, 2017

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

Bedolla aye
Minton aye
Corbett aye
Noren abstained
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed five ayes and one abstained.

Information Items

6. **Process and Opportunities for Public Comment on Regional Board Agenda Items.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer (EO), and Nathan Jacobsen (Attorney of Office of Chief Counsel) gave a joint presentation on clarifying the process and opportunities for public comment on agenda items before the Regional Water Board as it pertains to: 1) Public Forum; 2) Adjudicative hearings; 3) Basin Plan Amendments; 4) Information items; and, 5) Ex Parte limitations on Board member and public input on pending Board items.

Comments were taken from:

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

Uncontested Items

No Uncontested Items were scheduled

Action Items

No Action Items were scheduled

Workshops

2. **Workshop on the Draft Water Quality Trading Framework for the Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed, to be Approved by Resolution of the Regional Water Board.** David Kuszmar, Water Resources Control Engineer, Planning Unit, gave a presentation on the history of the Laguna de Santa Rosa watershed. Mr. Kuszmar reviewed watershed conditions and regulatory actions to date; the local efforts supporting Water Quality Trading (WQT); and the Regional Board staff's approach, guiding principles, and flow chart for the Draft Framework structure, along with the next steps of the adoption process for the WQT Framework Resolution for the Laguna de Santa Rosa watershed. Bobby Cochran of the Willamette Partnership provided an overview of national efforts supporting WQT.

Comments were taken from:

- Sean McNiel, City of Santa Rosa
- Veronica Astells, Town of Windsor
- Don McEnhill, Russian Riverkeeper
- Bob Legge, Russian Riverkeeper
- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

Information Items

3. **Flow Enhancement Opportunities Identified through the Scott Valley Groundwater Study.** Bryan McFadin, Senior Water Resources Control Engineer, Flow & Riparian Protection Specialist, gave a short history and background of the Scott Valley Groundwater Study and introduced Dr. Thomas Harter, Robert M. Hagan Endowed Chair in Water Management and Policy, UC Davis and Gus Tolley, Ph. D. candidate, UC Davis, who gave a presentation on the flow enhancement opportunities with use of conjunctive water management of: 1) Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR); 2) In Lieu Recharge (ILR); 3) Combination of MAR & ILR; and 4) Beaver Dams, and outlined the potential for streamflow increases in the Scott River.

Comments were taken from:

- Felice Pace, North Coast Stream Flow Coalition & North Group Sierra Club

4. **Update on the Shasta River Stewardship Report.** Clayton Creager, Watershed Stewardship Coordinator, introduced Eli Scott, Environmental Scientist, Planning Unit, and gave a review and background of the Watershed Stewardship Approach: Adaptive Management Cycle utilized in the Shasta River Watershed. Mr. Scott

gave a presentation on the Stewardship Report summary, Water Quality status and trends, and reviewed the next steps for the Stewardship Report and continued implementation of the Shasta River TMDL.

Workshops

5. **Renewal of the Scott River (Order No. R1-2017-0031) and Shasta River (Order No. R1-2017-0032) TMDL Conditional Waivers of Waste Discharge Requirements.** Eli Scott, Environmental Scientist, Planning Unit, gave a presentation on the overall regulatory approach taken in the Scott and Shasta River Watersheds; the Waiver conditions and progress to date; reviewed the changes to the draft Waivers; along with the implementation approach and the adoption timeline.

Comments were taken from:

- Regina Chichizola, Pacific Coast Federation Fishermen's Association/Save Klamath Trinity Salmon
- Felice Pace, North Group Redwood Chapter Sierra Club

Information Items

7. **Executive Officer's Report.** Matt St. John, EO pointed to the written articles in the Executive Officer's Report, and informed the Board that the Elk River TMDL hearing is on the State Water Board's Agenda for August 1, 2017 Board meeting, located at 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA., and Chairman Noren, Board member Corbett, will be attending the hearing along with staff.
8. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items.** No requests for future Agenda items by the Board.
9. **Other Items of Interest.** No other items requested.
10. **Closed session:** The Board did not meet in closed session.
11. **Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**
8:30 a.m., Thursday, August 17, 2017
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Chairperson _____

Date _____