

Minutes of Meeting

8:30 A.M., Thursday, October 20, 2016
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.

i. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Board member Gant led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ii. **Roll Call and Introductions**

Board Members present: John Corbett, Kelli Gant, Gregory Giusti, Geoffrey Hales, Valerie Minton, and David Noren

Regional Water Board staff present: Elizabeth Beryt, Fred Blatt, Katharine Carter, Terri Cia, Clayton Creager, Josh Curtis, Rebecca Fitzgerald, Cathy Goodwin, Kason Grady, Craig Hunt, Nathan Jacobsen, Wendy Jones, Beth Lamb, Lance Le, Shin-Roei Lee, Carrieann Lopez, Bryan McFadin, Jeremiah Puget, Berny Reed, Charles Reed, Matt St. John, Chuck Striplen, Claudia Villacorta, and Jonathan Warmerdam

iii. **Board Member Reports and Ex Parte Communication Disclosure:**

- Board member Hales had a telephone conversation with Mike Miles, Humboldt Redwood Company, regarding scheduling issues for November's Agenda Item on the Upper Elk River Waste Discharge Requirements.
- Board member Noren had conversations with the regulated community about cannabis.
- Chairman Corbett attended the opening of the Marine Aquatic Center in Humboldt County.
- Board member Gant attended Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting. Board member Gant also wanted to thank Dean Prat, Senior Engineering Geologist, Northern Nonpoint Source & Forestry Unit, and Fred Blatt, Division Chief, Nonpoint Source & Surface Water Protection Division, for working with the Shasta/Trinity Forest Ranger, Tom Hall to work through issues that the Trinity Collaborative is having with the Water Board on some of their timber projects.

iv. **State Board Liaison and Executive Officer's Reports.**

The 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:**

Comments were taken from:

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** August 11, 2016

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

Minton aye
Hales aye
Noren aye
Corbett aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously

Uncontested Items

2. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2016-0034 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Highly Treated Groundwater to Surface Waters following Extraction and Treatment of Groundwater Polluted with Petroleum Hydrocarbons and Volatile Organic Compounds, General NPDES No. CAG911001.**

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

Minton aye
Hales aye
Noren aye
Corbett aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously

Action Items

No Action Items were scheduled

Workshops

No Workshops were scheduled

Information Items

3. **Update on Development of the Groundwater Protection Strategy.** Jeremiah Puget, Senior Environmental Scientist, Groundwater Specialist, Protection Division, gave an update on the development of the Groundwater Protection Strategy by reviewing the water quality objectives of groundwater toxicity, chemical constituents, beneficial use designation, impacts to beneficial uses, data collection, risk assessment, basin prioritization, program management, partnering with local, state and federal entities, funding, working with local entities on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), adaptive management driven by data from risk assessments, Regional Monitoring Programs and GeoTracker/GAMA, along with the next steps on the development of the Groundwater Protection Strategy.

Comments were taken from:

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

4. **Overview of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program's (SWAMP) regional and statewide projects.** Rebecca Fitzgerald, Senior Environmental Scientist, Adaptive Watershed Management Unit, introduced Lori Webber, SWAMP Coordinator, State Water Resource Control Board, and Rich Fadness, Engineering Geologist, Regional SWAMP Coordinator, Adaptive Watershed Management Unit. Ms. Webber gave an overview of SWAMPS's history and mission, the core program elements of: 1) Ambient Monitoring Programs; 2) Information Management; 3) Coordination. Ms. Fitzgerald updated the Board on the current regional monitoring projects of: 1) Fish Consumption Advisory Monitoring; 2) Russian River Contaminants of Emerging Concern Assessment; 3) Smith River Plain Water Quality Assessment; 4) Cyanobacteria and Harmful Algal Blooms Monitoring; 5) Garcia River Sediment Assessment; and 6) reporting on Regional Status and Trends Assessments; along with a review of the future 2017-2020 regional monitoring projects including: 1) Cyanobacteria & Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring; 2) Garcia River Watershed Sediment Monitoring; 3) Elk River Sediment Monitoring; 4) Shasta River Temperature & Nutrient Monitoring; 5) Regional Stream Temperature Monitoring; 6) Regional Stream Flow Monitoring; 7) National Forest Service Bacteria Speciation; and 8) Watershed-Focused Conditions Monitoring.

6. **The Marine Life Protection Act and the Nexus with Water Quality Protection.** Becky Ota, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, gave an overview and background of the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA), design and designation, and the management of Marine Protection Areas. Erin Meyer, Ocean Science Trust, gave an overview and background of the Ocean Science Trust, and how California's Marine Protected Areas (MPA) are monitored, along with developing a program management team for Regional MPA Baseline Programs that consists of the following organizations: 1) California Ocean Science Trust; 2) California Department of Fish & Wildlife; 3) California Ocean Protection Council; and 4) Sea Grant California, to plan and implement baseline monitoring of the state's network of Marine Protected Areas.

7. **Marine Protected Areas and the Collaborative Network.** Paul Hobi, MPA Collaborative Network, gave an overview of the Statewide Collaborative Network of engaging local stakeholders; utilizing area experts and sharing resources; local outreach; improving enforcement; connecting citizens with monitoring; facilitating communication with State agencies for local input and projects. He identified four active MPA Collaboratives in the North Coast region: 1) Del Norte County MPA; 2) Humboldt County MPA; 3) Mendocino County MPA; and 4) Sonoma County MPA, and that they are interested in water quality and the potential to partner on community based projects.

Comments were taken from:

- Al Gerhardt, Public

Chairman Corbett presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the North Coast Regional Board to Becky Ota, Erin Meyer and Paul Hobi for their exceptional work to protect, sustain, and conserve the natural diversity and abundance of marine life and with structure, function, and integrity of marine ecosystems.

5. **Update on the State Water Resources Control Board's Cannabis Cultivation and Water Rights Effort.** Dan Schultz, State Water Resources Control Board, gave an overview and history of Senate Bill (SB) 837, *Medical Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act*; that includes the State Water Board responsibilities; interim principles and guidelines; implementation and enforcement; potential regional boundaries; and key milestones and schedule. He also described the future registration program to develop general terms and conditions for small irrigation use registration program to support cannabis cultivation statewide.

Comments were taken from:

- Al Gerhardt, Public

8. **Executive Officer's Report.** Please see Executive Officer's written report.
9. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items.** No requests were made.
10. **Other Items of Interest.** Board member Noren asked for information on Safe Harbor Agreements.

11. **Other Items of Interest.** No items to discuss.
12. **Closed session:** The Board met in closed session. The Board reaffirmed Matt St. John as the Executive Officer of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.
13. **Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**
9:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 30, 2016
Eureka City Hall
Eureka Council Chambers
531 K Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Chairperson _____

Date _____