

North Bay Water Reuse Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
July 26, 2016

1. Call to Order

Chair Rabbitt called the meeting to order at 1:39 p.m. on Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at the City of Petaluma Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility. 3890 Cypress Drive, CA 94954. Consultants and others who were unable to attend participated via telephone, 1 (602) 567-4030, passcode 1980; <https://conferencing.brwnald.com/conference/1980>.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT:	David Rabbitt, Chair	Sonoma County Water Agency
	Bill Long, Vice Chair	Novato Sanitary District
	Jack Baker	North Marin Water District
	Keith Caldwell	Napa County
	Grant Davis	Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District
	Rabi Elias	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District
	David Glass	City of Petaluma
	Larry Russell	Marin Municipal Water District (by telephone)
	Jill Techel	Napa Sanitation District

ABSENT: City of American Canyon, Marin County

OTHERS

PRESENT:	Chuck Weir, Program Manager	Weir Technical Services
	Kevin Booker	Sonoma County Water Agency
	Ginger Bryant	Bryant & Associates
	Chris DeGabriele	North Marin Water District
	David Graves	Napa Sanitation District
	Tim Healy	Napa Sanitation District
	Pam Jeane	Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District
	Susan McGuire	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District
	Mark Millan	Data Instincts
	Pilar Oñate-Quintana	The Oñate Group (by telephone)
	Dan St. John	City of Petaluma
	Mike Savage	Brown and Caldwell
	Brad Sherwood	Sonoma County Water Agency
	Jake Spaulding	Sonoma County Water Agency
	Dawn Taffler	Kennedy Jenks Consultants (by telephone)
	Jeff Tucker	Napa Sanitation District
	Leah Walker	City of Petaluma

3. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public

4. Introductions

Introductions were not made.

5. Board Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2016.

A motion by Director Techel, seconded by Director Baker to approve the April 25, 2016 minutes was unanimously approved.

6. Report from the Program Manager

The Board reviewed the consultant progress reports for June 2016. The Program Manager highlighted the remaining agenda items.

a. Consultant Progress Reports

The Board reviewed the consultant progress reports for June 2016.

7. Financial Report for the Period Ending June 30, 2016

The Board reviewed the Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2016 and noted expenses for Fiscal Year 2015/16 are tracking within budget. The Board was informed of a needed correction of \$24,000 for The Ferguson Group should be charged to Phase 2 and not split 30%/70% between Phase 1 and Phase 2. A final corrected Financial Report for FY2015/16 will be presented at the next meeting.

8. Program Development, Federal, and State Advocacy Update

The following items were discussed: State Advocacy, Program Development and Federal Advocacy and related outreach efforts.

Pilar Oñate-Quintana discussed State Advocacy and noted that SB163 Hertzberg has been pulled from this session due to water and wastewater agency opposition to SB163. She also noted that Senator Hertzberg will reintroduce a similar bill next year. The Board requested a copy of the CASA letter. She also noted that the remaining Prop. 1 funds, \$320,000,000, will be appropriated to the State Water Board per the State budget as passed in June.

Ginger Bryant provided an update on Program Development and Federal Advocacy, including \$21,500,000 for Title XVI projects through the Senate energy and Water Appropriations bill. The bill includes an additional \$100,000,000 for drought relief projects in the West. She also discussed Western Water Drought Bill will include expansion of WaterSMART Grants, Title XVI reform, and the RIFIA program. She also described NBWRA efforts related to Phase 2 authorization language. Lastly she noted there are three pages of support letters for the Feinstein Bill on the Western Water Priorities website, <http://westernwaterpriorities.org/>.

9. Outreach Program Update.

Mark Millan gave an update on the Western Water Priorities and NBWRA websites and that they were preparing for the next trip to Washington D.C. in September.

10. Engineering, Environmental, and Public Involvement Services Report

Mike Savage gave an update on the production and comment schedule for the chapters in the Feasibility Study Report.

11. Phase 2 Agencies Present Revised List of Projects for Phase 2 Environmental Analysis, Discussion of Impacts of Revisions, and Consideration of approval of a Final List of Projects

Representatives from the Phase 2 member agencies provided updates on their projects as follows:

- Novato Sanitary District – Leave Options 1 & 2 in the Programmatic Column.
- City of Petaluma – Their projects are okay as listed and there is no need for analysis on storage.
- Napa Sanitation District – They have two small projects in the EIR/EIS and no Programmatic projects
- Sonoma County Water Agency and Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District – Their projects are okay as listed.

Mike Savage made note of the changes. Chair Rabbitt noted that the list would be revisited in August pending approval of changes recommended in Item No. 12.

12. Update and Recommendations from Governance Task Force

Chair Rabbitt gave a presentation on issues related to the Phase 2 Project list, communication, decision making, and governance flaws. He stressed that NBWRA is a very successful program that is lauded by USBR and the Obama Administration. He expressed concern that the current list of Phase 2 projects will not utilize the full \$80,000,000 available and that efforts should be made to include additional projects to better spread costs and make the program as competitive for federal funding as possible. He described recommendations to address the identified issues, including not having separate Board and TAC meetings, revisions to the meeting schedule, and placing a hold on the EIR/EIS process for six months while additional projects and or members were sought.

Director Techel noted that agencies were encouraged to add lots of projects at the beginning of the Feasibility Study and that her agency has eliminated those projects that will not work. She also suggested that a flow chart detailing how the recommended changes would work would be helpful for the Board to better understand the recommendations. Director Long inquired about possible additional projects and requested a list of organizations and possible projects at the next meeting. He also noted that the Board would be best at bringing in additional agencies and managing consultant expenses. Grant Davis spoke in support of the TAC having properly represented their agencies and that NBWRA needs to support Title XVI and develop a better spread of operating costs. Directors Elias and Glass spoke in support of improving how NBWRA functions. Director Caldwell stated that the recommendations are consistent with the Governance Task Force discussions.

Following additional discussion, on a motion by Director Glass, seconded by Director Elias, to approve Chair Rabbitt's recommendations was approved by a vote of 8 – 1, with Director Techel voting no. The approved recommendations are:

Changes in Board/TAC meeting process

- 6 joint Board/TAC meetings a year (January, March, May, July, September, and October)
- Alternating months off for individual agency work
- Items will be presented for Discussion and scheduled for Action at the following meeting
- Board Member's report agency preferences at meetings
- New Meeting Dates to accommodate NBWRA Business through 2016:

August 22, 2016 (new meeting date)
September 19, 2016 (current TAC only changed to new Joint Board/TAC)
October 24, 2016 (regularly scheduled Board meeting, now joint Board/TAC)
December 19, 2016 (current TAC only changed to new Joint Board/TAC)

Actions on Phase 2 Studies

- Freeze initiation of the EIR/EIS at this time for six months
- Investigate options for moving forward with an expanded Phase 2 Program
- Report back on options at the October 24, 2016 meeting

It was also agreed to develop a list of organizations and projects and a flow chart outlining the decision making process for the August 22, 2016 meeting.

13. Comments from Chair and Board Members

Chair Rabbitt described his participation in two panel discussions at the recent National Association of Counties meeting. State Water Board Chair Felicia Marcus and representatives from USBR were also included. David Graves noted that Los Carneros Water District's recycled water project had its ribbon cutting ceremony and that the system was now in operation using recycled water from Napa Sanitation District.

14. Adjournment

Chair Rabbitt adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting will be Monday, August 22, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. at a location to be determined.

Minutes approved by the Board August 22, 2016.



Charles V. Weir
Program Manager

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