

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JULY 10th TAC MEETING

Action Requested

Approval

**North Bay Water Reuse Authority
Technical Advisory Committee
Zoom Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2025
FINAL**

Approved _____

1. Call to Order and Self Introductions

Vice Chair Andrew Damron called the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday July 10, 2025. The meeting was a Zoom meeting only and attendees participated via the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89055428051>.

Committee Members Present

Andrew Damron, Vice Chair	Napa Sanitation
Brad Elliot	Sonoma Water
Grant Davis	Sonoma Water
Judd Goodman	Marin County FCD
Curtis Paxton	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District
Oriana Hart	City of Petaluma
Gina Benedetti-Petnic	City of Petaluma
Tony Williams	North Marin Water District
Paul Sellier	Marin Water

Consultant Team

Jim O'Toole, Program Manager	ESA
Rene Guillen	Brown & Caldwell
Mark Millan	Data Instincts

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved with no changes.

3. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

4. TAC Meeting Minutes of June 5, 2025

The minutes of the June 5, 2025 TAC Meeting were approved.

5. Resilience Arena Status Reports

The consultant team provided updates on several projects. Rene Guillen reported progress on the Grant Administration side, with all signatures collected and funds allocated for the City of Petaluma. Relating to the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP), the team is finalizing a technical

memorandum comparing regional water supply resiliency studies to drought response frameworks. Jim O'Toole discussed the Resiliency Arena for sea level rise adaptation, including ongoing work with the City of Petaluma and potential inclusion of American Canyon. Jim also mentioned that ESA is working on cost estimation updates for LGVSD and the City of Petaluma.

6. Status of Consultant Agreements for FY2024/25

Jim O'Toole presented updates on consultant agreements, noting that Sonoma Water is preparing a contract for ESA for program management services at \$50,000 for FY25/26, while Brown and Caldwell's contract carries over at \$267,000 and is in place.

7. North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA) and Debrief

Jim O'Toole provided a briefing on a lunch meeting between NBWRA representatives Jim O'Toole and Mark Millan with NBWA Executive Director Andy Rogers to discuss the differences and potential overlap between the North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA) and the North Bay Water Reclamation Authority (NBWRA). They clarified that while both organizations operate in the North Bay region and share similar goals like resiliency and climate change, their objectives and operational approaches differ. Jim highlighted that NBWRA focuses on implementing projects, such as the federally funded \$120 million Phase 1 Program, while NBWA emphasizes education, outreach, and collaboration. The consulting team, in particular, provides a distinction, allowing the planning, engineering and implementation of projects. The TAC agreed that maintaining the distinction between the two organizations is valuable, and Jim suggested that NBWRA should present at the NBWA conference in April to demonstrate its work and value. Slides providing a comparison between the two organizations were included in the TAC Agenda.

The team discussed the differentiation between NBWRA and NBWA, emphasizing the need to clarify their distinct roles and value statements, especially for new board members. Jim O'Toole and Grant Davis shared the origin, history and success of NBWRA, highlighting its ability to move forward large-scale projects and acquire federal and state funding. They also considered ways to engage board members more effectively, with suggestions for presentations at future board meetings.

The TAC also identified the need to discuss the use of Read.AI agents attending the TAC meeting; the TAC identified the preference for all TAC members to rely on meeting minutes, rather than AI notetaking agents, in order to encourage free discussion.

8. Proposition 4 Summary Guide

The team discussed Proposition 4 funding opportunities; Jim O'Toole presented an overview of \$2.7 billion in state funding through eight programs, including \$386 million for recycled water projects and \$85 million for San Francisco Bay sea level rise projects. Gina Benedetti-Petnic expressed interest in reviewing dam-related projects, though Tony Williams clarified that dam funding has been postponed until 2026, with only small spillway repairs eligible in the meantime. The team agreed to further investigate specific funding opportunities that align with their projects and criteria, with Jim offering the Consultant Team's support for grant applications.

9. Planning for NBWRA FY 26/27

The group discussed planning for the 2026-2027 budget, focusing on reviewing feasibility studies and project priorities with member agencies. Jim explained they want to have individual conversations with each agency to fine-tune priorities and align with their objectives, particularly regarding resilience projects. The team also discussed potential engagement with SMART, with Gina Benedetti-Petnic offering support for future discussions about their route through Petaluma and the possibility of SMART becoming an associate member of NBWRA.

10. Planning for September NBWRA Board Meeting

The TAC discussed scheduling an in-person meeting, with Tony Williams offering NMWD's boardroom for September 29th. Mark Millan recommended this date over December 15th due to better attendance prospects, and Grant Davis supported the in-person format to improve communication among board members. Tony Williams confirmed the NMWD Boardroom could accommodate 6-10 board members, with good Wi-Fi and presentation capabilities. The meeting was scheduled for 9:30-11:00 AM, with setup beginning at 9:00 AM.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice Chair Damron adjourned the meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.