NORTH BAY WATER DISTRICT

22950 Broadway, Sonoma, CA. 95476

**Board of Directors**

Mike Mulas, Chair (Sonoma Valley): Craig Jacobsen, Vice Chair (Sonoma Valley); Matthew Stornetta, Treasurer (Sonoma Valley); Carolyn Wasem, Secretary (Petaluma Valley); Mike Sangiacomo (Sonoma Valley)

SGMA Compliance Advisor: Mike Martini

Compliance/Website Advisor: GinaLisa Tamayo

SVGSA Advisor: Jim Bundschu, PVGSA Advisor: Eugene Camozzi

MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 12, 2025

TIME: 4:00pm

Location: 22950 Broadway, Schell-Vista Station #1 Sonoma CA 95476

and 2531 Grace Drive, Santa Rosa, Ca 95404

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm. Chair Mike Mulas, Craig Jacobsen, Mike Sangiacomo, and Carolyn Wasem (via Zoom) were present.

 2. CLOSED SESSION

No closed session

1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

(At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. For items appearing on the agenda, the public will be invited to make comments at the time the item comes up for consideration by the Board of Directors.) No members of the public were present.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chair Mulas asked for approval of the Minutes for the July 2025 meeting. Director Sangiacomo made a motion to approve the Minutes of the June 2025 meeting. Director Wasem seconded the motion. The July 2025 Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.

1. FINANCIAL REPORT

Chair Mulas reported that the NBWD account has $ 19,017.12. The Chair was notified that the Farm Bureau would be sending a $900 check related to the NBWD’s role in the CTS Safe Harbor. Chair Mulas asked for approval of the Financial Report. Director Wasem made a motion to approve the Financial Report. Director Sangiacomo seconded the motion. The July 2025 Financial Report was unanimously approved.

1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

**Item 1. Update from District Lawyer, Richard Idell**

Counselor Idell had nothing to report.

**Item 2: Report of Director Mike Sangiacomo on Sonoma Valley GSA**

The Sonoma Valley GSA Board of Directors has not held a meeting since the last NBWD Board meeting. The next meeting of the GSA will be held on October 27th. The next Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for September 16th.

Director Sangiacomo shared that on July 12th, an ad hoc committee met with agricultural representatives to discuss a potential 15% reduction in groundwater use from the baseline of 0.6 acre-feet per year. Both Bill Keene (SVGSA Administrator) and Marcus Trotta (GSA Staff Engineer) presented statistics and data on the basin and outlined potential pathways to achieve the reduction. Encouragingly, agricultural participants expressed receptiveness to making an effort toward the requested demand reduction. Other sectors, including rural residential, are also being asked to make reductions.

Chair Mulas asked how many agricultural representatives attended the meeting.

Director Sangiacomo reported that approximately 10 representatives were present.

Counselor Idell inquired how the GSA arrived at the 0.6 acre-feet figure.

Director Sangiacomo explained that it was based on a local-use model. He noted that the comparable Central Valley figure would exceed 1 acre-foot. The Sonoma Valley GSA also held focus groups to refine the estimate. Importantly, the 0.6 acre-feet applies only to groundwater use. The group also discussed strategies for collecting and storing more water during wet years. The 15% reduction request applies only to groundwater pumping.

Director Wasem reported that both Mr. Keene and Mr. Trotta had reached out to her regarding the confidentiality of groundwater use data. She shared examples of programs and contacts that have successfully developed systems to protect private landowner data, with the goal of encouraging agricultural water users to participate in groundwater monitoring and provide data that will inform future GSA models.

**Item 3: Report of Director Carolyn Wasem on Petaluma Valley GSA**

The Sonoma Valley GSA held a meeting on June 26th. Its next meeting will be on September 25th.

On August 21st, the event “Beneath the Surface” was held. Although Director Wasem did not attend, the program was described as a reflection on a decade of collaborative, community-based work to build groundwater sustainability in the Santa Rosa Plain and Petaluma Valley.

The event highlighted:

* Progress since the formation of the GSAs.
* The roles and responsibilities of the agencies (including what they do not do).
* Major milestones over the last ten years.
* Current aquifer conditions and initiatives to advance sustainability.
* The value of past and current investments.
* Policy options and programs under consideration for the future.

Local leaders and experts emphasized how community members can remain active participants in shaping the future of groundwater sustainability in the region.

I**tem 4: Report of Advisor Jim Bundschu**

Advisor Bundschu supported Director Sangiacomo’s comments regarding the Ad Hoc meeting.

Advisor Bundschu shared that the meeting was very honest and valuable providing an up-to-date report on ground water levels in the two southern basins. Included was a discussion as to what is on the ground: total ground water use, total parcels using water, total parcels not using water. We are hoping that Sacramento will understand how complicated these assessments are, and how complicated it will be to develop workable solutions.

**Item 5. Report of Advisor Eugene Camozzi**

The next meeting for the Petaluma Valley GSA Advisory Committee will be held on September 24th. Advisor was approached by the Resource Conservation District to discuss recharge in the Petaluma Basin. The RCD expressed interest in talking with the Advisory Committee. There are some funds available to carry out the work. More details to follow.

**Item 6: Report of Mike Martini, Technical Advisor**

Advisor Martini shared that there was not a whole lot to report. But he wanted to share two quick updates:

A collection of Agriculture landowners (lead by Russian River Property Owners) in Alexander Valley are approaching 50% of acreage for the formation of a Water District in the Valley.

Tom Schwedhelm is throwing his hat in the ring for Supervisor to replace Supervisor Gore. Mr. Schwedhelm live in the Coffee Park neighborhood and has a lot of experience with housing, water, fire. He has outwardly shared his support for the Alexander Valley Water District. Tom will announce the 28th of August hid intention to run for office. If it stays a three-person race (Ariel Kelly, Todd Lands and Mr. Schwedhelm it will likely go through a runoff process.

**Item 7: Report of GinaLisa Tamayo, Technical Advisor**

Advisor Tamayo shared that all Directors should have received an email regarding all NBWD Directors have access to sexual harassment courses. Chair Mulas forwarded the email. There is no cost to board members.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Director Wasem made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Sangiacomo seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at pm.4:55 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 9th.

Board meeting documents are available to review prior to the meeting at the Shell-Vista Station, 22950 Broadway, Sonoma California. Please call or contact Carolyn Wasem for an appointment to obtain a copy.