

**NORTH BAY WATER DISTRICT  
22950 BROADWAY, SONOMA, CA 95476**

**Board of Directors**

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

PVGSA Advisor: Eugene Camozzi      SVGSA Advisor: Jim Bundschu  
SGMA Compliance Advisor: Mike Martini  
Legal Counsel: Richard Idell

Date: January 11, 2022

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: 22950 Broadway, Schell-Vista Station #1 (via Teleconference due to Covid-19 Shelter-in-Place Order)

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chair Mike Mulas called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Board Members Matt Stornetta, Craig Jacobsen, and Carolyn Wasem were present. Counselor Richard Idell and Advisor Martini were present.

**CLOSED SESSION**

There were no closed session items.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were on public comments.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Director Jacobsen made a motion to approve the November 2021 Minutes. Director Stornetta seconded the motion. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

**4. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Chair Mulas reported that NBWD will incur additional fees for participating in the GSAs. NBWD has \$69,139.34 in the account with additional funds flowing in. Director Wasem made a motion to approve the Financials. Director Jacobsen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **Item 1: Update from Counselor Richard Idell**

The California Tiger Salamander Safe Harbor, between USFWS and North Bay Water District was published in the Federal Register. However, there has been no update from the USFWS or outside Counselor Skaggs.

There will be an effort to communicate with one/both to understand where the Safe Harbor is in process.

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

Director Sangiacomo was not present and therefore had no report.

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

The last GSA meeting was held in December of 2021. We discussed at the last meeting the topics germane to NBWD's efforts and interests. The next meeting of the Petaluma Valley GSA will be held on February 24<sup>th</sup>. On March 30<sup>th</sup>, the Petaluma Valley GSA has scheduled a community meeting to discuss the Rate and Fee Study. The intent of the meeting is to share with the public the background for GSA establishment, the GSP development process and the need to fund the Agency long term. The meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> commences at 5:30 pm and will be held via zoom.

The last Sonoma Valley GSA meeting was held on December 6<sup>th</sup>. The Advisory Committee meeting is happening now so we will get a report from Advisor Bundschu next month. The next Board meeting will be held on February 20<sup>th</sup>. A community meeting to discuss rate and fee studies will be held on March 29<sup>th</sup> and commences at 5:30 pm and will be available via zoom. The intent of this meeting is identical to the other community meetings – to discuss the need to fund the Agency long term.

The JFW team continues to work on the Farm Plan, that will be used to assist agriculture interests in conserving water. The goal is to establish a tiered-fee system for groundwater if farmers agree to participate in the Farm Plan.

One of the benefits of the farm plan is that all data is aggregated, thereby making it more difficult for site specific information circulating in the public. As most of us are aware, information that is not understood is frequently used by third parties to file environmental lawsuits. In many cases the attorney filing the suit is more interested in settlement dollars, than in protecting the resource. Additionally, the Farm Plan is a tangible demonstration of resource protection. It also allows the landowner to participate in a program that incentivizes conservation.

### **Item 4: Report by Advisor Jim Bundschu**

Advisor Bundschu was not present.

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

Advisor Camozzi was not present.

**Item 6: Report of Compliance Advisor Mike Martini**

Advisor Martini discussed the Alexander Valley farmers interest in forming a new District/entity to allow agriculture a seat at the policy making table.

Peter Kiel has been working with a group of growers in the Alexander Valley to identify the opportunities to create a District.

Landowners in AV seem to have an interest in contracting with NBWD to use its experience and expertise to address the groundwater/surface water needs throughout the two basins in Alexander Valley. We are meeting with the Russian River Property Owners Association to discuss the potential merger of interests NBWD/RRPOA. As referenced, last month, this would largely be a paper exercise, where you would join us in meetings, but collaborate on strategy and planning.

Director Wasem is discussed with Senator Mike McGuire's office the potential to introduce legislation for the purpose of establishing a land-owner District in Alexander Valley. He cautioned that he would like to see broad support for this effort. The Senator does not want to go through the process of creating a District and not have support for long-term funding.

Advisor Martini discussed a third option for establishing a District. That process would include an action taken by the Board of Supervisors.

Guest Counselor Kiel will get more details about that process to share with NBWD at the next meeting.

**Item 7. Report by Ginalisa Tamayo on Website Development**

Advisor Tamayo provided an update on the website.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to discuss, Director Wasem made a motion to adjourn. Director Wasem seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

The Next scheduled meeting is scheduled for February 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm. Again, those who wish to attend in person will be able to do so. There will be a zoom option for those that cannot make the meeting in person.

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