**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

Technical Advisor: GinaLisa Tamayo

Legal Counsel: Richard Idell

Date: March 12, 2024

Time:  4:00 pm Location:   22950 Broadway, Schell-Vista Station #1 Sonoma, Ca

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

Chair Mike Mulas called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm.Directors Craig Jacobsen, Mike Sangiacomo, Matthew Stornetta and Carolyn Wasem (via zoom) were present. Legal Counsel Richard Idell, Advisor Mike Martini, Advisor Jim Bundschu and Advisor GinaLisa Tamayo (via zoom) were present.

1. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Closed Session was moved to the end of the meeting.

1. **PUBLIC COMMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public comments.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Chair Mulas asked for approval of the Minutes for the previous meeting. Director Jacobsen made a motion to approve the February 2024 minutes. Director Stornetta seconded the motion. The February 2024 Minutes were unanimously approved.

1. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Chair Mulas reported that North Bay Water District (NBWD) has $ 41,486.65 in the bank. The District wrote a check for the audit, and the State Auditors report, the Special District Roster, Government Compensation, and State Controller report have all been submitted. Director Sangiacomo made motion to approve the financial report. Director Stornetta seconded the motion. The February 2024 Financial Report was unanimously approved. Chair Mulas noted that there was an outstanding Philip Williams bill, with no other outstanding invoices. The Phil William bill was related to the formation of a water district in Alexander Valley and the potential duties/responsibilities of a district.

1. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Item 1. Report by Counselor Richard Idell**

Counselor Idell quickly updated the Board regarding the date of the NBWD Board election. That election will be held on November 6th. Additional items will be discussed in Closed Session.

**Item 2. Report by Director Mike Sangiacomo**

In the last meeting regarding implementation of the Sonoma Valley GSA, members of the GSA staff discussed the following needs:

1. Inside the areas of depression, staff would like to conduct more research. However, to achieve meaningful research, staff will need assistance in reaching out to landowners and the community affected. In order to identify those individuals for outreach purposes, there needs to be more definition as to the size and location of the depression.

1. Reporting of data was also discussed, this was specific to water use. The desire from landowners is to report data in aggregate as opposed to submitting individual site data. That discussion led to the staff’s stated desire/need to meter.

Advisor Martini asked what people thought of collected metering data if the information is not available to the public?

Chair Mulas suggested that most landowners would need guarantees that farmers would not be charged for collection of the data. Director Jacobsen agreed.

In terms of use, Director Sangiacomo suggested that if you want to verify that people are using that what they are saying they are using – then for vineyards, the .6-acre feet is going to be pretty accurate.

Advisor Martini suggested that water is used for frost protection, it goes right back to the ground. Do we have a sense about loss from ET?

Director Sangiacomo responded that he did not have that answer. If you look at historical data, as an example, for the dry year of 2021, the water applied for frost was immediately absorbed into the soil. Other years, with more rainfall, the soil appears at full saturation over a relatively short series of frost events.

Director Sangiacomo further discussed monitoring well locations in the Valley. While a detailed conversation did not occur, and the staff was not completely clear about what they were going to do regarding monitoring, it was clear that more groundwater data was needed. For most overhead irrigation systems, there are water rights associated with that water use. The focus of the staff is how to monitor surface water diversion or stored surface water. They are trying to understand the impacts to surface stream levels of agriculture irrigation.

Advisor Martini suggested that it would be difficult to get around the data being made public.

Director Sangiacomo shared that most agriculture water users know how much water they are using.

Advisor Martini circled back to the areas of depression conversation. If that is the area of real concern for the GSA, do we know if groundwater levels in those areas are recharging? Meters won’t inform that conversation.

Director Sangiacomo said there are, or have been, monitoring wells in those areas of depression, that is how they know that there are areas of concern. The biggest area of interest is understanding what they (staff) are mapping as areas of depression.

Advisor Jim Bundschu stated that believes the biggest concerns, on the regulatory as well as the regulated side, is lawsuits. Is there is transparency in the plans to meter? If so, how does that dovetail with the aggregate reporting conversation?

**Item 3: Report of Director Carolyn Wasem**

Director Wasem informed that Board that the last Petaluma Valley GSA meeting was held on January 25th. The next GSA Board meeting will be held on March 28th. I have nothing new to report.

**Item 4: Report of Advisor Jim Bundschu**

Advisor Bundschu shared that the Sonoma Valley Advisory Committee met on Feb 22nd. And prior to the meeting, Bob Anderson handed out a detail as to the cost for implementing the GSAs for all the basins. For example, the total budget for 22-27 is almost $8 million dollars. It is now reported that we are using 6,700-acre feet (af) in the basin. This includes municipalities, etc. That seems like a miniscule number of acre feet. People should be aware of the money we are spending for that small amount of water.

At the last meeting I had to time to run through things that are setting the foundation for future decisions, including:

1. 2023 – groundwater extraction 6,400 ac feet

1. Sustainable yields is considered 5,400 ac feet
2. Needed information on well depth
3. Needed information on groundwater depths
4. Needed information on well and groundwater depths
5. Need to explore recharge opportunities
6. A voluntary metering pilot project
7. Results of voluntary metering programs

Finally, the Advisory Committee re-elected the chair and vice chair.

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

Advisor Camozzi was not in attendance.

**Item 6. Report by Advisor Mike Martini**

Advisor Martini had nothing to report. He had items that needed to be discussed in closed session.

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

Advisor Tamayo had nothing to report.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

Director Sangiacomo made a motion to adjourn the public portion of the NBWD Board meeting. Director Jacobsen seconded the motion. With no other business the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

1. **CLOSED SESSION (Item #3 on the agenda)**

The next meeting will be held April 9th, 2024, at the Shell-Vista Fire Station.

*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.*