

NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION MINUTES

June 4, 2010

MEETING MINUTES NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Minutes for the meeting of the North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA)
Board of Directors.

Friday, June 4, 2010
9:30 a.m.
Novato Sanitary District
500 Davidson Street
Novato, CA 94945

Directors present included:

Judy Arnold, County of Marin
Jack Baker, North Marin Water District
Steve Barbose, City of Sonoma and Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District
Megan Clark, Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District
Paul Helliker, Marin Municipal Water District
Beverly James, Novato Sanitary District
Mark Luce, Napa Sanitation District
Madeline Thomas, Bel Marin Keys Community Services District

Directors present represented 9 out of the 15 agencies signatory to the Association MOU.

Board Actions

1. Call to Order. Judy Arnold, Chair pro tem, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.
2. Public Comment. There was no public comment.
3. Approval of the Agenda. (See Handout) The Board unanimously approved the agenda.
4. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting held May 7, 2010. (See Handout) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on May 7, 2010 were unanimously approved.
5. Treasurer's Report. (See Handout) The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented by Harry Seraydarian.
6. Bay Area IRWMP Update. Harry Seraydarian used a PowerPoint presentation to update the Board on Bay Area efforts. Harry focused on funding sources including Proposition 50 supplemental funding, Prop 1-E funding for Stormwater Flood Management, and Prop 84 funding for planning and implementation. Harry summarized the available funding for Prop 50 (maximum \$3.7 million, 10% match) and the projects that had been developed for a Bay Area proposal and the schedule for funding. Harry then described Prop 1-E funding (\$212 million competitive statewide, maximum \$30 million, 50% match) and emphasized that a project must yield multiple benefits and be consistent with an adopted IRWMP. Harry then presented the Bay Area process for adding projects including outreach and the NBWA actions to support outreach. (Information on the Bay Area process for adding projects is available at <http://bairwmp.org/projects/submitting-a-project-to-the-bay-area-irwmp>) Harry then summarized the Prop 84 requirements for planning (Maximum Award – \$1 million, 50% match) and implementation (Bay Area Target Allocation – \$15 million for first round, 25% match). Information on Prop 84 implementation grants can be found at <http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/docs/prop84/guidelinepsp/DraftImppsp.pdf> Harry also illustrated the proposed DWR scoring for Prop 84 compared to Prop 50 and emphasized the requirement for economic (benefits) analysis. Harry also described state program preferences and priorities. Harry ended with a description of the Bay Area efforts to identify

“Regional“ projects for Prop 84 and a summary of projects identified to date and noted the intention to update the 2009 Regional Project List.

7. Proposed Projects. Harry presented the three projects recently approved by the Habitat/Floodplain Technical Committee (see handouts). These included: a Rainwater Harvesting Guidebook (\$25k – \$20k to Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District with Marin County and Napa RCD each receiving \$2,500 for editing and customization); a Multimedia Educational Short Subject (\$5k to Friends of Corte Madera Creek); and a Community Center Rainwater Harvesting Project (\$5k to City of Sonoma). Harry described the major elements of each project and the matching funds being provided. Harry indicated he would bring additional projects focused on education/restoration to the Board for approval. The Board unanimously approved all three projects for funding.

8. Perspectives on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Tidal Marsh Ecosystem. Peter Baye, Coastal Ecologist and Botanist provided a handout entitled – “Perspectives on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ‘Draft Recovery Plan for Tidal Marsh Ecosystems of Northern and Central California’: A review of key issues and concerns.” Peter noted that he was the author of the 2001 administrative draft tidal marsh recovery plan and emphasized that the plan is required under the Endangered Species Act, but is advisory only. Peter described the species that were covered in the plan, recovery strategies, and recovery maps which illustrate quasi-priority “zones”. Peter referenced maps available on line at https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/TMRP_Intro_1.pdf. Peter emphasized the importance of the high marsh and the risk due to sea level rise and noted that the maps were more retrospective rather than anticipating climate change. He also noted that the strategies addressed sea level rise though this was not included in the maps. Peter then reviewed the potential applications of the plan and the time scale (50 year planning period). The Board had several questions. What is the difference between lower and higher priority areas? (Since plan is advisory, not much difference for locals; FWS will use for grants and Biological Opinions; USACE uses guidelines for permits, need to ask FWS to clarify.) What is effort in Marin on sea level rise? (Workshop held with Planning and Public Works in May; PRBO has completed a study on sea level rise in Marin.) Where can high marsh persist? (Challenging in North Bay, for example Sonoma vineyards are CEQA exempt and this creates an infrastructure conflict for high marsh movement; another example in Marin where clapper rail conflict with dog walking eliminated opportunity for a buffer.)

9. Items of Interest.

* A draft letter to Congresswoman Jackie Speier supporting HR 5061 was distributed to Board Members on June 2. The Board unanimously approved support of this legislation at a prior meeting.

10. Items for Next Agenda.

* Marc Holmes – Federal Legislation – HR 5061

* North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative – Deanne DiPietro or Caitlin Cornwall – Sonoma Ecology Center

Judy Arnold, Chair pro tem, adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

Submitted By: Elizabeth O. Preim-Rohtla

NEXT MEETING INFORMATION

July 9 – Marin Community Foundation, 5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94949

No August

September 10 – Marin Community Foundation, 5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94949

October 1 – Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Ctr., 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954—Conf. Rm. 2

November 5 – Marin Community Foundation, 5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200, Novato, CA 94949

December 3 – Petaluma (Lucchesi) Community Ctr., 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954—Conf. Rm. 2