

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF
NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

A meeting of the North Bay Watershed Association will be held as follows:

Date: Friday, December 2nd, 2016, Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Location: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, CA 94954-
Conference Room 2

AGENDA Item and Recommendation

1. Call to Order (Jack Gibson, Chair) **9:30**
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of the Agenda (1 min.) *Approve*
4. Approval of Minutes (5 min) *Approve*
5. Treasurer's Report *handout* (1 min.) *Accept*
6. Director's Report information/*questions*

7. **Pharmaceuticals and Other Contaminants of Concern in our Waters:** **9:45**
Meg Sedlack, San Francisco Estuary Institute
Presentation and Q & A

8. **North Bay Trash Amendments/Stormwater Planning Project** **10:15**

Rob Carson, Coordinator, Marin County Stormwater Program

Rob will provide a status report to the Board on the ongoing work of preparing the region to comply with new pending trash reduction rules. - *Presentation and Q & A*

9. **Proposed Support for Improvements to *Game of Floods*** **10:35**

Judy Kelly, Executive Director -*recommend approval*

10. **Introduction to the NBWA Proposed Communication Plan for 2017** **10:50**

Judy Kelly, Executive Director - *Presentation and Q & A*

11. **Items of Interest** **11:15**
12. **Items for next agenda** **11:25**

* Harmful algae blooms in North Bay waters-
* Accomplishments under the Friends of the Petaluma River Grant
* Review and support of the 2017 NBWA Communications Plan

Next Meeting Information: January 6th, 2017 Novato Sanitary District, 500 Davidson St, Novato, CA 94945

North Bay Watershed Association

Summary of the meeting of the North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA) Board of Directors

Date: November 4, 2016 - Time: 9:30 a.m. -Location: Novato Sanitary District, 500 Davidson St. Novato

Board Member	Agency	Board Member	Agency
Mike Healy	City of Petaluma	Jack Baker	North Marin Water District
Madolyn Agrimonti	City of Sonoma & Sonoma Valley Co. SD	Brant Miller	Novato Sanitary District
Damon Connolly	County of Marin	Pamela Meigs	Ross Valley Sanitary District
Judy Schriebman	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District	Brad Sherwood	Sonoma County Water Agency
Jack Gibson	Marin Municipal Water District		

Directors present represented 9 of the 18 agencies signatory to the Association MOU.

1. **Call to Order** – Jack Gibson, Chair calls the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m.
2. **Public Comment** – No public comments were brought forward.
3. **Approval of the Agenda** – The agenda was unanimously approved by the Board.
4. **Approval of Minutes** – The previous Board Meeting’s minutes were unanimously approved.
5. **Treasurer’s Report** – Judy Kelly, NBWA Executive Director began by thanking Cheryl Howard of MMWD for her continued work to manage NBWA finances. An invoice to American Canyon for their new membership will be sent out soon. Judy has reached out to the Valley of the Moon about potential membership, but has not heard back. She requested that Board Members with connections to this organization reach out to determine their interest.
6. **Director’s Report** Judy Kelly reported:
 - 2017 Board Meeting dates have been set. Locations for these meetings are being established, but scheduling has been difficult in part due to a change in policy by the Marin Community Foundation who now only accepts reservations 30 days in advance.
 - SCWA’s Isolation Valve Installation Project has been featured in this month’s Director’s Report, and is an example of how NBWA member agencies can promote their own efforts through NBWA. To have your own organization’s efforts promoted please contact Sophie Hallam-Eames or Judy Kelly.
 - There are 2 upcoming water conferences which are relevant to NBWA member agencies. See the Director’s Report for more information.
 - NBWA is introducing a Lending Library, a collection of documents on relevant topics for NBWA members. To check out any document please contact Sophie Hallam-Eames. Library will be available at NBWA Board Meetings.
7. **What’s New at the Regional Water Board** – Bruce Wolfe, Executive Officer, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Resources Control Board

Mr. Wolfe covered a great deal of information about the Board and current activities of the Board with a focus on North Bay issues. The following is a very abbreviated summary of the topics he addressed. For more information about Regional Board activities the reader is encouraged to see the Regional Board’s website at

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay>

Established in 1949, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) was developed to provide oversight and a permitting process for any discharges that could impact water quality in California. Unlike other government regulatory groups, the RWQCB developed its boundaries on a watershed basis, which frequently do not match other political boundaries. Regional Boards frequently experience varying social and economic pressures, and threats to water quality that can affect their tasks. Urban areas and agriculture, industry, now including cannabis growers for Regional Board 1, and various groundwater issues require an array of approaches to protect water quality.

The RWQCB is overseen by a seven member Board, which includes members who are appointed for a 4 year term by the governor. Currently, one Board position is open. Bruce Wolfe discussed an extensive array of issues being considered at the RWQCB. The following points outline some issues of interest to the present NBWA Board Members:

- Groundwater – Under SGMA, the state is currently developing groundwater plans for all regions, and is concerned about developing salt and nutrient plans for all groundwater regions.
Q: What is the role of fracking in ground water protection? A: No fracking in this region, but we do have oil wells. Concerns about water being used to drill, as well as waste water produced by this process.
- Mercury in Water Sources – Source is largely airborne, probably primarily from Asia, some historic sources currently regulated under permit: dentistry contributes small amount.
Q: Did the Napa Mines contribute? A: State funding currently being used to research the Napa Mines with drones and aerial imagery.
Q: If Dentistry only plays small role, is there a need to place restrictive economic measures on small businesses to limit mercury release? A: RWQCB needs to distinguish between historic and new mercury loads, before they can ask water agencies and others to work together to limit new loads of contaminants.
- Recycled Water – although flows of contaminated water may decrease, pollutant load may remain the same.

Bruce Wolfe offered that he would be happy to speak to agency boards or other groups about WQCB related issues.

8. **Items of Interest** - Following the Sonoma County Water Agency's Fish Ladder opening on the Russian River, the Board expressed interest in touring certain relevant sites as a group. Potential locations may include treatment plants, SCWA Fish Ladder, etc. A draft of suggestions will be available to the Board in December.
9. **Items for Next Agenda**
Drugs in our Water – Meg Sedlack, SFEI
Climate Adaption Planning – Brad Sherwood (SCWA) and SCWA's consultant

SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL

Submitted by: Sophie Hallam-Eames

Water Agency Programs Specialist (SCWA) and NBWA Staff

Next Meeting Information: December 2, 2016 -Petaluma Community Center (Conference Room 2)
320 N McDowell Blvd, Petaluma, CA 94954

**Northbay Watershed Association
Treasurer's Report
November 1 - November 22, 2016**

**PLEASE NOTE BALANCES THROUGH 11/22/16 ONLY

Revenues:

Billings-Stewardship - General Benefits - 2017	146,574.60	
NBWA 2016 Conference Revenue	1,500.00	
Misc Revenue		
Total Revenues		<u>148,074.60</u>

Expenses:

Executive Director Professional Services:		37,600.00
<u>Admin Professional Fees & Expenses:</u>		
Administrative Support - SCWA		
Operating Expense - General Benefit - website, etc..	1,097.40	
NCRCD - LandSmart for Kid, Point Blue STRAW Program	1,864.07	
Sonoma Ecology Ctr - Climate Readiness		
Marin County Flood Control - Bothin/Coyote Creek		
Friends of Petaluma River - Watershed Classroom		
EOA - BASMAA Trash Project	10,332.56	
2nd Nature - Rural Road Ram Project	20,000.00	
Total Expenses		<u>70,894.03</u>
Change this period		77,180.57
Fund Balance as of July 1, 2016		<u>\$ 171,644.95</u>
Fund Balance as of November 22, 2016		<u><u>\$ 248,825.52</u></u>

December 2016 - Director's Report

NBWA Business

- On November 14th the Ad Hoc **NBWA Communication Committee** met by phone to review proposed changes to the Draft Outreach Plan. Those suggested edits and changes have been incorporated into the new version of the Draft which will be handed out and briefly summarized at the December meeting. Board action on the Draft Plan is scheduled for the January 2017 meeting.
- Progress continues on the currently supported NBWA **projects**: Our NBWA funded project with Friends of the Petaluma River has concluded and the organization will deliver a final report to the Board in January. Majority funding has been invoiced for the Rural Road Assessment project as 2ndNature's work is well underway, and the BASMAA stormwater project is actively proceeding -- the Board will receive a status update on that project in the early part of the New Year.
- Advance planning: In **January** the Board will hear from senior Regional Water Board about harmful algal blooms in north bay waters and the work done to date by the San Francisco Board on this issue. We will also get a final report from the Friends of Petaluma River on the work NBWA funded in natural resource education and finally, we will review and hopefully approve the proposed NBWA Communication Plan.
- **NBWA Board Dates for 2017**. Based on the schedule of meeting the first Friday of the month but avoiding major holiday weekends, the draft schedule for 2017 is proposed as follows:

January 6 – Novato Sanitary District

February 3 – Novato City Hall

March 3 – Bel Marin Keys (pending confirmation)

April 7 – Novato Sanitary District

May 5 – Petaluma Community Center

June 2 – Novato City Hall

July 7 – Novato Sanitary District

No August Meeting

September 8 – Novato Sanitary District

October 6 – Petaluma Community Center (pending application acceptance)

November 3 – Novato City Hall

December 1 – Novato Sanitary District

Please mark your calendars [note: final meeting sites may change as we work to secure some meetings at the Marin Community Foundation]

Funding News

New EPA San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund. While the situation with the Federal Budget and EPA specifically is uncertain for the coming year, sources tell me that US EPA Region 9 expects to continue to receive an allocation for funding projects from the Improvement Fund in 2017. EPA manages a competitive grant program to support projects to protect and restore San Francisco Bay. This grant program, known as the San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund (SFBWQIF) began in 2008. The SFBWQIF has invested over \$44 million in 61 projects through 36 grant awards. These projects include over 70 partners who are contributing an additional \$153 million to restore wetlands and watersheds, and reduce polluted runoff. An RFP for draft proposals for this funding source would be due to EPA in the early spring of 2017. I will continue to report the status of these potential funds as we move into the next year.

Integrated Regional Water Management Plan [IRWMP] While a Draft Proposal was expected to be submitted to DWR on behalf of the Bay Area Region in late October for \$6.5 million, the final submission is now expected to occur in late November. The Proposal also now specifically lists many potential outreach partners including several in the North Bay. Drafters note that the included list doesn't mean an entity not listed can't participate nor that if an entity is listed that final funding is assured. Among the first tasks once the grant is awarded is meeting with potential partners to see how they can participate in involving DACs and the expectation is that many to be involved. See www.bairwmp.org for news and update on this funding.

Member News

- North Marin Water District is expanding the recycled water system into the Central Service Area of Novato. This expansion in cooperation with Novato Sanitary District, will extend from Novato Sanitary District's treatment plant to Marin Country Club, serving approximately 40 large landscape customers and 3 car washes along the way. This project has been designed to reach the maximum number of large landscape users and will offset approximately 65 million gallons of potable water per year. See link below for Recycled Water Central Service Area Construction project updates. nmwdcentralexpansion.blogspot.com



Other News and Notes

- **State Wildlife Conservation Board awards funds to Napa.** In November, the Board awarded a \$3.7 million grant to the Land Trust of Napa County for a cooperative project with the State Coastal Conservancy, California Natural Resources Agency and others to acquire a conservation easement over approximately 7,266 acres of land. This will preserve and protect managed forest lands, riparian corridors and watersheds that support rare and special status wildlife species and vegetation near the City of Calistoga in Napa County
- **What might the election mean to California water issues?** The Santa Rosa Press Democrat reports that *“Restoring salmon in the Russian River and protecting the North Coast from oil rigs — two long-standing campaigns with broad public support — are among the goals likely to be challenged if not stifled by the sharp right turn of Donald Trump’s administration, environmental advocates and Democratic lawmakers said. More broadly, the environmental camp fears that landmark legislation, including laws that protect endangered species, clean air and water, are imperiled by Republican control of the House and Senate with an avid deregulation partner in the White House. ...”* Read more from the Santa Rosa Press Democrat here: [California environmental leaders, lawmakers gird for fight against Trump](#)
- **Publication of the month.** What’s the latest with the **Department of Water Resources**? Published three times a year, the DWR Magazine highlights current projects of the Department and efforts by water managers around the state to innovate and address projects and challenges. The current issue includes an interesting overview of the 60-year history of the agency and stories from around the state about how districts are managing resources.

