

**Minutes of Meeting**

8:30 A.M., Thursday, January 28, 2016  
David C. Joseph Meeting Room  
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Audio recordings of Board meetings are available at: [www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast); go to the Board Info tab and click on Meetings.

i. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Board member Minton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ii. **Roll Call and Introductions**

Board Members present: John Corbett, Kelli Gant, Gregory Giusti, Geoffrey Hales, Valerie Minton, and David Noren

Regional Water Board staff present: Stephen Bargsten, Lisa Bernard, Cherie Blatt, Fred Blatt, Jim Burke, Katharine Carter, Terri Cia, Patti Corsie, Josh Curtis, Rebecca Fitzgerald, Kason Grady, David Kuszmar, Shin-Roei Lee, Lance Le, Alydda Mangelsdorf, Bryan McFadin, Dean Prat, Jeremiah Puget, Rhonda Raymond, Charles Reed, Matt St. John, Claudia Villacorta and Jonathan Warmerdam

Matt St. John introduced and welcomed Jeremiah Puget, Senior Environmental Scientist, as our new Groundwater Assessment & Planning Specialist.

iii. **Election of Officers.**

Motion: David Noren moved to elect John Corbett as Board Chair.

Motion: Geoffrey Hales moved to elect David Noren as Vice Chair.

Motion: Chairman Corbett initiated a roll-call vote:

Minton aye

Hales aye

Noren aye

Corbett aye

Gant aye

Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.

iv. **Board Member Ex Parte Communication Disclosure:**

- Valerie Minton had discussions with stakeholders about the existing Cannabis Order, existing Dairy Program and organic waste issues in Sonoma County.

v. **State Board Liaison's, Board Chair's, Board Members', and Executive Officer's Reports:**

**State Water Board Liaison's Report:**

The State Water Board Liaison, Steven Moore was not in attendance.

- vi. **Resolution of Appreciation for William "Bill" Massey.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer, and Chairman Corbett, expressed their appreciation for Mr. Massey's 15 years of dedication and service as a Board member and mentor to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board; he will be greatly missed. Board member Hales read the Resolution of Appreciation for William "Bill" Massey.

vii. **Public Forum:**

Comments were taken from:

- Dennis Rosatti, Peace in Medicine
- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee
- Sam Salmon, Public
- Bob Legge, Russian Riverkeeper
- Kimberly Burr, Public
- Tawnie Logan, Sonoma County Growers Alliance

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** November 18 & 19, 2015 and December 10, 2015

Motion: Geoffrey Hales moved to adopt both meeting minutes, including an amendment of the December 10, 2015 minutes, Valerie Minton seconded the motion; Chairman Corbett initiated a roll-call vote:

Minton aye

Hales aye

Noren aye

Corbett aye

Gant aye

Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Presentation of Executive Officer's 2015 Water Quality Stewardship Award.** The 2015 Water Quality Stewardship Award is awarded to individuals and teams for doing work that goes above and beyond their water quality protection requirements and supports the North Coast Water Boards efforts in water quality protection and support of beneficial uses. Matt St. John presented the 2015 Award to:

- Berretta Family Dairy for their leadership and exemplary performance within the agricultural community and in the Laguna de Santa Rosa watershed; and to
- California Department of Fish & Wildlife; National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration; Jackson Family Wines; Gallo Winery; Russian River Coho Water Resource Partnership; Camp Meeker Parks & Recreation District; and Michael Payne and Chris Panyam for their efforts to address low flow conditions impacting salmon and steelhead in critical Russian River tributaries during the drought of 2015.

### **Uncontested Items**

No Uncontested Items were scheduled

### **Action Items**

3. **Public Hearing to consider adoption of Order No. R1-2016-0002 General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and Order No. R1-2016-0003 Conditional Waiver of WDRs for Wine, Beverage, and Food Processor (WBFP) Waste to Land and Associated Mitigated Negative Declarations.** Rachel Prat, Environmental Scientist, Land Disposal & Groundwater Permitting Unit, gave a presentation of the background, eligibility, and an overview of each permit, their notable differences, public outreach and comments received, Mitigated Negative Declaration, a summary of the increased Groundwater Protection of the permits, along with staff recommendations to adopt both Orders and associated Mitigated Negative Declarations. (Continued after Item 4).

#### Comments were taken from:

- Robert Chrobak, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, Wine Institute
- Tim Schmelzer, Wine Institute

### **Workshops**

No Workshops were scheduled

### **Information Items**

4. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Draft Multispecies Recovery Plan.** Korie Schaeffer, Operations and Policy Branch Chief, NOAA and Erin Seghesio, Recovery Coordinator, NOAA, introduced themselves to the Board. Ms. Seghesio gave a presentation on the Multispecies Recovery Plan with geographical locations, population structure, diversity and viability, outlining the recovery goals, objectives and actions for each Salmonid species (California Coastal Chinook Salmon, Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU), Northern California Steelhead, Distinct Population Segments (DPS) and Central California Coast Steelhead DPS) and the many opportunities for NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board to align, leverage and implement the Multispecies Recovery Plan.

Comments were taken from:

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

**Action Items**

3. (Continued) **Public Hearing to consider adoption of Order No. R1-2016-0002 General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and Order No. R1-2016-0003 Conditional Waiver of WDRs for Wine, Beverage, and Food Processor (WBFP) Waste to Land and Associated Mitigated Negative Declarations.** Rachel Prat, Environmental Scientist, Land Disposal & Groundwater Permitting Unit, gave an overview of the changes requested by Board members, stakeholders and public regarding effluent limitations of sodium, groundwater monitoring wells and depth.

Motion: David Noren moved to adopt the amended Order No. R1-2016-0002 with staff changes and associated Mitigated Negative Declaration, Geoffrey Hales seconded the motion; Chairman Corbett initiated a roll-call vote:

Minton aye  
Hales aye  
Noren aye  
Corbett aye  
Massey aye  
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: David Noren moved to adopt the Order No. R1-2016-0003 and associated Mitigated Negative Declaration, Geoffrey Hales seconded the motion; Chairman Corbett initiated a roll-call vote:

Minton aye  
Hales aye  
Noren aye  
Corbett aye  
Massey aye  
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Update on Water Rights and Fisheries Management Actions in the Russian River Watershed.** Bryan McFadin, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Flow & Riparian Protection Specialist introduced: Dan Worth and Dan Schultz, State Water Board, Division of Water Rights; and Corrine Gray, California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Ms. Gray gave a presentation on the Voluntary Drought Initiative (VDI) Flow and Conservation Agreements in the Russian River tributaries of Green Valley Creek;

Dutch Bill Creek; Mill Creek; and Mark West Creek; that enhanced critically low summer flows to protect juvenile salmonids. Mr. Schultz gave an overview of the Russian River Tributaries Emergency Regulations, response to comments to the Informational Order and the potential short term actions. Mr. Worth gave an overview of the California Water Action Plan instituted by Governor Brown to guide State efforts to (1) Enhance water supply reliability; (2) Restore damaged and destroyed ecosystems; (3) Improve resilience of California’s infrastructure and outlines California’s near- and long-term water priorities, including drought. The watersheds identified in the North Coast region are: Mark West Creek; Shasta River; and South Fork Eel River; and contracts are being developed for hydrology and groundwater modeling; water rights evaluation tools; identifying gauging needs and compiling and evaluating existing information.

Comments were taken from:

- Kimberly Burr, Public

5. **Executive Officer’s Report.** Matt St. John updated the Board on the status of the Cannabis enrollment clinics and the number of dischargers enrolled in the program.
6. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items.** Board member Giusti requested a joint meeting and field tour with California Fish & Wildlife Commission. Chairman Corbett requested a written monthly status report on the Cannabis program; enrollment numbers; and inquired about the status of the Cannabis handbook. In addition, Mr. Corbett requested a future information item regarding water resource protection plans. Board member Noren requested a written update within the next 30-days for Turner’s Garage in Graton, CA.;and requested a report on prioritizing cleanup sites.
7. **Other Items of Interest.** No items to discuss.
8. **Closed session:** There were no reports from closed session.
9. **Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**  
 9:00 a.m., Thursday, April 7, 2016  
 Eureka City Hall  
 Eureka Council Chambers  
 531 K Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 Eureka, CA 95501

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Chairperson\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_