

Minutes of Meeting

1:00 P.M., Wednesday, November 18, 2015

8:30 A.M., Thursday, November 19, 2015

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; go to the Board Info tab and click on Meetings.

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

i. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Board member Noren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ii. **Roll Call and Introductions**

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

Regional Water Board staff present: Lisa Bernard, Fred Blatt, Jim Burke, Allison Clark, Patti Corsie, Clayton Creager, Josh Curtis, Rebecca Fitzgerald, Wendy Jones, David Kuszmar, Lance Le, Shin-Roei Lee, Alydda Mangelsdorf, Bryan McFadin, Donna Poe, Jeremiah Puget, Berny Reed, Maggie Robinson, Matt St. John, Claudia Villacorta, and Jonathan Warmerdam

Information Items

1. **Upper Elk River Technical Analysis for Sediment and Update on Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load and Stewardship Framework.** Alydda Mangelsdorf, Senior Environmental Scientist, Planning Unit, gave a presentation on the Sediment TMDL, with a summarization of Tetra Tech's Upper Elk River Technical Analysis for Sediment, and the next steps of the TMDL Action Plan for the Elk River Watershed. Clayton Creager, Watershed Stewardship Coordinator, gave an overview of the Watershed Stewardship Program, its status and the next steps for the Elk River Watershed.

Comments were taken from:

- Mike Jani, Humboldt Redwood Company (HRC)
- Alan Levine, Coast Action Group
- Gary Rynearson, Green Diamond Resource Co. (GDRC)
- Rob DiPerna, Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC)
- Kristi Wrigley, Elk River Resident
- Jesse Noel, Elk River Resident
- Wayne Whitlock, Attorney, Pillsbury Law Office

Workshops

2. **Public workshop on Draft Order No. R1-2016-0004, Waste Discharge Requirements and General Water Quality Certification for Nonpoint Source Discharges and Other Controllable Water Quality Factors Related to Timber Harvesting and Associated Activities Conducted by Humboldt Redwood Company, LLC in the Upper Elk River Watershed, Humboldt County.** Jim Burke, Senior Engineering Geologist, Southern Nonpoint Source & Forestry Unit, gave a presentation and overview of the Draft Waste Discharge Requirements, including harvest limits, temporary harvest prohibitions, riparian management zones, control of sediment from roads and non-roads, instream sediment sources, landslide prevention, wet weather limits, enrollment procedures and monitoring and reporting requirements. Mike Miles, Humboldt Redwood Company gave a presentation on Humboldt Redwood Company's Elk River Report of Waste Discharge including its purpose, scope, and content.

Comments were taken from:

- Kristi Wrigley, Elk River Resident
- Jesse Noel, Elk River Resident
- Rob DiPerna, EPIC
- Alan Levine, Coast Action Group
- Wayne Whitlock, Attorney, Pillsbury Law Office
- Tom Schultz, HRC

Thursday November 19, 2015

- i. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Board member Minton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- ii. **Roll Call and Introductions**

Board Members present:

John Corbett, Gregory Giusti, Geoffrey Hales,
William Massey, Valerie Minton, and David
Noren

Regional Water Board staff present: Keith Baldanza, Cherie Blatt, Fred Blatt, Jim Burke, Steve Butkus, Allison Clark, Patti Corsie, Clayton Creager, Joshua Curtis, Rob Dickerson, Mona Dougherty, Stormer Feiler, Rebecca Fitzgerald, Craig Hunt, Wendy Jones, David Kuszmar, Beth Lamb, Lance Le, Shin-Roei Lee, Alydda Mangelsdorf, Donna Poe, Jeremiah Puget, Charles Reed, Justin Smith, Brandon Stevens, Matt St. John, and Claudia Villacorta

Matt St. John, Executive Officer, introduced and welcomed Joshua Curtis, Environmental Program Manager 1, who has been hired as the new Division Chief of the Planning, Stewardship & Compliance Assurance Division.

Board Member Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

- Valerie Minton had conversations with the public about the Russian River Pathogen TMDL, Cannabis cultivation, and Sonoma County organic waste issues.
- David Noren had conversations with the public and local officials about the Russian River Pathogen TMDL, and the Sonoma County Landfill and Compost Facility issues.
- John Corbett made several presentations at various public meetings, strictly presenting on the Cannabis cultivation issues that the Board has passed.
- William Massey had discussions with state and local officials regarding the Russian River Pathogen TMDL.

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

The State Board Liaison, Steven Moore updated the Board on:

- Budget issues
- Recent and upcoming activities at the State Water Board
- Drought issues
- Legislation passed or pending.

iv. **Public Forum:** Time will be reserved for the general public to address the Board on any matter within the Board's jurisdiction, excluding those items on the agenda. The Board Chair may limit the public forum to thirty (30) minutes initially, and continue any remaining appearances beyond the thirty (30) minutes at the end of the regularly scheduled business of the day. The Board Chair requests that each person addressing the Board limit their presentation to three (3) minutes.

Comments were taken from:

- Rob DiPerna, EPIC
- Gary Rynearson, GDRC

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes: October 8, 2015**

Motion: William Massey moved to adopt, David Noren 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. **Approval of 2016 Board Meeting Schedule**

Motion: David Noren moved to adopt, Bill Massey 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.

Uncontested Items

None scheduled

Action Items

5. ~~Update on Russian River Watershed Pathogen Indicator Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load and Action Plan (Charles Reed, Alydda Mangelsdorf).~~ **Moved to Information Item #8 below.**

6. **Public Hearing to consider adoption of Order No. R1-2015-0009 General Waste Discharge Requirements for Cold Water Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production Facility (Fish Hatchery) Discharges to Surface Waters, NPDES No. CAG131015.** Lisa Bernard, Sanitary Engineering Associate, gave an overview of Cold Water Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production (CAAP) Facilities, and stated that the

North Coast Region has 5 permitted facilities. Ms. Bernard identified CAAP wastes consisted of: 1) Residual feed; 2) Feces; 3) Antibiotics; 4) Disease treatment chemicals; and 5) Cleaning product residuals. The CAAP must follow the Basin Plan Hatchery Policy in order to allow year round discharges to surface waters. The Hatchery Policy requires no adverse impacts to beneficial uses, no discharges of cleaning waste or disease treatment chemicals. The CAAP facilities must meet the U.S. EPA Effluent Limit Guidelines which require use of Best Management Practices (BMP) for solids control, material handling and storage, maintenance records, and training rather than numeric effluent limits. Terry Jackson, Senior Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, gave a short presentation on the drugs and chemicals used at the CAAP Facilities in the North Coast for fish disease treatment.

Comments were taken from:

- Hilary Avalon, Public
- Eileen Martinez-Carey, Concerned Citizen
- Ann Maurice, Ad Hoc Committee for Clean Water

Motion: William Massey moved to adopt, Geoffrey Hales seconded the motion, with corrections and additions. Chairman Corbett initiated a roll-call vote:

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

Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Public Hearing on Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2015-0051 for Mello 3/Llano Oaks Dairy.** Cherie Blatt, Water Resource Control Engineer, Southern Nonpoint Source & Forestry Unit, gave an overview of the 2012 Dairy Program for existing dairies, then outlined the requirements to open a new dairy including the proposed Conditional Waiver, Initial Study, and Mitigated Negative Declaration to meet California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements. Mrs. Blatt presented the history of the location of the new Mello 3/Llano Oaks Dairy, the proposed herd size, maps, photographs, and an overview of the proposed Conditional Waiver requirements, reporting requirements, and the proposed errata sheet changes to the Waiver.

Comments were taken from:

- Bob Legge, Russian Riverkeeper

Motion: David Noren moved to adopt, Bill Massey seconded the motion with

the errata sheet and Mitigated Negative Declaration, Chairman Corbett initiated a roll-call vote:

Minton aye

Hales aye

Noren aye

Corbett aye

Massey aye

Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Workshops

No Workshop Items scheduled

Information Items

8. **Update on Russian River Watershed Pathogen Indicator Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load and Action Plan.** Charles Reed, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Land Disposal & Groundwater Permitting Unit, gave an update on the history of the TMDL, the staff report, public comments received, the planned revisions and the next steps of the TMDL, including development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Sonoma and Mendocino Counties; establish the role of a citizen's advisory group; secure public funding for planning and technical assistance; prepare formal responses to comments; revise draft staff report and Basin Plan Amendment (TMDL Action Plan); initiate a second public comment period on the revisions; and bring the TMDL Action Plan to the Regional Water Board for consideration to adopt in the summer of 2016.

Comments were taken from:

- Ken Sund, Public
 - Rich Holmer, Public
 - Dave Henderson, Fitch Mountain Association, OWTS residents of the Russian River
 - Phil Grosse, Hacienda Improvement Association
 - Regina Costa, Public
 - Bart Deamer, Public
 - Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee
 - Wanda Holmer, Public
 - Lee O. Torr IV, Public
 - Dan Fein, Monte Rio Citizen
9. **Information Item on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and associated State and Regional Board responsibilities/actions.** Erik Ekdahl,

Groundwater Management Program Manager, Office of Research, Planning, and Performance, State Water Resources Control Board, introduced Samuel Boland-Brien, Water Resource Control Engineer, Region 1 SGMA Liaison, Office of Research, Planning, and Performance, State Water Resources Control Board. Mr. Ekdahl gave a presentation on the background and overview of the SGMA program, the statewide prioritization of basins, key SGMA requirements of the basins to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and develop Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), the State Water Board's role of backstop with data and basin management, and coordination with the Department of Water Resources with communication, outreach, regulation development and implementation of SGMA.

10. **Executive Officer's Report.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer, referenced the article on Russian River Blue Green Algae conditions in his written report and wanted to inform the Board that the staff, in partnership with members of the California Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Bloom Network, is preparing to host a 2-day workshop on the subject in early 2016: 1) build strong partnerships and improve monitoring coordination and response throughout our Region, and 2) to facilitate education and outreach to the public and those public agencies and entities responsible for public health and recreational water safety.
11. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items.** Chairman Corbett requested an agenda item on developing an Emergency Action Plan on the Bark Beetle threat to forested land in California.
12. **Other Items of Interest.** There were no requests.
13. **Closed session:** There were no reports from closed session.
14. **Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**
9:00 a.m., Thursday, December 10, 2015
Hopland Research Center
Shippey Hall
4070 University Road
Hopland, CA 95449

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Chairperson_____

Date_____