

Minutes of Meeting

9:00 A.M., Wednesday, March 8, 2017
Fortuna City Council Chambers
621 11th Street
Fortuna, CA 95540

Audio recordings of Board meetings are available at: [North Coast Water Board](#); go to the Board Info tab and click on Meetings.

ii. **Roll Call and Introductions**

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

Board Members absent: Geoffrey Hales

Regional Water Board staff present: Fred Blatt, Josh Curtis, Mona Dougherty, Rebecca Fitzgerald, Kason Grady, Nathan Jacobsen, Shin-Roei Lee, Connor McIntee, Roy O'Conner, Charles Reed, Matt St. John, Chuck Striplen, and Ben Zabinsky

i. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Board member Minton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

iii. **Board Member Reports and Ex Parte Communication Disclosure:**

- Board member Corbett attended a seminar at U.C. Berkeley and said hello to Dr. Scott McCreary and Dr. Robert Twiss, Emeritus, U. C. Berkeley; and attended a Collaborative Marine Resource meeting attended by three of the five Regional Water Quality Control Boards with coastal areas.
- Chairman Noren attended a stakeholder meeting at the North Coast Regional Board on the Laguna Water Quality Trading Framework convened by staff.
- Board member Gant spoke to the engineers of Shasta-Trinity National Forest about a boat ramp project at Trinity Lake

iv. **State Board Liaison's Report:**

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

v. **Public Forum:**

Comments were taken from:

- Susan O'Gorman, Willow Creek CSD
- Patrick Kaspari, Willow Creek CSD
- Jesse Noell, Public

- Jerry Martien, Friends of Elk River
- Megan Van Pelt, Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation
- Felice Pace, North Group Redwood Chapter Sierra Club and project to Reform Public Land Grazing.
- Kristi Wrigley, Elk River Resident

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** February 2, 2017

Motion: Board member Corbett moved to adopt, Board member Minton seconded the motion; Chairman Noren initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla aye
Minton aye
Noren aye
Corbett aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Uncontested Items

2. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2017-0006 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for the Redway Community Services District, WDID No. 1B831470HMU, NPDES No. CA0022781** (*Imtiaz-Ali Kalyan*)

Motion: Board member Giusti moved to adopt Uncontested Item 2, Board member Bedolla seconded the motion; Chairman Noren initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla aye
Minton aye
Noren aye
Corbett aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously.
Following adoption of the WDR Board member Giusti encouraged the CSD to look for funding to upgrade the Facility infrastructure and to implement the Sludge Management Plan.

Action Items

3. **Resolution No. R1-2017-0012 Clarifying the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's Position on the Public Nature of Documents Held or Maintained by Approved Third Party Programs Associated with *Order R1-2015-0023: Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements and General Water Quality Certification and Monitoring and Reporting Program for Discharges of Waste Resulting from Cannabis Cultivation and Associated Activities or Operations with Similar Environmental Effects in the North Coast Region.***

Josh Curtis, Division Chief, Planning, Stewardship & Compliance Assurance Division, gave an overview of the August 2015 Cannabis Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) the role of Third Party Programs, and the purpose of the proposed Resolution.

Comments were taken from:

- Art Deicke, Public

Motion: Board member Corbett moved to adopt R1-2016-0045, Board member Bedolla seconded the motion; Chairman Corbett initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla aye
Minton aye
Noren aye
Corbett aye
Gant aye
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously

Workshops

No Workshops were scheduled

Information Items

4. **Cannabis Regulatory Program and its Relationship to County Ordinances.** Kason Grady, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, and Connor McIntee, Environmental Scientist, Cannabis Regulatory Unit, gave a presentation on the existing County Ordinances related to cannabis cultivation in the following North Coast counties of Humboldt, Trinity, Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake, Glenn, Modoc, Siskiyou, Del Norte, and Marin, and the assistance that the Regional Water Board's Cannabis Unit can provide to counties with 1) Enrollment and permitting coordination; 2) Provide water quality comments on CEQA documents; 3) Grading operations and ordinance development; 4) Shared use roads education and outreach; and 5) Enforcement.

Comments were taken from:

- Art Deicke, Public
- Randy Jacobszoon, Jacobszoon & Associates
- Steven Lazar, Humboldt County Planning & Building

5. **Update on the status of the Agricultural Lands Discharge Program.** Ben Zabinsky, Water Resource Control Engineer, Adaptive Management Unit, introduced Rebecca Fitzgerald, Senior Environmental Scientist, Adaptive Management Unit, and Mike Hiatt, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Mr. Zabinsky updated the Board on the background and basis for the Agricultural Lands Discharge Program, 1) Scott and Shasta River TMDL Waivers; 2) Development of the Vineyard and Orchards Waste Discharge Requirements; 3) Implementation of the Upper Klamath Lake and Tule Lake watershed stewardship efforts; and 4) water quality monitoring associated with lily bulb cultivation in the Smith River Plain. Ms. Fitzgerald, gave an overview and update on the Scott & Shasta River TMDL Waivers, that are scheduled for public comment period in June 2017, and a Regional Board hearing scheduled for October 2017. Mike Hiatt, updated the Board on Oregon's efforts to reduce loading in Oregon's Upper Klamath Lake watershed, and watershed stewardship efforts with partner organizations. Mr. Zabinsky emphasized staff's intent to prioritize development of the Vineyard and Orchard WDR following renewal of the Scott and Shasta TMDL Waivers.

Comments were taken from:

- Regina Chichizola, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
- Rob Miller, Del Norte Farm Bureau & Lily Bulb Grower
- Chris Howard, Supervisor Del Norte County
- Felice Pace, North Group Redwood Chapter Sierra Club

6. **Update on Progress of Consolidated Wastewater Management Project in the Samoa Peninsula, Humboldt County.** Charles Reed, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Groundwater Permitting Unit, introduced Paula Mushrush, Humboldt County Planning Department, who gave a presentation on the history of the Samoa Peninsula; the Samoa Town Master Plan; the Humboldt Bay Harbor Recreation and Conservation District work on the site; wastewater assessment overview; the challenges and opportunities; and the next steps currently under consideration for Consolidated Wastewater Management on the Samoa Peninsula.

Comments were taken from:

- Troy Nicolini, Samoa Peninsula Fire District
- Kathy Moley, Pacific Watershed Association
- Jennifer Kalt, Humboldt Baykeeper

7. **Presentation on California Sea Grant's Humboldt Bay Ocean Acidification and Eelgrass Protection Project.** Dr. Joe Tyburczy, California Sea Grant Extension Specialist, gave a presentation on the new California Sea Grant's

Humboldt Bay Ocean Acidification and Eelgrass Protection Project that monitors impacts of Ocean Acidification (OA) on aquaculture and the extent to which eelgrass may buffer/reduce these impacts. Dr. Tyburczy reviewed the chemistry behind ocean acidification, and described a Burkolator, which is a state-of-the-art real-time carbonate chemistry monitoring station that was installed at the Hog Island Oyster Company that will track Humboldt Bay's carbonate chemistry at the new hatchery.

8. **North Coast Regional Board 2017 Priority Projects.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer, gave a presentation on the proposed 2017 Priority Projects for the North Coast Regional Board; staff funding; and programmatic work commitments.

Comments were taken from:

- Felice Pace, North Group Sierra Club, Redwood Chapter

9. **Executive Officer's Report.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer, updated the Board on Stormer Feiler's promotion to Senior Enforcement Specialist, Planning, Stewardship & Compliance Assurance Division; and presented an overview of how the North Coast Region is faring with the very wet weather that was experienced this winter with sanitary sewer overflows, emergency repair projects, landslides, blocked culverts, complaints, enforcement actions, etc.
10. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items.** Board member Corbett requested an update on the State Water Board's Cannabis General Order.
11. **Other Items of Interest.** No items to discuss.
12. **Closed session:** There were no reports from closed session.
13. **Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**
8:30 a.m., Thursday, May 18, 2017

David C. Joseph Meeting Room
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Chairperson _____

Date _____