

**Minutes of Meeting**

9:00 A.M., Thursday, August 20, 2020  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Video Conference

**Video recordings of Board meetings (since 2/2019) are available at:**

[Prior Board Meeting Video recordings.](#)

**Audio recordings of Board meetings (11/2018 and before) are available at:**

[Prior Board Meeting Audio recordings](#)

- i. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Board member Gant led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ii. **Roll Call and Introductions:**  
  
Board Members present: Kelli Gant, Gregory Giusti, Shaunna McCovey, and Valerie Quinto.  
  
Board Members absent: Hector Bedolla  
  
Regional Water Board staff present: Patti Corsie, Josh Curtis, Cathy Goodwin, Nathan Jacobsen, Devon Jorgenson, Bryan McFadin, Justin McSmith, Matt St. John, Claudia Villacorta, and Jonathan Warmerdam.
- iii. **Board Member Reports and Ex Parte Communication Disclosure:** No Board member reports or Ex Parte Communication disclosures.
- iv. **State Board Liaison's, and Executive Officer's Reports:** State Board Liaison Dorene D'Adamo welcomed our newest Board member, Shaunna McCovey to Region 1 and updated the Board on the following items from the 2-day State Board meeting held on August 18 & 19, 2020: 1) Public Workshop on the status of Phase 1 of the Salton Sea Management Program; 2) The State Board actions and responses to Covid-19; 3) Sewer-shed surveillance for Covid-19; 4) Drinking water fiscal impacts for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) monitoring of public water systems; 5) Economic analysis for Chromium 6; 6) A needs assessment is warranted that accounts for equity and resilience of small water systems in order to ensure safe and affordable drinking water in disadvantaged communities; 7) Submit a report of indoor water use efficiency standards to the State Legislature by January 2021; 8) Direction by state legislation to work on developing water loss performance standards; 9) Review of the draft Winery General Order reporting requirements; and 10) Racial

Equity Framework discussion with a development of a Resolution for outreach, policies, and regulations.

v. **Public Forum:**

**Comments were taken from:**

- Angelina Cook, Water for Citizens of Weed, California

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** June 18, 2020

**Motion:** Board member Gant moved to adopt June 18, 2020 Meeting minutes, Board member Giusti seconded the motion; Chairwoman Quinto initiated a roll-call vote:

Giusti aye

Gant aye

Quinto aye

McCovey aye

Motion passed unanimously

2. **Resolution of Appreciation for the staff of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer, gave introductory comments on the Resolution, and Chairwoman Quinto read the Resolution of Appreciation for the staff of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board for their dedication and hard work to complete the Regional Board's critical work even during the times of crisis (fires, floods, and Covid-19 pandemic) affecting the North Coast Regional Water Board.

3. **Update on Potter Valley Project Two Basin Solution Proposal.** Bryan McFadin, Flow & Riparian Protection Specialist, Planning & Stewardship Division, gave an introduction of the Potter Valley Project Two-Basin solution proposal and introduced Pam Jeane, Assistant General Manager, Water & Wastewater Operations, Sonoma County Water Agency, who gave a presentation on the background, overview of the Two-Basin Partnership, the recent filings with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and the timeline for future development of the Two-Basin solution. For more information on the Two-basin Partnership can be found at [twobasinsolution.org](http://twobasinsolution.org), along with more information for the Ad Hoc process can be found at [pottervalleyproject.org](http://pottervalleyproject.org).

### **Action Items**

4. **Public Hearing to consider adoption of Proposed Order No. R1-2020-0021, Short- Term Renewal of the Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Nonpoint Source Discharges Related to Certain Federal Land Management Activities on National Forest System Lands in the North Coast Region, Order No. R1-2015- 0021.** This agenda item was pulled from Uncontested Items as a member of the public wanted to provide comment, but after opening the hearing for the item, the public commenter decided not to make comments on the item. Board

member Giusti provided comments in support of the proposed Order and provided suggestions for consideration in drafting the next version of the Order, including potential requirements associated with grazing activities, road management and dust control, and fire prevention and fire recovery activities. Board member Gant voiced support for Board member Giusti's comments.

**Motion:** Board member Giusti moved to adopt Order R1-2020-0021, Board member Gant seconded the motion; Chairwoman Quinto initiated a roll-call vote:

Giusti aye  
Gant aye  
Quinto aye  
McCovey aye

Motion passed unanimously

**5. Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2020-0012 to consider adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements for City of Santa Rosa Subregional Water Reclamation System, NPDES No. CA0022764, WDID No. 1B83099OSON, Sonoma County.**

Cathy Goodwin, Water Resource Control Engineer, NPDES Unit, Point Source Control & Groundwater Protection Division, gave the history and background of Order No. R1-2013-0001 and then reviewed the changes and requirements of the new proposed Order R1-2020-0012.

**Comments were taken from:**

- Dan Galvin – City of Santa Rosa Board of Public Utilities
- Sean McNeil – City of Santa Rosa
- Jaime Neary – Russian Riverkeeper
- Amelia Whitson – US EPA

Board members discussed the City of Santa Rosa's requested revisions to the proposed Order and decided not to entertain revisions.

**Motion:** Board member Gant moved to adopt Order R1-2020-0012, along with the Change sheet, Board member McCovey seconded the motion; Chairwoman Quinto initiated a roll-call vote:

Giusti aye  
Gant aye  
Quinto aye  
McCovey aye

Motion passed unanimously

- 6. Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2020-0010 to consider adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements for the Windsor Water District Wastewater Treatment, Reclamation, and Disposal Facility, NPDES No. CA0023345, WDID No. 1B820370SON, Sonoma County.** Justin McSmith, Water Resource Control Engineer, NPDES Unit, Point Source Control & Groundwater Protection Division, gave the history and background of the prior Order No. R1-2013-0042 and reviewed the changes and requirements of the new proposed Order R1-2020-0010.

**Comments were taken from:**

- Veronica Siwy – Town of Windsor, CA

Board member Gant asked for clarification regarding the project approval process associated with the water quality trading framework and staff responded.

**Motion:** Board member Gant moved to adopt Order R1-2020-0010, Board member McCovey seconded the motion; Chairwoman Quinto initiated a roll-call vote:

Giusti aye  
Gant aye  
Quinto aye  
McCovey aye

Motion passed unanimously

### Information Items

- 7. Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021 Work Plans.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer, provided an overview, purpose, and summary of each of the four Regional Board Divisions Work Plans (Point Source & Groundwater Protection; Non-Point Source & Surface Water Protection; Planning & Watershed Stewardship; and Cannabis & Enforcement Divisions) and discussed the new components added to the Work Plans this fiscal year: 1) Unplanned Work Activities; 2) Prioritizing Staff Supervision; 3) Fiscal Impacts from the Coronavirus Pandemic; and 4) Reductions to funding of the Cannabis Program Staff.

**Comments were taken from:**

- Felice Pace – North Group Redwood Chapter Sierra Club & Grazing Reform Project.

- 8. Executive Officer's Report.** Matt St. John, Executive Officer, spoke about the low stream flows in the Russian River watershed and the significant threat it poses to the listed endangered species as reported in the first article of the Executive Officer's Report *Dry Conditions Lead to Reduced Russian River Flows and Agency Response* by Bryan McFadin, Flow & Riparian Protection Specialist, Planning & Stewardship Division.

**9. Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items and Other Items of Interest.**

Board member Giusti asked for an update on plans to partner with local and state agencies about supplying sanitation facilities at popular recreational areas along Highway 101 in the Russian River watershed. Board member Quinto suggested requesting an update from the Clean Water Alliance on their trash cleanup work within the Russian River watershed.

**10. Closed Session:** The Board did not meet in closed session.

**11. Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment:** 9:00 a.m., Thursday October 15, 2020 and Friday October 16, 2020 online Zoom meetings.

**Meeting adjourned at:** 3:00 p.m.

Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_