State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board North Coast Region

Minutes of Meeting

9:00 A.M., Thursday, September 26, 2013 River Lodge Conference Center 1800 Riverwalk Drive Fortuna, CA 95540

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

i. Pledge of Allegiance

Board Member William Massey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ii. Roll Call and Introductions

Board Members present: David Noren, Geoffrey Hales, William Massey, Heidi

Harris, John Corbett and Irene Tynes

Regional Water Board staff present: Matt St. John, David Leland, Samantha Olson,

David Rice, Patti Corsie, Elena Franceschi, Fred

Blatt, Bryan McFadin, Diana Henrioulle, Rebecca Fitzgerald, Colleen Hunt, Clayton Creager, Jim Burke, Alydda Mangelsdorf,

Jonathan Warmerdam

iii. Board Member Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

• William Massey met with Federal, State and local officials regarding West County sewer systems.

iv. State Board Liaison's, Board Chair's and Executive Officer's Reports

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

- State Board passed fee increases to cover programs that have moved from the general fund to fee-based funding.
- FY 2012-2013 Performance Report is available on the State Board's website, with specific data associated with TMDL's.
- State Board adopted Central Coast Water Board Region 3 Agricultural Order.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) selected the Salt River Watershed/Lower Eel River as the recipient of the National Water Quality Initiative for 2013-2014 Fiscal Year.
- The State Board staff participated in a workshop with the California Rural Water Association on September 10, 2013 regarding technical assistance for small, disadvantaged communities facing wastewater issues. The State Board also held a meeting on August 29, 2013 for stakeholders to provide comments and these comments will be heard as an informational item on this topic at the State Board meeting on October 22, 2013.
- On August 27, 2013 State Board staff attended the Board of Supervisors meeting for Humboldt County regarding the current historically low water conditions and ways to increase ability of water diverts to store water in the wet season for use in

the summer season and working cooperatively with the State and Regional Water Boards to better support this effort. An Ad-hoc committee has formed and the Regional Board staff are invited to participate.

• Legislation – 12 bills were adopted related to water, notably Senate Bill No. 4-Oil and Gas: Well Stimulation Hydraulic Fracturing. This bill requires the State Board, on or before July 1, 2015, to develop a groundwater monitoring model criteria to be implemented either on a well-by-well basis or on a regional scale, on how to conduct appropriate monitoring of oil and gas wells in order to protect sources of drinking water.

v. **Public Forum**

Comments were taken from:

- Sal Steinberg, Friends of Van Duzen, Eel River Recovery Project
- Patrick Higgins, Volunteer Coordinator of Eel River Recovery Project
- Kristy Wrigley, Elk River resident Upper Elk River
- Felice Pace, Public
- 1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**: August 22, 2013

Motion: William Massey moved to adopt the August 22, 2013 Minutes, Geoffrey Hales seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Uncontested Items

No Uncontested Items at this time

Action Items

No Action Items at this time

Workshops

2. Public Workshop to solicit comments on the Policy for the Implementation of the Water Quality Objectives for Temperature, and Action Plans to Address Temperature Impairments in the Mattole, Navarro, and Eel River Watersheds Bryan McFadin, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, gave a presentation on the history, policy approach, Action Plans, and the next steps leading to the consideration of the Basin Plan Amendment at the November 20th Board hearing.

Comments were taken from:

- Jason Poburko, Public
- Devon Jones, Mendocino County Farm Bureau
- Jack Rice, California Farm Bureau Federation
- Patrick Higgins, Eel River Recovery Project
- Daniel Myers, Redwood Chapter of Sierra Club

- Gary Rynearson, Green Diamond Resource Company
- 3. Public Workshop to solicit comments on the draft Order No. R1-2013-0059, Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements and General Water Quality Certification for Mendocino County Resource Conservation District's Mendocino County Permit Coordination Program. Jonathan Warmerdam, Environmental Scientist, Non-Point Source Unit gave a presentation to the Board on Mendocino County's conservation and restoration needs, the permitting process, Mendocino County Permit Coordination Program and the Regional Board Waiver to be considered at the November 20th Board hearing.

Comments were taken from:

• Patty Madigan, Mendocino County Resource Conservation District

Information Items

4. **Update on the development of the Agricultural Lands Discharge Program.**Rebecca Fitzgerald, Senior Environmental Scientist, TMDL Unit, gave an update on the progress on development of the Agricultural Lands Discharge Program to date, a proposal to revise the Program's scope, summary of feedback from Stakeholders Advisory Group, and the next steps and recommendations. Diana Henrioulle, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Enforcement Unit, gave a presentation on the options and considerations for regulating the discharge of waste from marijuana cultivation and the potential next steps in addressing these water quality impacts.

Comments were taken from:

- Felice Pace, Redwood Chapter Sierra Club/Klamath Forest Alliance
- Devon Jones, Mendocino County Farm Bureau
- Jack Rice, California Farm Bureau Federation
- Katherine Zeemer, Humboldt County Farm Bureau
- Julia Carreara, Small Farmers Association
- 5. **Update on Klamath Basin Watershed Stewardship Activities.** Clayton Creager, Staff Environmental Scientist gave an update on the Klamath Basin Watershed Stewardship activities with an overview of the Watershed Stewardship Program and partnerships, Upper Basin Water Quality Improvement Report, Klamath Tracking and Accounting Program, Klamath Basin Monitoring Program, KHSA/KBRA update, Management Agency Agreement, and the Shasta Valley Watershed Stewardship Program.

Comments were taken from:

- Felice Pace, Redwood Chapter Sierra Club/Klamath Forest Alliance
- 6. North Coast Storm Water Coalition Update on Activities Supporting Municipal Storm Water Phase II Permittees. Colleen Hunt, Environmental Scientist, Core

Regulatory Unit, introduced Miles Slattery, Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Eureka and representing the North Coast Stormwater Coalition (NCSC), who gave a presentation of the activities of NCSC with public education, outreach, training and workshops.

- 7. **Executive Officer's Report**. Matt St. John, Executive Officer spoke to the Board about the theme of the day of promoting partnerships, streamlining permits, promoting restoration, developing incentives for water quality protection, and highlighted that the North Coast Dairy Program received the Governor's Streamlining Superstar Award for staff's efforts to work collaboratively with the dairy community and other stakeholders.
- 8. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items**. No requests made.
- 9. **Other Items of Interest**. No items to discuss.
- 10. **Closed Session.** There were no reports from closed session.
- 11. Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 20, 2013 8:30 a.m., Thursday, November 21, 2013 5550 Skylane Blvd, Suite A Santa Rosa, CA

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 pm.

| Chairperson | | |
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| Date | | |