

Minutes of Meeting

8:30 A.M., Thursday, October 8, 2015
David C. Joseph Meeting Room
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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

i. Pledge of Allegiance

Board member Massey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ii. Roll Call and Introductions

Board Members present: John Corbett, Gregory Giusti (8:30-12:00 p.m.), Geoffrey Hales, William Massey, Valerie Minton, and David Noren

Regional Water Board staff present: Lisa Bernard, Ryan Bey, Fred Blatt, Jim Burke, Steve Butkus, Katharine Carter, Allison Clark, Patti Corsie, Rob Dickerson, Carley Dunleavy, Mona Dougherty, Stormer Feiler, Forest Fortescue, Coleen Hunt, Craig Hunt, Devon Jorgenson, Paul Keiran, David Kuszmar, Shin-Roei Lee, Michael Lennox, Bryan McFadin, Justin McSmith, Dean Prat, Jeremiah Puget, Maggie Robinson, Matt St. John, Claudia Villacorta and Tom Williams

iii. Board Member Ex Parte Communication Disclosure:

- William Massey had discussions with state and local officials regarding west County sewer and solid waste issues in Sonoma County.
- John Corbett had conversations with the Humboldt County Farm Bureau Executive Director about generic issues and possible future Regional Water Board regulations.
- David Noren had discussions with state and local officials regarding the west County sewer issues, the Russian River TMDL, and the Sonoma County Landfill and Compost Facility issues.
- Geoffrey Hales spoke with Humboldt Redwood Company and Green Diamond Resource Company managers regarding the Elk River TMDL schedule.
- Valerie Minton had conversations with stakeholders about the Russian River TMDL and solid waste issues in Sonoma County.

iv. **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.

The Executive Officer's Report:

Matt St. John updated the Board on:

- Introduced new staff: Claudia Villacorta, Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer, Division Chief, Point Source Control & Groundwater Protection Division, and Lance Le, PhD, Water Resource Control Engineer, Planning Unit.
- Presented a Sustained Superior Accomplishment Award to the Temperature Policy team of Bryan McFadin, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Flow & Riparian Protection Specialist, Jeremiah Puget, Environmental Scientist, Planning Unit, and Samantha Olson, Senior Staff Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Chief Counsel.
- An article in the written Executive Officer's report by Rebecca Fitzgerald, Senior Environmental Scientist, Adaptive Watershed Management Unit, gives information on applying for the \$7.54 billion Proposition 1 fund grants that are available.
- Accepting nominations from the public and Water Board staff for the upcoming annual Executive Officers' Water Quality Stewardship Award for 2015 which will be presented at the January 2016 Board meeting.
- William F. "Zeke" Grader, Executive Director, of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Associations, passed away on September 7, 2015. Mr. Grader was a long-time conservationist and activist for fisheries in the North Coast region and he will be greatly missed.

- v. **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:

- Duane DeWitt, Roseland Action
- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes: August 12 & 13, 2015**

Motion: William Massey moved to adopt, 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.

2. **Review of the 2016 Board Meeting Schedule.** Board reviewed and Chairman Corbett stated he could not attend the meetings in May and October as scheduled due to prior commitments and asked for those Board meetings to be rescheduled. March 2016 Board meeting will be a two-day meeting.

Uncontested Items

3. **Resolution R1-2015-0063 to establish a schedule to bring the Elk River Waste Discharge Requirements Order to the Regional Water Board for consideration**

Comments were taken from:

- Mike Miles, Humboldt Redwood Company

4. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2015-0029 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for City of Willits Wastewater Treatment Facility, WDID No. 1B80078OMEN, NPDES No. CA0023060**

Motion: William Massey moved to adopt Items #3 & 4, 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.

Action Items

5. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2015-0021 to consider adoption of proposed 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.** Dean Prat, Senior Engineering Geologist, Northern Nonpoint Source & Forestry Unit, gave a presentation on the chronology of the proposed Order No. R1-2015-0021, with an overview of the primary revisions from the 2010 Order, response to comments received, review of the errata sheet and new finding #6, with staff recommendation to adopt Order No. R1-2015-0021.

Comments were taken from:

- Diana Craig, U.S. Forest Service
- Felice Pace, Project to Reform Public Land Grazing in Northern California
- Vivian Helliwell, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations

Chairman Corbett called for a 30 second moment of silence to honor Zeke Grader; he was a great man and will be missed.

- Devon Jones, Executive Director, Mendocino Co. Farm Bureau

Motion: William Massey moved to adopt with errata sheet and new finding #6, 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.

6. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2015-0030 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements and Monitoring and Reporting Program for the City of Santa Rosa, the County of Sonoma, the Sonoma County Water Agency, the City of Cotati, the City of Cloverdale, the City of Rohnert Park, the City of Sebastopol, the City of Ukiah, the Town of Windsor, and the City of Healdsburg, Storm Water and Non-Storm Water Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, NPDES No. CA0025054.** Board members Minton and Noren read disclosures regarding their employment affiliations with the co-permittees; no recusal needed from voting on this Board item per State Water Board legal counsel. Colleen Hunt, Environmental Scientist, NPDES Unit, gave a presentation on the background of the existing Order, reviewed the new requirements of the proposed Order, response to public comments received and staff recommendation to adopt Order No. R1-2015-0030.

Mona Dougherty, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, NPDES Unit, assisted in answering questions from the Board.

Comments were taken from:

- Andy Rodgers, Russian River Watershed Association
- Henry J. Mikus, City of Sebastopol
- Eric Janzen, City of Cloverdale
- Rick Seanor, City of Ukiah
- Heaven Moore, City of Santa Rosa
- Will Stockard, County of Sonoma PRMD
- Nazareth Tesfai, Sonoma County Water Agency
- Bob Legge, Russian Riverkeeper
- Dale Harriman, Russian Riverkeeper
- Larry Hanson, Russian Riverkeeper
- Kate Wilson, Russian Riverkeeper
- Don McEnhill, Russian Riverkeeper

Motion: David Noren moved to adopt with the change sheet (including the two new additions proposed for Order section IV.D Planning and Land Development and V.C Special Studies) and errata, Geoffrey Hales seconded the motion, Chairman Corbett initiated a roll-call vote:

Minton aye

Hales aye

Noren aye

Corbett aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Workshops

None at this time

Information Items

7. **Review and Discussion of the October 12-13, 2015 Water Quality Coordinating Committee Meeting Agenda.** Matt St. John briefly reviewed the Water Quality Coordinating Committee meeting agenda for October 12 & 13, 2015.
8. **Executive Officer's Report.** Matt St. John, highlighted the implementation steps taken regarding the Cannabis Waste Discharge Order: (1) work with the State Water Board to develop an electronic enrollment submittal process, (2) develop a mailer to inform Region 1's public of the Cannabis Order, (3) hold enrollment

clinics to assist the public in the enrollment process, (4) continue to work with California Department of Fish & Wildlife regarding each agencies roles and responsibilities when participating in joint inspections, (5) finalize a guidance document for prospective 3rd party programs to clarify the process by which they need to submit a proposal to be formally approved as a 3rd party program, (6) use aerial imagery to identify properties that are potentially growing and send out letters of notice to those property owners to enroll in the program, (7) develop an in-house manual for Water Board staff to follow, i.e. the do's and don'ts of what to say when engaged with the cannabis cultivators.

- 9. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items.** Board member Noren requested an agenda informational item discussion on the Russian River water quality issues as it pertains to blue-green algae, flow augmentation and TMDL requirements, including participation by Sonoma County Water Agency.
- 10. **Other Items of Interest.** There were no requests.
- 11. **Closed session.** There were no reports from closed session.
- 12. **Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**
1:00 P.M., Wednesday, November 18, 2015
David C. Joseph Meeting Room
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm.

Chairperson _____

Date _____