

**NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
February 1, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-President Petterle called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water District to order at 7:30 p.m. at the District headquarters and the agenda was accepted as presented. Present were Directors Jack Baker, Rick Fraites and Dennis Rodoni. Also present were General Manager Chris DeGabriele (8:00 p.m.), Secretary Renee Roberts, Auditor-Controller David Bentley and Chief Engineer Drew McIntyre. President Schoonover was absent.

District employee Robert Clark (Operations/Maintenance Superintendent), Doug Moore (Construction/Maintenance Superintendent) and Pablo Ramudo (Water Quality Supervisor) were in the audience.

**MINUTES**

On motion of Director Baker, seconded by Director Rodoni and carried by the following vote, the Board approved the minutes from the previous meeting as presented:

AYES: Directors Baker, Fraites, Petterle, Rodoni

NOES: None

ABSENT: Director Schoonover

ABSTAIN: None

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Presentation to Novato Unified School District on Recycled Water Expansion**

Mr. DeGabriele reported that he made a presentation to the Novato Unified School District Board of Trustees this evening on the District's Recycled Water Expansion Program. He said their Board understands that development of recycled water is necessary to meet Novato's future water demand and comply with State requirements to reduce per capita water consumption. He advised that next Tuesday, February 8, he will make a similar presentation to the Novato City Council.

**North Bay Water Reuse Authority Orientation**

Mr. DeGabriele informed the Board that on Thursday, February 3 the North Bay Water Reuse Authority will hold an orientation for new Board members at Novato Sanitary District and that Directors Baker and Schoonover, Drew McIntyre and he will attend. He said that representatives

from Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District and Novato Sanitary District will also be present at the informational meeting.

#### Novato Leadership

Mr. DeGabriele said that the Novato Leadership class will visit the Stafford Treatment Plant on February 9<sup>th</sup> as part of their Special Districts tour.

#### UWMP

Mr. DeGabriele updated the Board on the Urban Water Management Plan progress. He said that the Board has seen the Maddaus report identifying new water demand and water conservation projections. He said that staff is working with water contractors on the new UWMP requirement to reduce per capita water use by 20% by year 2020 (SBX 7-7) and they are looking at a regional approach to achieve that reduction. He said that the District, Town of Windsor and City of Sonoma need the regional approach in order to comply with SBX 7-7.

#### **OPEN TIME**

Vice-President Petterle asked if anyone in the audience wished to bring up an item not on the agenda and there was no response.

#### **STAFF / DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

Vice-President Petterle asked if staff or Directors wished to bring up an item not on the agenda and the following items were discussed:

Director Fraites distributed a news article entitled, "The Grapes of Wrath" published by *The Bohemian* reporting on the conflict between agricultural water users and protection of endangered fish in the Mark West Creek, a tributary of the Russian River. Director Fraites said that the article alleges that wineries' use of well water for irrigation is the cause of dwindling water levels of Mark West Creek thus having a huge impact on the salmon runs. He said that the Sonoma County Water Agency and its contractors are spending a lot of money to protect endangered fish in the Russian River and it's his opinion that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors should weigh in with the wineries on this issue.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

On the motion of Director Baker, seconded by Director Fraites and carried by those Directors present, the following item was approved on the consent calendar:

**CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT AMENDMENT WITH RETIRED EMPLOYEE**

The Board authorized the General Manager to enter into an amended consulting services agreement with Jonathan Van Bourg for the purpose of developing a Distribution/Treatment Training Program Manual.

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**APPROVE: LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF NOVATO FOR USE OF CITY PROPERTIES AS FINISHED WATER STORAGE FACILITY SITES**

Mr. DeGabriele stated that the District currently has a license agreement with the City of Novato to use Ammo Hill as a finished water storage facility site (Amaroli Tank). He further stated that staff have been meeting with the City of Novato for discussions on the Amended License Agreement for use of Reservoir Hill for recycled water storage as part of the Novato North Service Area Recycled Water Project. He said that the City requested compensation in exchange for use of said property, and the District proposed compensation in the form of a new water service for landscape irrigation at a mutually agreed upon location. He stated that this is agreeable with the City; however the City's assistant attorney has inserted language addressing City approval of Proposed Improvements (Section 1), Termination (Section 4) and additional indemnification language. He said that he feels the termination language is troublesome and as asked District legal counsel to review and advise on same. Mr. DeGabriele stated that he will attend the City Council meeting next Monday when the Council will consider approval of the License Agreement. He requested that the Board authorize him to execute the agreement subject to approval by the District's attorney.

Director Petterle said he is familiar with license agreements that have a termination clause, and suggested that there be language requiring ninety or 120 days written notice of termination to allow staff and Board time to react.

On motion of Director Baker and seconded by Director Fraites, and unanimously approved by those Directors present, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute the Amended and Restated License Agreement between the City of Novato and NMWD for Use of City's Ammo Hill and Reservoir Hill Properties as Finished Water Storage Facility Sites, subject to approval by District legal counsel.

**APPROVE: FINAL DRAFT INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT FOR RECYCLED WATER WITH LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

Mr. DeGabriele reported that staff has concluded discussions with Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District on the Inter Agency Agreement for Recycled Water and that the Las Gallinas Board of Directors approved the final draft agreement at their Board meeting on January 27, 2011. He

said that District legal counsel is reviewing the agreement and asked the Board for approval subject to attorney review.

On motion of Director Rodoni, and seconded by Director Baker, the Board unanimously approved by those Directors present, the Inter Agency Agreement For Recycled Water between Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District and NMWD subject to District legal counsel review.

**APPROVE: CITY OF NOVATO SUBORDINATION REQUEST – HAMILTON FIELD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA**

Mr. DeGabriele stated that the City of Novato has requested the District agree to subordination of Statutory Pass-through Payments that the Redevelopment Agency is required to pay when Hamilton Field was developed in 1994. He said at that time, connection fees for commercial development associated with the Hamilton Field Project were paid pursuant to pass-through payments. Mr. DeGabriele stated that this subordination requests enables the City to continue the redevelopment project and advised that the City does not owe the District any further connection fees associated with the Hamilton Field Project.

On motion of Director Baker, seconded by Director Fraites and unanimously carried by those Directors present, the Board agreed to the subordination of Statutory Pass-through Payments in connection with the Hamilton Field Redevelopment Project and authorized the General Manager to acknowledge same on the acknowledgement form provided by the Redevelopment Agency.

**APPROVE: NORTH BAY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL – NOVATO ALGEBRA ACADEMY PARTICIPATION**

Mr. DeGabriele informed the Board that Cynthia Murray of North Bay Leadership Council asked if the District would be interested in participating in the Novato Algebra Academy this summer. He said that the program is modeled after the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce/Santa Rosa Unified School District Algebra Academy. He explained that thirty middle school students selected by the Novato Unified School District would participate. He said that the District would be a hosting business for one week and would be responsible for providing an overview of District activities requiring math and science skills as well as providing snacks and lunches to the students; estimated cost is \$1,500. Mr. DeGabriele said that Novato Sanitary District is supportive of sharing the hosting responsibility. He stated that he feels this is a good opportunity to expose students to what is being done at the District.

On motion of Director Baker, seconded by Director Rodoni and carried unanimously by those Directors present, the Board authorized the General Manager to inform North Bay Leadership

Council that North Marin Water District will be a hosting entity for the Novato Algebra Academy in August 2011.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**SECOND QUARTER FY 2010/11 – WATER QUALITY REPORT**

Pablo Ramudo provided the FY 2010/11 Second Quarter Water Quality Report and stated that water served to the communities of Novato and Point Reyes Station met all federal and state primary and secondary water standards during this time. He said that Stafford Lake saw poor raw water quality this quarter and that the Total Organic Carbon (TOC) was about 20% above the average for the last eight years and the highest reading ever recorded was in October due to high levels of nutrients in the lake. He said high TOC levels in the raw water makes it harder to meet the District's goal of 3 mg/L or less TOC in the finished water; in October the finished water TOC level reached 3.6 mg/L. Mr. Ramudo explained that as a result, disinfection byproducts were present in the distribution system; however, the disinfection byproduct rule standards were met in Novato.

Mr. Ramudo reported that in the Point Reyes water system, there was no significant salt water intrusion into the wells unlike last year at this time, and there were no problems with disinfection byproducts. He said that when tests revealed exceedence of the Maximum Contaminant Limit (MCL) for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs), once in 2009 and once in 2010, the Department of Public Health instructed the District to conduct increased monitoring for the disinfection byproducts for three years beginning in 2010. He said that the system was well below the MCL for TTHMs this year.

Mr. Ramudo gave an informational presentation to the Board on developments in public health regulations regarding hexavalent chromium (hex-chrome) and perchlorate. He said that the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment released a draft public health goal for (hex-chrome) in drinking water, and the US EPA is encouraging public water systems to conduct voluntary monitoring down to the level of the new California public health goal (.02 ppb, parts per billion). Mr. Ramudo advised that tests on water from Stafford Treatment Plant and Point Reyes Treatment Plant have shown no detection of (hex-chrome) below the current level for reporting (50 ppb). He further advised that tests capable of detecting (hex-chrome) at the new public health goal level have not been conducted by the lab.

Mr. Ramudo said that new regulations on perchlorate will most likely revise the MCL for perchlorate in drinking water. He reminded the Board of its decision to ban fireworks after the detection of perchlorate in Stafford Lake immediately following the fireworks display during the

Labor Day at the Lake event in 2006. He said that since then, there has been no perchlorate detected in Stafford Lake water.

### **SECOND QUARTER FY 2010/11 UPDATE – OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE**

Mr. Clark provided an update on the Operations/Maintenance Department Fiscal Year 2010/11 second quarter. He stated that at Stafford Treatment Plant, one treatment plant operator has resigned and another has retired. He said that 54 applications for the two vacant positions have been received and interviews will begin next week. He advised that Stafford production for the calendar year 2010 was 2,467 acre feet, the most water produced in a calendar year.

Mr. Clark reported that Novato production was up 4% overall. He said that a water leak was discovered at Amaroli Tank resulting in an approximately seven million gallon loss; the leak was repaired. He said that flushing in Novato was discontinued for the year because quality results observed during flushing were very clean and he credited the new treatment plant for the good quality water.

Mr. Clark stated that flows at Point Reyes Station remain steady and that flushing in West Marin will begin in February. He said that at Oceana Marin roots have been cut out of the pipes allowing more intrusion and the highest flow recorded was in December 2010 with over one million gallons of flow. He said he will be working with engineering staff to determine which cross country lines will be upgraded this fiscal year.

Mr. Clark summarized Maintenance tasks performed this quarter and stated that the Electrical/Mechanical group completed the chlorine dioxide generator installation, upgraded and modified the controls of the chemical feed systems and replaced the primary control valves for aqueduct operation. He said that crews have assisted Phillips and Associates at Oceana Marin with a controller malfunction and trained their field technicians on troubleshooting techniques. He reported that the cross connection control section is very busy with required tasks including inspections, testing and repairs of the backflow devices.

Mr. Clark said the Buildings and Grounds group upgraded the old GAC building at Stafford Treatment Plant and the fleet mechanic, Kent LeBrun, continues to impress staff with his skills in repairing vehicles in-house. He acknowledged Mr. LeBrun for his help with warehouse duties during the absence of the storekeeper.

### **ON AIR/VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS AT WINGED FOOT TANK**

Robert Clark reported that On Air Company inquired if the District would be interested in a new cellular antenna project at the Winged Foot tank site. He said that On Air performs site

evaluations for Verizon Communications and they were interested in performing a feasibility study of the Winged Foot site to determine if that the site would be suitable for a cellular communication facility similar to that installed by them at Little Mountain/Stafford Treatment Plant. He stated that Verizon informed District staff that their preliminary tests showed that the site would be suitable for their purposes and will proceed with a feasibility study. Mr. Clark said that if their feasibility study shows that it would be satisfactory for their facility, he would prepare a Preliminary License Agreement and will bring it to the Board for consideration.

Director Rodoni said that, unlike Stafford Treatment Plant where Verizon constructed a facility, he is assuming that there are houses close to the new site. Mr. Clark responded that the tank site is remote and is only visible to houses from across the valley from the tank. Director Rodoni stated that he believes it is important that there be a public hearing so that customers living in the surrounding area will be notified and have a chance to comment. Mr. Clark said that the preliminary license agreement clearly states that public outreach has to be conducted before the agreement is finalized.

Director Petterle requested that people living within a certain radius of the site be properly noticed of the meeting time.

#### **WAC/TAC MEETING – FEBRUARY 7, 2011**

Mr. DeGabriele presented the draft agenda for the February 7<sup>th</sup> WAC/TAC meeting. He said that there will be new officers elected and the draft Sonoma County Water Agency budget will be discussed.

#### **NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION MEETING – FEBRUARY 4, 2011**

Mr. DeGabriele stated that the North Bay Watershed Association meeting will be held on February 4 in Petaluma.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

The Board received the following miscellaneous information: Disbursements, Marin Sonoma Narrows (MSN) Project – Open House, Biological Opinion News, Stafford Park Bike Park Tour, LAFCO Election Results, Brown Taps Jerry Meral for Deputy Resources Secretary, Thank you letter from Save Our Water.

The Board also received the following news articles: Flushed Away: Keeping our Water Quality Excellent, Water Agency Receives Global Standardization Certifications.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At the request of Director Fraites, the Board unanimously voted by those Directors present to adjourn the meeting in memory of Jeanne Schoonover, wife of President Schoonover. Vice-President Petterle adjourned the meeting in memory of Mrs. Schoonover at 8:34 p.m.

Submitted by

Renee Roberts  
District Secretary