

1 **NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT**
2 **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**
3 **OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
4 September 1, 2015

5 **CALL TO ORDER**

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

11 Mike Jolly, Novato Resident, District employees Ryan Grisso (Water Conservation
12 Coordinator), Pablo Ramudo (Water Quality Supervisor), Dave Jackson (Associate Engineer)
13 Robert Clark (Operations/Maintenance Superintendent) and Tony Arendell
14 (Construction/Maintenance Superintendent) were in the audience.

15 **MINUTES**

16 On motion of Director Schoonover, seconded by Director Petterle, the Board approved the
17 minutes from the previous meeting as presented by the following vote:

18 AYES: Directors Baker, Fraites, Petterle, Rodoni and Schoonover

19 NOES: None

20 **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

21 **West Marin Water District's Meeting**

22 Mr. DeGabriele informed the Board that tomorrow he is meeting with managers of the West
23 Marin Water District's to coordinate responses on the Marin LAFCO Countywide Water Service
24 Study.

25 **Gallagher Ranch Potential Groundwater**

26 Mr. DeGabriele advised the Board that Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Clark and he will will meet with the
27 District's geotechnical consultant (PES Environmental) at the Gallagher Ranch to kick off the search
28 for another upstream well site adjacent to Lagunitas Creek.

29 **OPEN TIME**

30 President Baker asked if anyone in the audience wished to bring up an item not on the
31 agenda and there was no response.

32

1 **STAFF / DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

2 President Baker asked if staff or Directors wished to bring up an item not on the agenda and
3 the following items were discussed:

4 Mr. McIntyre reported that the Aqueduct Energy Efficiency Project's 42" diameter aqueduct
5 has been pressure tested and disinfected. He stated that the north connection to the existing 30"
6 aqueduct has been made and it's expected that the south connection will be completed tomorrow
7 with the middle connection yet to complete. He informed the Board that once the north and south
8 connections are made both aqueducts will be placed in service to enable service laterals to be
9 moved from the existing 30" to the new 42" aqueduct over the next 3 weeks. Mr. McIntyre further
10 advised that Ken Sinclair will be leaving Vali Cooper & Associates to join Carollo Engineers but will
11 be available to finish up pending change orders. He noted that Justin Seufert from Vali Cooper &
12 Associates will take over the Construction Manager's position in Sinclair's absence.

13 Mr. McIntyre also advised that he and Brad Stompe attended the Stafford Lake Bike Park
14 grand opening on 8/22 which was extremely well attended and is expected to be a huge success in
15 the community.

16 Director Rodoni reported that he attended the Sonoma County Water Agency's Water
17 Education Center Grand Opening on 8/20 representing the District and the Water Advisory
18 Committee (WAC). He stated that he spoke on behalf of the Water Contractors as the WAC chair
19 and commented that it is a beautiful facility.

20 **CONSENT CALENDAR**

21 On the motion of Director Petterle, seconded by Director Fraites the Board approved the
22 following items on the consent calendar by the following vote:

23 AYES: Directors Baker, Fraites, Petterle, Rodoni and Schoonover

24 NOES: None

25 **OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FOR DREW MCINTYRE**

26 The Board authorized Drew McIntyre to travel out of state to attend the AWWA spring
27 conference in Las Vegas, Nevada from October 25th through the 29th.

28

1 **COST OF AEEP DEDICATION PROJECT**

2 The Board approved the October 1, 2015 date for the Aqueduct Energy Efficiency Project
3 Dedication at Olompali State Park with a budget of \$3,100.

4 **CONTRACT FOR DRAFTING SERVICES FY15-16 – ABEREGG**

5 The Board approved a miscellaneous drafting services agreement with Michael Aberegg
6 with a not-to-exceed limit of \$30,000.

7 **ACTION CALENDAR**

8 **RESPONSE TO CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT – COIN**

9 Mr. Bentley introduced the proposed response to the Marin County Civil Grand Jury request
10 for the District to adopt a resolution supporting Civic Openness in Negotiation (COIN) advising that
11 it's likely it stems from interest promoted by Citizens for Sustainable Pensions. He noted that the
12 District's Board has always paid great attention to labor costs and labor agreement details. He
13 indicated that the proposed response was reviewed by the District's Employee Association which
14 believes it may be too subtle and was reviewed by the District's labor relations counsel Joe Wiley
15 who opined that COIN was a solution in search of a problem. Mr. Bentley advised the Board that in
16 essence the District's response recommends the Board consider adopting a supportive policy but
17 not verbatim with that recommended in the Grand Jury report.

18 There was discussion about considering a board policy and after some minor clarifications
19 recommended by President Baker and Director Petterle the Board approved sending a response to
20 the Grand Jury.

21 On motion of Director Fraites, seconded by Director Petterle, the Board approved the
22 amended proposed response to the Civil Grand Report advocating adoption of COIN by the
23 following vote:

24 AYES: Directors Baker, Fraites, Petterle, Rodoni and Schoonover

25 NOES: None

26 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

27 **WATER CONSERVATION YEAR END REPORT (JULY 2014 THROUGH JUNE 2015)**

28 Ryan Grisso, Water Conservation Coordinator, reviewed the Water Conservation year-end
29 report advising that this was the biggest Cash for Grass year ever. He indicated that rebates for
30 Ultra Low Flush Toilets and the High Energy Efficient Washers should be reviewed in the future
31 since these fixtures are now the standard available in the marketplace. He advised that Ultra High
32 Efficiency Low Flow Toilets should still be rebate eligible. Mr. Grisso further reported on Water

1 Conservation outreach efforts and advised that Facebook has now become the most effective
2 method when reaching customers and generating participation response.

3 Director Rodoni asked for information on the timing of the "Lawn be Gone" program from
4 application to material delivery, advising that his experience with property in Petaluma was that it
5 took too long. Mr. Grisso indicated that in Novato this program is administered by a 3rd party but
6 should take about two weeks.

7 **FOURTH QUARTER FY14/15 – WATER QUALITY REPORT W/ QUARTERLY**
8 **BACTERIOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT**

9 Pablo Ramudo, Water Quality Supervisor provided the year-end report for Water Quality
10 advising that annually staff samples and tests for algae in Stafford Lake and this year tested for
11 harmful cyanotoxins which were not found. He stated that in West Marin sodium exceeded the
12 District's threshold for only one week and that the Gallagher well supply now being used is expected
13 to reduce sodium and bromide in the finished water thus reducing the threat disinfection of bromide
14 by products due in the West Marin water supply. He further suggested that the use of Gallagher
15 supply should reduce threat of lead and copper in household plumbing in the future and reported
16 that the increased monitoring in January and July 2015 showed no samples above the action level.

17 **FY15- OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE YEAR END REPORT**

18 Robert Clark, Operations/Maintenance Superintendent made the year-end report on
19 Operations/Maintenance noting that the peak day demand in Novato was only 10.8MGD and that
20 both West Marin and Oceana Marin flows are also much lower due to drought year water
21 conservation response. He reported that the West Marin Coast Guard Well #2 is now being
22 rehabilitated and staff should know soon if the effort is successful. He further advised that the
23 Stafford Lake Taste and Odor Control Study is nearing completion and should be available for a
24 report to the Board in the next two months. Finally Mr. Clark informed the Board that emergency
25 generator connections are now installed at all pump stations improving reliability and worker safety.

26 **YEAR END PROGRESS REPORT – ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

27 Mr. McIntyre provided a power point presentation on the year-end progress report for the
28 Engineering Department. He advised the Board that the Novato Water CIP expenditures were 81%
29 completed, Recycled Water CIP was 95% completed and West Marin CIP expenditures were 79%
30 completed of the approved FY14-15 budget. He stated that a total of 39 projects were originally
31 budgeted in the Novato, West Marin and Oceana Marin service areas, three projects were added,
32 thirteen were carried over and six projects were deferred or dropped resulting in adjusted budget

1 total of 40 projects. He noted that at year end 33 out of the 40 projects have been completed by all
2 departments and 24 out of Engineering 34 projects have been completed.

3 **MONTHLY BILLING**

4 Mr. Bentley provided the pro's and con's of monthly billing to the Board. He stated that it
5 would be much more cost efficient with automatic meter readings (AMI). He stated that with monthly
6 billing postage would double. He advised the Board with the pilot program for the AMI in the budget
7 this year; staff is hoping to move to monthly billing in the next three years. He stated that with AMI
8 reads, customers would be able to log on and see usage on an hourly basis.

9 Director Fraites asked for a rough estimate to install the AMI program for the entire service
10 area. Mr. Bentley responded \$5M.

11 **REDUCED WATER SALES VOLUME**

12 Mr. Bentley provided the Board with the reduced water sales volume. He stated that if
13 Novato potable water consumption continues for the balance of this fiscal year at a rate of 36% less
14 than fiscal year 2013/2014, the Novato Water would see a cash decrease of \$2M. He provided the
15 Board with several actions that to be taken to stem the cash decrease.

16 Director Rodoni thanked Mr. Bentley for providing the information and taking it a step further
17 to see where the District can reduce costs.

18 **NBWA MEETING – SEPTEMBER 11, 2015**

19 President Baker advised the Board that he will be attending the North Bay Watershed
20 Association Meeting on September 11th.

21 **MISCELLANEOUS**

22 The Board received the following miscellaneous information: Disbursements and Marin
23 County Fish & Wildlife Commission Annual BBQ.

24 The Board received the following news articles: Central Valley locales sinking 2 inches a
25 month as groundwater is drained, Feds release extra water to save Klamath salmon from disease,
26 Four-time Novato mayor Ernie Gray dies at 80, Bikers catch air at opening of Stafford Lake Bike
27 Park in Novato, Marin supervisors reject call for greater labor talk transparency, Marin water district
28 sees ongoing pipe project as tool in drought effort, Californias cut water use by 31 percent in July,
29 and California, US Seeks Permit for State's Giant Water Tunnels.

30 The Board also received the following news articles at the meeting: Press Release: Drought
31 Drive Up Events Coming to Roseland, Windsor, and North Marin Water District and State plans
32 tighter oversight to stem Russian River pollution.

1 President Baker acknowledged Ernie Gray passing and stated that he was a great guy and
2 great human being.

3 Mr. DeGabriele reminded the Board of the Drought Drive Up being held at the District office
4 on Thursday, September 10th.

5 **ADJOURNMENT**

6 President Baker adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

7 Submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katie Young'.

Katie Young
District Secretary

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