

**NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
September 4, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Fraites called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water District to order at 6:01 p.m. at the District Headquarters and the agenda was accepted as presented. Present were Directors Jack Baker, Rick Fraites, Michael Joly, James Grossi, and Stephen Petterle. Also present were General Manager Drew McIntyre, District Secretary Terrie Kehoe, Auditor-Controller Julie Blue and Chief Engineer Rocky Vogler.

District employees, Tony Arendell (Construction/Maintenance Superintendent) and Ryan Grisso (Water Conservation Coordinator) were also in attendance.

Novato resident Tina McMillan was in the audience.

**MINUTES**

On motion of Director Joly, seconded by Director Baker the Board approved the minutes from the August 21, 2018 meeting as presented by the following vote:

AYES: Director Baker, Fraites, Grossi, Joly and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

During the General Manager's report, Mr. McIntyre reported that we had an overflow event at Amaroli Tank on Monday. He stated that the first SCADA alarm did not activate and the second alarm activated by a float, failed. He advised that further investigation will take place and all District tanks will be checked to make sure the alarms are functioning properly. Director Baker questioned why the first alarm did not work. Mr. McIntyre stated that it appears the alarm set point accuracy had drifted over time but more investigation is needed to confirm actual conditions. Director Joly wanted to know how much water was lost and also if this was considered an unusual event. Mr. McIntyre noted that water loss is estimated just under a million gallons and overall this happens very infrequently. Director Baker questioned if we should consider setting a third alarm. Mr. McIntyre stated he will discuss this with Mr. Clark and staff will report back to the Board with the findings.

Also on the General Manager's Report, Mr. McIntyre announced that both he and Robert will be attending a meeting at the Point Reyes National Seashore for an update on the Park Service's Olema Marsh Restoration Project. He also mentioned that the next NBWA meeting is this Friday at Novato Sanitary District.

Additionally, Mr. McIntyre updated the Board on the PG&E Potter Valley Project, stating that PG&E is expected to release a Request for Offers regarding potential purchase of the Potter Valley Hydroelectric Facilities by the end of the week. Director Baker questioned if Sonoma County or any other public entity closer to our interest would become a player and Mr. McIntyre replied that he would not be surprised if potential purchasers made outreach to Sonoma County Water Agency. On a related subject, Mr. McIntyre advised that Board that the September TAC meeting was cancelled due to a lack of agenda items and vacation schedules.

### **OPEN TIME**

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

### **STAFF/DIRECTORS REPORTS**

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

During Staff and Director's Report, Mr. Vogler announced completion of the solids removal operations at the Oceana Marin Wastewater Ponds. Director Joly asked about the Ridge Road Pipeline Replacement project paving and Mr. Vogler responded that final paving was complete. Director Fraites commented that the paving was an exceptional job.

Mr. Arendell gave an update on the recent leak near Bel Marin Keys, stating that everything is back in service and all repair work near the railroad crossing is complete.

Director Baker stated he will miss the first meeting in October.

### **ACTION CALENDAR**

### **BUDGETED FY19 COAT CONCRETE CLEARWELLS PROJECT – APPROVE BID ADVERTISEMENT**

Mr. Vogler requested approval to advertise for the budgeted FY19 Coat Concrete Clearwells project, explaining the clearwells were not coated when Stafford Treatment Plant (STP) was rehabilitated in 2006 and that low pH water is corrosive to the concrete and, if left uncoated, will ultimately corrode steel reinforcement in the clearwell walls and floors. Director Joly asked if there was any risk in the construction project delaying potential STP startup in 2019. Mr. Vogler explained

that the project schedule is designed to minimize this likelihood but we may have to delay producing water in 2019 if the rehabilitation work takes longer than anticipated. Director Baker asked if we should have considered coating the clearwells at the time of the STP rehabilitation project. Mr. McIntyre noted that looking back at it now; it would have been a good idea.

On the motion of Director Petterle, and seconded by Director Baker, the Board approved authorization of bid advertisement for the FY19 Coat Concrete Clearwells project by the following vote:

AYES: Director Baker, Fraiters, Grossi, Joly and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**SET A SPECIAL MEETING FOR A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION NEGOTIATIONS**

Ms. Blue requested the Board approve setting a Special Meeting to discuss Employee Association negotiations. She advised that the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the NMWD Employee Association (EA) expires on September 30, 2018 and that in order to complete the Employee Association negotiations in a timely manner, staff recommends a special Closed Session meeting on September 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. to be held in the board room at North Marin Water District.

On the motion of Director Petterle, and seconded by Director Joly, the Board approved setting a special meeting for a closed session to discuss employee association negotiations by the following vote:

AYES: Director Baker, Fraiters, Grossi, Joly and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**GRANULAR ACTIVATED CARBON REPLACEMENT PURCHASE**

Mr. McIntyre discussed the Granular Activated Carbon Replacement purchase. He stated that proposals were sent to four vendors that included Calgon Carbon, Jacobi Carbon Co., Eloqua and General Carbon. He reported that it appears that all vendors with the exception of Calgon

Carbon felt they could not meet the performance and quality testing criteria and declined to submit a proposal. He noted that the price Calgon provided was 3.8 percent above last year's cost and staff is requesting to move forward with the purchase of replacement GAC from Calgon Carbon Corporation. Director Baker asked if Marin Municipal Water District's GAC requirements were as stringent as ours and a discussion ensued. Mr. McIntyre commented that it is difficult to compare our GAC requirements with MMWD's because our lake water quality is different from theirs for many reasons, not the least of which is that our water supply reservoir volume is considerably smaller than theirs.

Director Joly commented that he would like a better understanding of the unit cost related to production of local potable water supply from STP and requested to have a review of local production costs versus imported water costs from the Sonoma County Water Agency. Mr. McIntyre reminded the Board that in the early 2000's, the Board voted in favor of rehabilitating the Stafford Treatment Plant when it was at the end of its useful life recognizing the critical importance of having our own local water supply. Director Joly stated he understands the value of having STP and he is not questioning the need but rather is just trying to gain a better understanding of water supply costs.

On the motion of Director Joly, and seconded by Director Baker, the Board approved authorization for the purchase of replacement granular activated carbon from the Calgon Carbon Corporation by the following vote:

AYES: Director Baker, Fraites, Grossi, Joly and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**LETTER SUPPORTING MARIN COUNTY GROUNDWATER BASIN BOUNDARY MODIFICATION REQUESTS**

Mr. McIntyre discussed sending a letter in support of the Marin County Groundwater Basin Boundary Modification Request for the Lawson's Landing-Dillon Beach area in northwest Marin. He reviewed the purpose of the proposed basin boundary modification request and advised that, if approved by the state, the change would result in a single planning authority over land and water use within the expanded Sand Point Area Basin that would better support sustainable groundwater management in this basin. Director Baker asked if we have been involved in the formation of any Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) to-date. Mr. McIntyre responded that, historically, all of

the five groundwater basins in Marin County have been classified as Low Priority thereby not requiring formation of GSA's. He noted that the Wilson Grove Highlands basin is being proposed to be reclassified from a Low to Medium priority. If this occurs, a GSA will need to be formed for this basin but North Marin Water District does not extract any water from within the basin.

On the motion of Director Petterle, and seconded by Director Joly, the Board approved authorizing the General Manager to submit a letter supporting Marin County's application for a Groundwater Boundary Modification of the Sand Point Area Groundwater Basin by the following vote:

AYES: Director Baker, Fraites, Grossi, Joly and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **FY18 – WATER CONSERVATION YEAR END REPORT**

Mr. Grisso presented the FY18 Water Conservation Year End Report. He stated the participation numbers are showing a downward trend which is typical during a non-drought years. He advised that Water Smart Home Surveys however are trending up, and we are also seeing a trend toward using smart phone based irrigation controllers. He also added that public outreach and conservation marketing is a main focus, which includes the "Water Line" mailings, a Facebook page, a NextDoor account, an Instagram account and special outreach events planned throughout the year. Director Joly inquired about future grants that may be available. Mr. Grisso stated that there is nothing on the horizon, other than our current State grant for the Cash for Grass rebate.

#### **FY18 – ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT YEAR END REPORT**

Also under Information items, Rocky discussed the FY18 Engineering Department Year End Report, stating Novato had 27 projects and West Marin had 8 projects originally budgeted. He stated that of the 35 projects originally budgeted for FY18, 13 projects were added, one was carried over and 8 projects were deferred resulting in an adjusted total of 41 projects. He noted that developer work hours were much less than budgeted but added that he expects developer work to increase in FY19. Director Joly asked if we are seeing more commercial development than residential development. Mr. Vogler stated that we are seeing both. Director Joly also asked how many CIP projects are budgeted in FY 19 along with a rough budget. Ms. Blue responded that there is 7.8M budgeted for 31 projects.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

The Board received the following miscellaneous items: Disbursements-Dated August 23, 2018 and August 30, 2018, Opposition to SB 845 (Monning) - Proposed Drinking Water Tax, and 2019 Medical Plan Cost Decrease.

The Board also received the following news articles: Salinity Intrusion Notice (Pt. Reyes Light) – August 30, 2018, Big winter for rain, snow could fill state’s reservoirs, Supervisors OK \$2.5M for land near Mount Burdell, and Legal Notice – North Marin Water District Coastal Permit Hearing for PRE Tank 4.

Mr. McIntyre announced that SB 845 (Monning) did not make it out of the legislature so there is no action for now. He added, however, that the bill will most likely come back again during the next session. Tina McMillan in the audience asked about Proposition 68, and if it will address any funding for the deficient Central Valley water systems. Mr. McIntyre responded that Proposition 65 does include funding for safe drinking water improvements statewide, with a priority for disadvantaged communities.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Frites adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Submitted by



Theresa Kehoe  
District Secretary