Date Posted: 12/13/2013



#### **NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT**

AGENDA - REGULAR MEETING December 17, 2013 – 7:30 p.m. District Headquarters 999 Rush Creek Place Novato, California

Information about and copies of supporting materials on agenda items are available for public review at 999 Rush Creek Place, Novato, at the Reception Desk, or by calling the District Secretary at (415) 897-4133. A fee may be charged for copies. District facilities and meetings comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If special accommodations are needed, please contact the District Secretary as soon as possible, but at least two days prior to the meeting.

Est.
Time Item Subject
7:30 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

- 1. APPROVE MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING, December 3, 2013
- 2. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
- 3. **OPEN TIME:** (Please observe a three-minute time limit)

This section of the agenda is provided so that the public may express comments on any issues not listed on the agenda that are of interest to the public and within the jurisdiction of the North Marin Water District. When comments are made about matters not on the agenda, Board members can ask questions for clarification, respond to statements or questions from members of the public, refer a matter to staff, or direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. The public may also express comments on agenda items at the time of Board consideration.

- 4. STAFF/DIRECTORS REPORTS
- 5. **MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT**

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The General Manager has reviewed the following items. To his knowledge, there is no opposition to the action. The items can be acted on in one consolidated motion as recommended or may be removed from the Consent Calendar and separately considered at the request of any person.

6. **Consent – Approve:** Dump Truck Replacement Authorization

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

7. Presentation on Distribution System Water Quality Monitoring and Sample Stations

## 8. **MISCELLANEOUS**

Disbursements
Freeze Summary
Board of Supervisors Letter

#### **News Articles:**

Heroes of Marin: Dietrich Stroeh, Environmental Stewardship

Update: Marin-Sonoma Narrows widening, Part 2

PG&E seeks reduction in releases to Eel River due to drought Supervisor Kinsey elected head of state Coastal Commission

8:30 p.m. 9. *ADJOURNMENT* 

1 2 3 4 5	DRAFT  NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT  MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  December 3, 2013
6	CALL TO ORDER
7	President Fraites called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water
8	District to order at 7:30 p.m. at the District headquarters and the agenda was accepted as
9	presented. Present were Directors Jack Baker, Stephen Petterle, Dennis Rodoni and John
10	Schoonover. Also present were Secretary Katie Young, Auditor-Controller David Bentley, and Chief
11	Engineer Drew McIntyre. General Manager Chris DeGabriele was absent.
12	Al Cornwell and Don Curry (CSW/Stuber-Stroeh), Kerry Moore and District employee Doug
13	Moore (Construction/Maintenance Superintendent) were in the audience.
14	REORGANIZATION OF BOARD
15	Election of President
16	On motion of Director Schoonover, seconded by Director Baker and unanimously carried, the
17	Board elected Director Rodoni as President of the Board for the ensuing year:
18	Election of Vice-President
19	On motion of Director Schoonover, seconded by Director Petterle and unanimously carried,
20	Director Baker was elected Vice-President of the Board for the ensuing year.
21	Establishment of Meeting Times and Place
22	On motion of Director Fraites, seconded by Director Petterle and unanimously carried, the
23	Board set the time and place of regular meetings to be the first and third Tuesday of each month at
24	7:30 p.m. at the District office, and that the Board will hold one meeting annually in West Marin with
25	additional West Marin meetings to be scheduled on an as-needed basis.
26	Establishes the Manner of Calling Special Meetings
27	On motion of Director Schoonover, seconded by Director Fraites and unanimously carried,
28	the Board approved special meetings of the Board to be held as provided in Section 54956 of the
29	Government Code.
30	Appointment of District Officers
31	On motion of Director Schoonover, seconded by Director Baker and unanimously carried, the
32	following District officers were appointed for the ensuing year: Chris DeGabriele, General Manager;

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- 1 Katie Young, District Secretary; David L. Bentley, Auditor-Controller; and Drew McIntyre, Chief
- 2 Engineer.

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## 3 Confirm Board Meeting Schedule for 2014

On motion of Director Petterle, seconded by Director Fraites and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the proposed meeting schedule for the 2014 calendar year with the understanding that the calendar may be adjusted as needed.

## Committee Appointments

President Rodoni stated that he will take committee appointments into consideration and will return to the Board with his recommendations at a future meeting.

## **MINUTES**

On motion of Director Petterle, seconded by Director Schoonover and unanimously carried the Board approved the minutes from the previous meeting as presented.

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. DeGabriele was absent from the meeting.

## 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:

Drew McIntyre informed the Board that he will be absent for the next meeting in December and will be travelling outside of the country.

Director Fraites informed the Board and staff that he and Director Rodoni and Baker were fortunate enough to attend the release of coho salmon in Dry Creek and to tour the Dry Creek Habitat Enhancement demonstration project. He stated that the tour was very informative and he was very pleased with the presentation.

President Rodoni noted that Director Fraites and Director Schoonover were sworn in before the meeting by District Secretary, Katie Young for their next term of service. President Rodoni stated that he was very impressed with the tour at the Dry Creek Habitat Enhancement project and stated that the General Manager of Sonoma County was very grateful the District Board members and General Manager could attend the tour.

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#### CONSENT CALENDAR

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On the motion of Director Schoonover, seconded by Director Petterle and unanimously carried, the following item were approved on the consent calendar:

### FINAL ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013

The Board approved the Final Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. The Board will receive the hard copy at the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## ACTION CALENDAR

### DUTRA WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT

Drew McIntyre provided the Board with background on the Dutra Haystack Landing Water Facilities project stating that the project is located on two parcels on the east side of Petaluma Blvd. South just outside the Petaluma city limits. He noted that the District currently provides water service to the parcels outside the District's Novato Service Area boundary through a 1-inch meter that was set back in the 1960's. Mr. McIntyre reminded the Board that in 2007 Dutra requested a water main extension and improved fire service. He stated at that meeting staff requested direction from the Board and offered two options: 1) maintain existing historical service form the existing 1-inch water meter; or 2) relocate the existing 1-inch meter to the east side of Hwy 101 and extend a fire service main south on Petaluma Blvd. South. He stated that the Board chose option 2 to relocate the existing meter and extend the fire service. Mr. McIntyre informed the Board that since that time Sonoma County Water Agency has been working with Caltrans in relocating the old aqueduct running a new alignment fronting the access to the Dutra property. Mr. McIntyre stated that the new water service agreement would consist of installing 20 feet of 12-inch WSP lowering, 20 feet of 12-PVC pipe, 400 feet of 8-inch PVC main, two commercial fire hydrants, one 1-inch domestic service with a 1-inch RPP backflow prevention device and one 1-inch irrigation service with a 1-inch RPP backflow prevention device. He noted that the project water demand of 5 Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDU) is within the existing 7 EDU's historical water use entitlement. Mr. McIntyre informed the Board that 2 EDU's will be reallocated and provided to the Yee and Fontes parcels who will pay connection fees in 2014. Mr. McIntyre reminded the Board that this item was postponed from a Board meeting in November so the City of Petaluma could have more time to look at the agreement and that staff has included a recent letter from the City of Petaluma's City Manager requesting the Board take no action at this time and postpone this agreement until the Court of Appeals rules on a lawsuit related to the Dutra project. Mr. McIntyre stated from a staff perspective Dutra has met all the requirements to maintain water service in place and has all of the permits and land uses approvals completed. He stated that staff has spoken to legal counsel and the District is not violating

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any rule of law or regulations by providing water service to Dutra and that staff recommends approving the agreement.

Director Petterle asked if the Board defers the agreement, if it was going against District regulations. Mr. McIntyre said that it is not going against any District regulations and the Board has the authority to approve or postpone.

Director Fraites asked what the difference was for the District to wait until the lawsuit was finalized.

Mr. McIntyre stated that the court date is set for January and that it is a good chance the issue will not be resolved.

Director Fraites asked if time was a concern.

Al Cornwell from CSW introduced himself and said he was the engineer for Dutra. He stated that all of the approvals are in place and once the agreement is in place the permits could be immediately finalized and that the applicant is ready to go forward with the project.

Director Baker stated that Dutra has done everything the District has asked them which is consistent with other projects and that the District owes it to the applicant to move forward with the approval of the agreement.

President Rodoni asked if the District heard anything back from Marin LAFCO.

Mr. McIntyre responded that nothing has been heard recently and that historically Yee has received irregular service from the Dutra meter.

President Rodoni stated that the District has no obligation to the other two property owners, Yee and Fontes, until their contracts are completed and he doesn't see any reason to delay the agreement.

On motion of Director Baker, seconded by Director Schoonover and carried by the following vote, the Board approved authorization of the Dutra Haystack Landing Water Facilities agreement and Resolution 13-16 titled: "Authorization of Execution of High Pressure Outside District Boundaries Water Service Facilities Construction Agreement with Dutra Group."

AYES: Directors Baker, Rodoni, Schoonover

28 NOES: Directors Fraites, Petterle

29 ABSENT: None

30 ABSTAIN: None

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Mr. McIntyre informed the Board that Caltrans and the District are ready to move forward with the second and final phase of the aqueduct relocation project, AEEP Reaches A-D, MSN B3 Project. He stated that Al Cornwell and Don Curry of CSW/Stuber-Stroeh, have now completed the AEEP Reach A-D/MSN B3 Project detailed design and have prepared 100% plans and specifications for the project. Mr. McIntyre advised the Board that the pipeline construction duration is projected to be approximately 1.5 years and has an anticipated start of construction date in late spring 2014. He advised the Board that Caltrans is requesting that the District perform an advanced tree removal contract so that the trees along the pipeline corridor can be removed prior to the nesting period for birds. He noted that the cost of the tree removal will be approximately \$110K and the bid advertisement will run through December and come back to the Board for approval in January.

Mr. McIntyre stated that the pipeline construction contract is a much bigger project and staff will advertise the project and then have a pre-bid meeting in early January. He informed the Board that the total cost of the project is estimated to be \$14.5M, with the bulk of the construction cost for Reach B reimbursed by Caltrans'. He advised the Board that the District and Caltrans' are currently finalizing the NMWD-Caltrans Utility Agreement. Mr. McIntyre stated that staff will be soliciting a request for proposals for construction manager in January 2014 and will bring back the Utility Agreement for the Board consideration for approval prior to the award of the pipeline contract.

Director Fraites asked approximately how many trees were going to be cut down. Don Curry from CSW/Stuber-Stroeh answered 201. Director Fraites asked if we had to replace the trees and Mr. Curry said that the District was responsible for only removing the trees and the contractors will remove the stumps later.

On motion of Director Petterle, seconded by Director Baker and unanimously carried, the Board authorized bid advertisement on the following two AEEP Reach A-D/MSN B3 Projects: Advance Tree Removal Contract, and Pipeline Contract.

Mr. Al Cornwell and Mr. Don Curry left the meeting.

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## CONSIDER REDUCTION IN FACILITIES RESERVE CHARGE FOR NEW ACCESSORY

## **DWELLING UNITS**

President Rodoni informed the Board that he asked Mr. DeGabriele to review the City of Novato's request to reduce facilities reserve charges and commended Mr. DeGabriele on his memo and letter to the city.

Mr. McIntyre reminded the Board that the City of Novato has requested the District to reduce facilities reserve charges for new accessory dwelling units to make it more affordable. He stated that the proposed reduction to the facilities reserve charge is from \$11,200 to \$10,000 to match the connection fees for a mobile home unit. Mr. McIntyre advised the Board that in the letter to the City of Novato it is recommended to enforce deed restriction on the properties to remain affordable. He noted that the Regulation 1 changes apply to Novato and West Marin whose facilities reserve charge for accessory dwelling units will go from \$8,900 to \$8,000.

On motion of Director Schoonover, seconded by Director Baker and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the revised Regulation 1 reducing Facilities Reserve Charges for Accessory Dwelling Units in Novato to \$10,000 and in West Marin to \$8,000 and authorized the President to sign a letter to the City of Novato recommending the City deed restrict ADU's so that they remain affordable, limit ADU's to one per parcel and establish an amnesty program for existing ADU's not now permitted.

# ACQUISITION OF GUSTAFSON COURT 1ST DEED OF TRUST

Mr. Bentley advised the Board that staff recommends the District acquire the 1<sup>st</sup> deed of trust on the 15 Gustafson Court property. He stated that the total amount owed to acquire the 1<sup>st</sup> deed of trust is \$383,793 which includes interest, property taxes, insurance, property maintenance fees and late charges. Mr. Bentley informed the Board that the Employer Assisted Housing Fund is depleted, that the money to acquire the first deed of trust is proposed to come from the District's general funds and at some point the District will sell the home with the proceeds equal to the amount of the 2<sup>nd</sup> deed of trust returned to the Employer Assisted Housing fund, and the balance going back to the District's general funds.

Director Baker asked the size of the home.

Mr. Bentley stated that it is a 1200 sq/ft home in a great school district and the house is rented to a an employee and his fiancé.

On motion of Director Fraites, seconded by Director Baker and unanimously carried, the Board authorized staff to acquire the 1<sup>st</sup> deed of trust on the 15 Gustafson Court property.

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#### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR DOUG MOORE

Drew McIntyre advised the Board that Doug Moore, Construction Superintendent is retiring from the District after 39 years of employment. He stated what a great attribute to the District Doug has been and thanked him for all his hard work and dedication to the District. Mr. McIntyre informed the Board that Doug's last day will be December 30<sup>th</sup> and that staff would requested the Board approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Doug Moore.

On motion of Director Fraites, seconded by Director Petterle and unanimously carried, the Board approved Resolution 13-17 titled: "North Marin Water District Resolution of Appreciation to Doug Moore."

President Rodoni applauded Doug Moore for his years of service and stated what a pleasure it was working with him.

Doug Moore thanked the Board and the District for employing him for the last 39 years and stated that he has seen a lot of changes and growth in the company. He expressed his gratitude to all of his co-workers that have come and gone and said he was going to enjoy his retirement.

The Board thanked Doug Moore for all his hard work and dedication to the District.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

## TAC MEETING - DECEMBER 2, 2013

Mr. McIntyre provided the Board with a summary of the TAC meeting held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. He stated that there is still L/R/T2 funding available for the City of Cotati in the SCWA FY2013/14 budget. He noted that the City of Cotati just needs a cooperative funding agreement with SCWA. Mr. McIntyre advised the Board that Marin Municipal Water District has requested the remainder of their L/R/T2 funding for next fiscal year for a golf course recycled water project.

Mr. McIntyre stated that Pam Jeane reported on an informal survey of SCWA staff working on the 20-Gallon Challenge and the efforts resulted in a 3% reduction in the Russian River diversions and a 2% increase in local production during the Temporary Urgency Charge Order period.

Mr. McIntyre informed the board that there was an update on the Biological Opinion and that approximately 2,407 Chinook Salmon have been counted as of November 27<sup>th</sup>.

### NBWA MEETING - DECEMBER 6, 2013

Director Fraites informed the Board that he will be attending the North Bay Watershed Association meeting on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

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## NBWRA BOD MEETING - NOVEMBER 18, 2013

Drew McIntyre provided a summary of the quarterly North Bay Water Reuse Authority Meeting. He stated that there was a workshop related to the Phase 2 Scoping Study. He stated that a NBWRA consultant made a power point presentation including scoping study activities, water supply and operations, potential scale of program cost, and decision filters to assist Phase 2 Members' priorities. Mr. McIntyre reminded the Board that the District is only a phase 1 participant.

Mr. McIntyre stated that Novato Sanitary District's phase 2 interest is primarily related to large storage projects and treatment improvements.

Director Schoonover stated that he got a chance to meet and greet with the new assemblyman, Mark Levine, and was able to ask questions.

Director Fraites asked if NSD is still discharging into the bay and if there will be a reduction in discharge with the new recycled water projects. Mr. McIntyre stated that NSD is still discharging into the bay but the recycled water project is resulting in a smaller discharge and that they are looking into more improvements and large storage units to improve that further.

## *MISCELLANEOUS*

The Board received the following miscellaneous information: Disbursements, Formal Announcement of Retirement, and Letter from City of Cotati re: fluoridation.

The Board also received the following news articles: Distrust brewing over tribe's land, George Quesada Jr., and JM Eagle Loses Whistleblower Case Over PVC Pipe, Vows Appeal.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Fraites adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by

Katie Young
District Secretary

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MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT FOR <u>November 2013</u> December 17, 2013

1. Novato Potable Water Prod - RR & STP Combined - in Million Gallons - FYTD

Month	FY13/14	FY12/13	FY11/12	FY10/11	FY09/10	14 vs 13 %
July	385	389	371	379	360	-1%
August	360	396	373	368	367	-9%
September	332	346	347	358	335	-4%
October	313	283	249	278	233	10%
November	229	166	183	164	176	38%
FYTD Total	1.618	1,580	1,523	1,547	1,471	2%

# West Marin Potable Water Production - in Million Gallons - FY to Date

Month	FY13/14	FY12/13	FY11/12	FY10/11	FY09/10	14 vs 13 %
July	9.3	9.8	9.2	9.9	10.0	-5%
August	9.3	9.7	9.4	9.9	10.6	-5%
September	8.5	8.3	8.7	9.2	9.6	3%
October	8.0	7.4	6.5	7.8	6.9	8%
November	6.8	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.6	31%
FYTD Total	41.9	40.5	39.1	41.8	42.6	4%
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# Stafford Treatment Plant Production - in Million Gallons - FY to Date

Month	FY13/14	FY12/13	FY11/12	FY10/11	FY09/10	14 vs 13 %
July	98	49	115	109	152	101%
August	83	83	126	108	150	0%
September	56	72	77	112	155	-22%
October	82	88	113	111	80	-7%
November	5	64	106	95	0	-93%
FYTD Total	323	355	537	536	537	-9%

Recycled Water Production - in Million Gallons - FY to Date

Necycled Water I roddenon in thinner owners									
Month	FY13/14	FY12/13	FY11/12	FY10/11	FY09/10	14 vs 13 %			
July	27.6	11.2	11.0	11.9	12.0	147%			
August	24.6	10.5	12.2	11.2	12.9	134%			
September	18.6	8.5	9.6	9.5	10.2	119%			
October	15.8	0.0	0.0	2.6	2.6	-			
November	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-			
FYTD Total	93.0	30.2	32.8	35.2	37.7	208%			
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## 2. Stafford Lake Data

	Novembe	r Average	Noveml	per 2012	Nove	ember 2013
Rainfall this month	5.3	Inches	6.5	Inches	1.2	Inches
Rainfall this FY to date	6.3	Inches	8.5	Inches	1.5	Inches
Lake elevation*	181.6	Feet	180.2	Feet	179.2	Feet
Lake storage**	530	MG	473	MG	435	MG

<sup>\*</sup> Spillway elevation is 196.0 feet

<sup>\*\*</sup> Lake storage less 390 MG = quantity available for delivery

## Temperature (in degrees)

	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	Average
November 2012 (Novato)	38	91	62
November 2013 (Novato)	37	90	62

### 3. Number of Services

	Novato Water			Recycled Water   We			West Marin Water			Oceana Marin Swi		
November 30	FY14	FY13	Incr %	FY14	FY13	Incr %	FY14	FY13	Incr %	FY14	FY13	Incr %
Total meters	20,731	20,760	-0.1%	45	9	400%	820	819	0.1%	1	-	-
Total meters active	20,482	20,495	-0.1%	42	4	950%	776	776	0.0%	-	-	-
Active dwelling units	23,931	23,940	0.0%	0	0	-	812	811	0.1%	227	227	0.0%

## 4. Oceana Marin Monthly Status Report (November)

Description	November 2012	November 2013
Effluent Flow Volume (MG)	0.612	0.460
Irrigation Field Discharge (MG)	0	0
Treatment Pond Freeboard (ft)	3.3	3.5
Storage Pond Freeboard (ft)	7.4	8.4

## 5. <u>Developer Projects Status Report (November)</u>

		%	
Job No.	Project	Complete	% This month
2670	Canyon Green	95	5
2763	City Administration Office	80	5
2759	Novato High School	99	0
2760	San Marin High School	99	0

## **District Projects Status Report - Const Dept (November)**

Job No.	Project	% Complete	% This month
7134	Digital to Leveroni Looping	90	10

## **Employee Hours to Date, FY 13/14**

As of Pay Period Ending November 30 2013 Percent of Fiscal Year Passed = 42%

Developer			% YTD	District Projects			% YTD
Projects	Actual	Budget	Budget		Actual	Budget	Budget
Construction	648	1,400	46	Construction	1,346	5,607	24
Engineering	440	1,480	30	Engineering	1,764	3,698	48

## 6. Safety/Liability

	Industrial Injur	Liability Claims Paid			
Lost Davs	OH Cost of Lost Days (\$)	No. of Emp. Involved	No. of Incidents	Incurred (FYTD)	Paid (FYTD) (\$)
62	25,792	1	0	2	3,171
0	0	0	0	2	3,069

FY through November 13 FY through November 12

Days without a lost time accident through November 30, 2013= 173 days

## 7. Energy Cost

Not Available

## 8. Water Conservation Update

	Month of November 2013	Fiscal Year to Date	Program Total to Date
High Efficiency Toilet (HET) Rebate (\$100 each)	21	115	2,740
Retrofit Certificates Filed	21	135	4,904
Cash for Grass Rebates Paid Out	1	15	537
Washing Machine Rebates	36	141	6,292
Water Smart Home Survey	38	128	1,545

9. <u>Utility Performance Metric</u>

CUSTOMER SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS	November No. of Customers Impacted
PLANNED	
Duration Between 0.5 and 4 hours	4
Duration Between 4 and 12 hours	
Duration Greater than 12 hours	
UNPLANNED	
Duration Between 0.5 and 4 hours	6
Duration Between 4 and 12 hours	
Duration Greater than 12 hours	

SERVICE LINES REPLACED	November
Polybutylene	9
Copper (Replaced or Repaired)	1

## Summary of Complaints & Service Orders November 2013

Туре	Nov-13	Nov-12	Action Taken November 2013	12/10/2013
Consumers' System Problems				
Consumers' System Problems Service Line Leaks	10	20	Notified Consumer	
Meter Leak Consumer's Side	0	1	~	
House Plumbing	0	0	~	
	0	0	~	
Noisy Plumbing	0	0	~ ~	
Seepage or Other	4	4	Turned Back On	
House Valve / Meter Off	•	7	Notified Consumer	
Nothing Found	6			
Low Pressure	1	1	PSI @ 80. Pressure is good.	
High Pressure	0	0	~	
Water Waster Complaints	0	0	~	
Total	21	33		
Service Repair Reports				
Register Replacements	0	0	~	
Meter Replacement	0	3	~	
Meter Box Alignment	0	0	~	
Meter Noise	0	0	~	
Dual Service Noise	0	0	~	
Box and Lids	2	1	Replaced	
Water Off/On Due To Repairs	6	5	Notified Consumer	
Misc. Field Investigation	3	5	Notified Consumer	
Total	11	14		
Leak NMWD Facilities				
Main-Leak	0	0	~	
Mains-Nothing Found	0	0	~	
Mains-Damage	0	1	~	
Service- Leak	11	6	Repaired	
Services-Nothing Found	0	5	~	
Service-Damaged	0	Ö	~	
Fire Hydrant-Leak	0	Ö	~	
Fire Hydrants-Nothing Found	0	0	~	
	0	0	~	
Fire Hydrants-Damaged	0	0		
Meter Replacement			~	
Meters-Leak	0	0	~	
Meters-Nothing Found	0	0	~	
Meters Damaged	0	0	~ Danlogged	
Washer Leaks	2	5	Replaced	
Total	13	17		
High Bill Complaints				
Consumer Leaks	7	10	Notified Consumer	
Meter Testing	0	0	~	
Meter Misread	4	6	Notified Consumer	
Nothing Found	11	31	Notified Consumer	
Projected Consumption	0	0	~	
Excessive Irrigation	0	1	~	
Total	22	48		

## Summary of Complaints & Service Orders November 2013

Summary of Complaints & So	ervice Orders i	November 2013	12/10/2013
Туре	Nov-13	Nov-12	Action Taken November 2013
Low Bill Reports		<del>(2000-2111-100-11-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1</del>	
Meter Misread	0	0	~
Stuck Meter	0	0	~
Nothing Found	0	0	~
Projected Consumption	0	0	~
Minimum Charge Only	0	0	~
Total	0	0	
Water Quality Complaints			
Algal Bloom/GAC	0	0	~
Taste and Odor	1	1	Customer reported musty odor. (Ranch Ct) Odor was due to algae bloom. STP was shut down. Customer was notified.
Color	0	0	~
Turbidity	0	0	~
Suspended Solids	0	0	~
Other	2	2	Customer requested water to be tested. (Benton Ln)  No metals were detected. Customer was notified of results. Customer reported stains on dishes. (Garaventa Ct)
			Results from water samples were normal.
Total	3	3	Customer was notified of results.
Total	3		200/
TOTAL FOR MONTH:	70	115	<del></del>
Fiscal YTD Summary			<b>Change Primarily Due To</b>
Consumer's System Problems		220	-39% Decrease In Service Leaks
Service Repair Report	58	75	-23% Decrease In Water On/Off for Repairs
Leak Complaints	122	127	-4% Decrease In Washer Leaks
High Bill Complaints	202	323	-37% Decrease In Nothing Found
Low Bills	0	1	0% ~
Water Quality Complaints	46	21	119% Increase In Taste & Odor
Total	562	767	<del>-27%</del>

## **Summary of Complaints & Service Orders November 2013**

Summary of Complaints & Service Orders November 2013					
Туре	Nov-13	Nov-12	Action Taken November 2013	12/10/2013	
"In House" Generated and					
Completed Work Orders					
Check Meter: possible	175	164			
consumer/District leak, high					
bill, flooded, need read, etc.					
Change Meter: leaks,	17	4			
hard to read					
Possible Stuck Meter	2	3			
Repair Meter: registers,	0	0			
shut offs					
Replace Boxes/Lids	0	1			
Hydrant Leaks	0	0			
Trims	27	9			
Dig Outs	36	11			
Letters to Consumer:					
meter obstruction, trims,	0	0			
bees, gate access, etc.					
Misc: locate meter,					
get meter number,	0	0			
cross connection follow ups,					
kill service, etc.					
,					
<u>_</u>					
	257	192			
Bill Adjustments Under Board	Policy:				
November 13 vs. November 12	2				
		40.40=			
Nov-13	25	\$6,165			
Nov-12	31	\$10,692			
Fiscal Year to Date vs. Prior F	<u>YTD</u>				
13/14 FYTD	160	\$46,527			
13/14 FYTD 12/13 FYTD	200	\$46,527 \$64,606			
12/13 F 1 1 D	200	φυ4, <del>0</del> 00			

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#### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Board of Directors December 13, 2013

From: David L. Bentley, Auditor-Controller

Subj: Auditor-Controller's Monthly Report of Investments for November 2013

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**: Information

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

At month end the District's Investment Portfolio had an amortized cost value (i.e., cash balance) of \$16,142,151 and a market value of \$16,156,609. During November the cash balance decreased by \$555,934. No Recycled Water grant and loan funds were received during the month. The market value of securities held increased by \$2,474 during the month. The ratio of total cash to budgeted annual operating expense, excluding the \$6,093,371 unexpended balance of the Bank of Marin loan, stood at 76%, down 3% from the prior month. This compares to the District's target ratio of 90% of annual operating expense, or \$11.9 million. Receipt of an additional \$835,971 in recycled water grant and loan funds is anticipated.

At November 30, 2013, 72% of the District's Portfolio was invested in California's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF), 12% in Time Certificate of Deposits, and 12% in Corporate Medium Term Notes. The weighted average maturity for the portfolio was 144 days, compared to 146 days at the end of October. The LAIF interest rate for the month was 0.26%, compared to 0.27% the previous month. The weighted average Portfolio rate was 0.35%, compared to 0.34% the previous month. Including interest paid by Black Point Partners on the StoneTree Golf Club Recycled Water Facilities Loan, the District earned \$9,621 in interest revenue during November, with 50% earned by Novato Water, 47% earned by Recycled Water (by virtue of the Black Point Partners loan) and the balance distributed to the other improvement districts.

State Controller John Chiang's November report on California's financial position stated:

"Revenue collections through the first five months of this fiscal year provide us with millions of reasons to be cautiously optimistic about California's near-term fiscal outlook. However, unless we remain disciplined with our spending and pay down the billions of debt accrued during the Great Recession, even a modest swing in our economy could return us to deficit budgets."

## NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S MONTHLY REPORT OF INVESTMENTS November 30, 2013

		S&P	Purchase	Maturity	Cost	11/30/2013		% of
Туре	Description	Rating	Date	Date	Basis <sup>1</sup>	Market Value	Yield <sup>2</sup>	Portfolio
LAIF	State of CA Treasury	A	Various	Open	\$11,607,397	\$11,613,982	0.26% <sup>3</sup>	72%
Time C	Certificate of Deposit							
TCD	Ally Bank	n/a	9/28/12	10/1/14	\$248,000	\$248,000	0.85%	2%
TCD	Goldman Sachs	n/a	12/5/12	12/5/14	248,000	248,000	0.75%	2%
TCD	GE Capital Retail Bank	n/a	10/11/13	4/13/15	248,000	248,000	0.80%	2%
TCD	Discover Bank	n/a	5/1/13	5/1/15	248,000	248,000	0.50%	2%
TCD	GE Capital Bank	n/a	6/10/13	6/8/15	248,000	248,000	0.50%	2%
TCD	American Express	n/a	8/1/13	8/3/15	248,000	248,000	0.70%	2%
TCD	Compass Bank	n/a	9/4/13	9/4/15	248,000	248,000	0.65%	2%
TCD	Sallie Mae Bank	n/a	10/23/13	10/23/15	248,000	248,000	0.80%	2%
					\$1,984,000	\$1,984,000	0.67%	12%
Corpor	rate Medium Term Note	•						
MTN	General Electric	AA+	1/29/13	10/9/15	\$1,002,752	\$1,003,990	0.70%	6%
MTN	Toyota Motor Credit	AA-	5/14/13	7/17/15	1,006,060	1,008,100	0.50%	6%
					\$2,008,812	\$2,012,090	0.60%	12%
Other								
Agency	Marin Co Treasury	AA+	Various	Open	\$426,402	\$426,402	0.22%	3%
Bond	Olema G.O. Bond	A+	5/31/91	1/1/15	7,662	12,257	5.00%	0%
Other	Various	n/a	Various	Open	107,878	107,878	0.00%	1%
		TO	TAL IN PO	•	\$16,142,151	\$16,156,609	0.35%	100%

Weighted Avg. Maturity = 144 Days

LAIF: State of California Local Agency Investment Fund. MTN: Medium Term Note - Maturity of 5 years or less.

TCD: Time Certificate of Deposit

Agency: West Marin General Obligation Bond Fund tax receipts & STP State Revolving Fund Loan Reserve.

Bond: Annual \$4,113 payment is paid by tax levy on Olema residents.

Other: Comprised of 4 accounts used for operating purposes. US Bank Operating Account, US Bank STP SRF Loan Account, Bank of Marin AEEP Checking Account & NMWD Petty Cash Fund.

- 1 Original cost less repayment of principal and amortization of premium or discount.
- 2 Yield defined to be annualized interest earnings to maturity as a percentage of invested funds.
- 3 Earnings are calculated daily this represents the average yield for the month ending November 30, 2013.

TOTAL INTERES	T BEARIN	G LOANS	\$4,866,304	\$3,519,736	
Employee Computer Loans (2)	Various	Various	4,464	1,533	1.52% (avg)
Employee Housing Loans (7)	Various	Various	1,249,200	1,249,200	Contingent
Black Point Partners-BPGL	6/30/06	2/28/24	\$3,612,640	\$2,269,003	2.40%
Interest Bearing Loans	Date	Date	Loan Amount	Outstanding	Rate
	Loan	Maturity	Original	Principal	Interest

The District has the ability to meet the next six months of cash flow requirements.

#### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Board of Directors December 13, 2013

From: Robert Clark, Operations / Maintenance Superintendent

Subject: Dump Truck Replacement Authorization

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Authorize Staff to solicit bids for the purchase of a new

2014 model year dump truck.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None at this time (\$115,000 included in FY13/14

Budget)

Recently the engine for dump truck #55 (1999 International 5 cubic yard, CY) failed and staff has determined that it is not going to be cost effective to make the necessary repairs. These repairs were estimated at \$20,000 and the blue book value for an operational truck of this size and year is in the \$10,000 range. We may be able to receive at auction \$5,000 for the truck as is.

Truck #55 was purchased used in 2008. In the current FY 2013/14 budget, staff recommended purchase of two ¾ ton pick up trucks, two hybrid pick up trucks and one fork lift with a total budget of \$175,000. The hybrid pickup market currently does not have the equipment we are looking for to help reduce green house gas emissions. With the postponement of these hybrid purchases and avoiding the purchase of the fork lift the current FY budge has \$115,000 remaining for the purchase of a new dump truck.

In an effort to find the availability and price of a new dump truck staff reached out to the vendor solicited for purchase of the 2012 International 5 CY dump truck (#514). These trucks are assembled when a valid purchase order is agreed upon and therefore there are not any trucks in stock that meet our specifications. Staff is therefore recommending a Request for Proposal be sent to the dealers listed below to solicit competitive bids for this vehicle.

Approved by GM (12/13/2013

Dealer	Attn & Phone #	Address	City
TEC of Oakland INC	Chris Taylor <u>ctaylor@tectrucks.com</u> 707-975-2294	8099 South Coliseum Way	Oakland, CA 94621
East Bay Ford	Oscar Figueroa ofigueroa@eastbaytruckcenter.com 510-272-4400	333 Filbert St.	Oakland, CA 94607
Charter Peterbilt	Brian Farrell <u>bf@charterpeterbilt.com</u> 707-239-4570	7667 Conde Lane	Winsor, CA 95492
Golden Gate Truck Center	Les Schwindt lestor@sbcglobal.net 800-826-9746	8200 Baldwin Street	Oakland, CA 94621
Sacramento Truck Center (Freightliner)	New Truck Sales jmichel@sacramentotruck.com 916-286-2000	100 Opportunity Street	Sacramento, CA 95838
Peterson Trucks Inc. (International)	Joe Rossi <u>irrossi@petersontrucks.com</u> 707-775-5606		Santa Rosa, CA 94577
NorCal Kenworth	New Truck Sales nick.bettencourt@norcalkw.com 510-836-6100	1755 Adams Ave.	San Leandro, CA 94577

# **RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize Staff to solicit bids for the purchase of a new 2014 model year 5 CY dump truck.

## MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors

December 13, 2013

From:

Pablo Ramudo, Water Quality Supervisor

Subject:

Presentation on Distribution System Water Quality Monitoring and Sample Stations

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Inform

Information only.

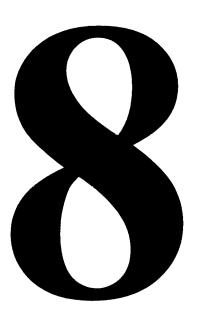
FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

North Marin Water District has a comprehensive water quality monitoring program to demonstrate compliance with regulations for specific contaminants and ensure that our customers are receiving drinking water which meets the highest standards.

This presentation will summarize the following:

- Regulations which require monitoring in the distribution system and their sampling requirements.
- A description of NMWD's network of dedicated sample station including a map of their locations within different zones.



# DISBURSEMENTS - DATED DECEMBER 5, 2013

Date Prepared: 12/3/13

The following demands made against the District are listed for approval and authorization for payment in accordance with Section 31302 of the California Water Code, being a part of the California Water District Law:

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
1		Vision Reimbursement	\$140.00
2	AT&T	Telephone Charges: Voice Lines	151.45
3	Baker, Jack	November Director's Fee	200.00
4	California State Disbursement	Wage Assignment Order	1,018.50
5	Covello Group	Recycled Water Pipeline Expansion to Novato North Service Area (Bal Remaining on Contract \$5,510)	1,382.50
6	Dinelli Plumbing	Refund Excess Advance for Construction Over Actual Job Cost-Novato Fair Shopping Center- Install 1" Meter/Remove Pipe Spool	240.07
7	Fisher Scientific	Iron & Nitrite Standards, Replacement Portable pH Meter (\$454), Reagents (\$136), pH Probe (\$398) & Chlorine Test (Lab)	1,118.52
8	Fraites, Rick	November Director's Fee (\$200) & North Bay Watershed Association Meeting on 10/4/13 (\$100)	300.00
9	Ghilotti Construction	Refund Security Deposit on Hydrant Meter Less Final Bill	413.36
10	Grainger	Measuring Tape (200') (2), T.M. Cable Splices (\$43) & Spot Lights (2) (STP)	130.72
11	Hach	Chlorine Dioxide Test Reagent (Lab)	33.76
12	Harris and Associates	Pipeline Inspection Testing Services for MSN B- 1 Reach E Project (Bal Remaining on Contract \$101,796)	24,221.88
13	Infra Terra	Seismic Design Review for AEEP Reach B @ San Antonio Creek (Bal Remaining on Contract \$705)	9,295.00
14	In N Out Burgers	Refund Security Deposit on Hydrant Meter Less Final Bill	991.05

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
15		Vision & Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	154.00
16	Keller Online	Subscription to KellerOnline Safety Management Website (1/1-12/31/14) (Budget \$0)	899.00
17		Vision Reimbursement	276.97
18	Lincoln Life	Deferred Compensation PPE 11/30/13	14,372.06
19		Cafeteria Plan: Childcare Reimbursement	208.33
20	Maltby Electric	Conduit Elbows (12)	30.68
21	McMaster-Carr Supply	Break-Away Padlocks for Fire Services (12)	89.60
22	Miller Pacific Engineering	Geotechnical Services: Miscellaneous Backfill Testing & Inspection (Bal Remaining on Contract \$4,700)	4,521.70
23		Wage Assignment Order	284.00
24	Moraes, L	Overpayment on Open Account	468.78
25	Nationwide Retirement Solution	Deferred Compensation PPE 11/30/13	1,025.00
26	NTU Technologies	Polymer for Centrifuge (STP) (2,250 lbs)	3,622.50
27	Oele, Joan	Novato "Cash for Grass" Program	400.00
28	Pace Supply	Hymax Clamps (3) (\$881) & Saddle Sewer (\$154)	1,036.14
29	PES Environmental	Consulting Services: Gallagher Well & Pipeline Project/Hydraulic Design Plan (Bal Remaining on Contract \$26,170)	9,830.50
30	Petterle, Stephen	November Director's Fee	200.00
31		Cafeteria Plan: Childcare Reimbursement	208.33
32	Reich, Nancy	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
33	Rodoni, Dennis	November Director's Fee (\$200) & WAC/TAC Meeting on 11/4/13 (\$100)	300.00
34	Schoonover, John	Director's Fee Less Deferred (\$150) & NBWRA Meeting on 11/18/13 (\$100)	250.00

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
35	Sequoia Safety Supply	Ace Bandages (1" x 5 yds) (2), Leather Gloves (36) (\$198), Safety Gloves (600) (\$80) & Bandages (500)	309.83
36		Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	34.81
37	Sunkin, Sarah	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
38	Syar Industries	Asphalt (2 tons)	222.83
39	Thomas Scientific	Pocket Colorimeter Test (Lab)	429.46
40	Verizon California	Telephone Charges: Leased Lines	43.91
41	Verizon Wireless	Oct CIMIS Station Data Transfer Fee	31.88
42	White & Prescott	Engineering Services: San Marin & Novato High School-Water Line Easements (Balance Remaining on Contract \$33,845)	4,480.00
43	Wine Country Water Works Asso	Training & Lunch Event (12/4/13) (Rupp, Ortiz & LeBrun) TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	60.00 <b>\$83,527.12</b>

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$83,527.12 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.

Do. 3 at	12/2/13
Auditor-Controller	Date
Chas Defabruile	11/27/2013
General Manager	Date

# NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT CHECK REQUEST

PAYEE RICK FRA	ITES			
50 Forres	st Rd	DATE	11 126,13 (TODAY'S DATE)	
Novato, 0	CA 94947	AMOUNT:		
·	onth Bay Workshop  (NAME OF MEETING OR WORKSHOP  compensated as provided under the	<b>?</b> )	on 10 104 113 (DATE OF MEETING)  pensation Policy.	
	SIGNATURE	Tolle		
CHARGE TO: 5600				
DISPOSITION OF CHECK  X MAIL TO PAYEE  □ HOLD FOR	Prepared By Accounting Review	POST DATE VE	endor No. North Mari NAIO: \( \)	IN ACT
□ OTHER	Invoice Number (CK Req ID)  CKRQ 112613	Invoice (CK Req) Date	Invoice (CK Req) Amount \$100.00	
	NMWD Comment			
Approved to Pay by	Job Number	GL Accoun	ıt Amount	
T:\FORMS\CHECK REQUEST FOR BOARD.DOC REV. 0213		56001-01-	-11 \$100.00	
		T	OTAL \$100.00	

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# NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT CHECK REQUEST

PAYEE DENNIS RO	OONI				
P.O. Box 8	72	DATE 10113 (TODAY'S DATE)			
Pt. Reyes	Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956		AMOUNT: \$100.00		
and wish to be con	(NAME OF MEETING OR WORKSHOP  mpensated as provided under the  SIGNATURE	DATE (DATE	of MEETING)		
CHARGE TO: 5600	1-01-11				
DISPOSITION OF CHECK  MAIL TO PAYEE HOLD FOR X OTHER: ACH PAYMENT	Prepared By Accounting Review  Invoice Number (CK Reg ID)  CKRQ 11643  NMWD Comment	Red) Date	NOETH MARIN WATER DISTRICT  (Req) Amount  00.00		
APPROVED TO PAY BY	Job Number	GĽ Accounty	4 Amount		
र \FORMS\CHECK REQUEST FOR BOARD.DOC REV. 0213	Jon:Number 3	56001-01-11	\$100.00		
	t:\finance\accounts payable\(paytag.xls)shee(1	TOTAL _	\$100.00		



PAYEE JOHN SCHOONOVER

00.0ა 50.00

# NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT CHECK REQUEST

(DO NOT USE IF VENDOR CAN SUBMIT INVOICE)

1160	1160 Rosalia Drive Novato, CA 94947		DATE \\\2(1)2	
			11/26/13	
		AMOUNT	: \$100.00	
•	か		on 11/18/13 Densation Policy.	
CHARGE TO: 5600	01-01-11			
DISPOSITION OF CHECK  X MAIL TO PAYEE  HOLD FOR OTHER	Prepared By Accounting Review  Invoice Number (CK Req ID)	POST DATE Vend  SCHO  Invoice (CK	NORTH MARIN	
EQUESTED BY  HN SCHOONOVER	NMWD Comment	(1/26/13)	Invoice (CK Reg) Amount \$100.00	
ROVED TO PAY BY	Job Number	GL Account 56001-01-11	Amount \$100.00	
SICHECK REQUEST FOR BOARD, DOC 3	finance\accounts payable\paytag.xls]sheet1 Re	TOTAL	\$100.00	

# DISBURSEMENTS - DATED DECEMBER 12, 2012

Date Prepared: 12/10/13

The following demands made against the District are listed for approval and authorization for payment in accordance with Section 31302 of the California Water Code, being a part of the California Water District Law:

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
P/R*	Employees	Net Payroll PPE 11/30/13	\$117,994.84
P/R*	Employees	Net Payroll - Sick Leave Buyback (8 Employees)	\$16,145.06
EFT*	US Bank	Federal & FICA Taxes PPE 11/30/13	50,781.38
EFT*	State of California	State Taxes & SDI PPE 11/30/13	9,314.93
EFT*	AMS Servicing	Payoff 1st Deed of Trust - 15 Gustafson Court	383,792.77
1	Able Tire & Brake	Tires (2) ('05 Ford Ranger)	220.71
2	Alioto, Nicole	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
3	AT&T	November Internet Service @ PRTP	70.00
4	Baccei, Michael	Exp Reimbursement: Cleanup & Painting Supplies (15 Gustafson Ct)	278.94
5	Baker, Jack	Tour of Dry Creek Demonstration Project on November 22, 2013	100.00
6	Bastogne	Overpayment on Closed Account	77.63
7	Bold & Polisner	October Legal Services: AEEP Caltrans Reimb-B1 (\$648), AEEP Caltrans Reimb-B3 (\$74), Director's Compensation (\$488), Gustafson Ct (\$703), MMWD Intertie Agreement (\$897), RW So Phase 1b Claim (\$578) & Village Marin (\$55)	3,442.50
8	Buck's Saw Service	Replacement Brush Cutter	608.18
9	Building Supply Center	Plumbing Supplies Cement & PVC Primer	27.89
10	Business Card	Birthday Breakfasts (\$81), iAnnotate App (Baker) (\$10), ACWA Fall 2013 Conference Registration (12/3/13) (DeGabriele) (\$695), Airline Tickets for ACWA Conference (\$158) (DeGabriele), Supplies for Lab (\$19), Repeaters/Base Stations (\$261), Facebook-Advertisement (\$75) & Internet Payment (\$155)	1,453.82

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
11	Calif Public Health Services	Application for Water Treatment Certification (T3) (Garrett)	90.00
12	CalPERS Retirement System	Pension Contribution PPE 11/30/13	48,975.17
13	Childers, Greg	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
14	DeGabriele, Chris	Exp Reimbursement: November Mileage	96.05
15		Vision Reimbursement	156.00
16	Dell Computers	24" Monitor (\$205), Lithium Battery (\$114) (McIntyre) & Lithium Battery (Bentley)	418.04
17	Dooley, Thomas	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
18	Ehrlich, Steven	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
19	Environmental Resource Assoc	Annual Lab Certification	324.28
20	Environmental Express	Sample Tubes for IC Instrument	264.09
21	Field, Kevin	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
22	Fisher Scientific	Potassium Hydroxide, Calcium Carbonate (\$69), pH Probe, Potassium Nitrate, Steel Probe (\$256), Ethyl Alcohol, Replacement pH Meter (\$1,444), Portable pH Meter (\$756) & Stirrer Paddle (\$269) (Lab)	2,957.65
23	Golden Gate Petroleum	Gasoline (\$3.44/gal) & Diesel (\$3.78/gal)	2,952.30
24	Goodpaster, Stacie	Exp Reimb: Gas for Prius	20.00
25	Grainger	Hand-held 2 gal Sprayer (5) (\$118), Tube Cutters (10), Winch Straps (4) (\$241) & Electrical Cable Ties (5)	455.33
26	Graves, William & Holly	Refund Deposit - New Development Water Conservation Restriction	1,000.00
27	Hach	Service on Turbidity Sensor & Controller at PRTP	1,215.58
28	Healy, Miss P A	Overpaid Account	324.81
29	Hertz Equipment Rental	Dump Truck Rental (10/14-11/13/13)	1,467.14
30	Hines, Kevin & Valerie	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
31	Interstate Battery	Batteries (2) ('08 Chevy Colorado-\$98 & '93 Case Loader-\$127) & Batteries for Solar System Battery (2) (\$177)	402.39
32	Journey Ford/Lincoln	Handle ('05 Ford Ranger)	38.80
33	King, Michael	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program (\$200) & Refund Alternative Compliance Reg 15 Deposit (\$630)	830.00
34	Lardas, Michael & Kristin	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
35	Maestretti, Jimmy	Holiday Party Catering	4,432.84
36	Maltby Electric	Emergency Generator Connection, Electrical Switches for PR & Olema P/S (\$5,988) & Conduit Straps	6,000.22
37	Mansourian, Farhad	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
38	Marin County Tax Collector	Annual Permit Fee (Hazardous Material Inventory Permits) (4)	6,285.00
39	Marin Landscape Materials	Concrete (42 sacks) (\$211), Soil (1 yd) & Cement (6) (\$82)	328.77
40	McLellan, WK	Misc Paving (Novato Area) (Balance Remaining on Contract \$24,429)	6,197.52
41	Neopost USA	Sealing Kit (\$56) & Self Adhesive Strips (300)	132.69
42	North Marin Auto Parts	Oil Filter, Air Filter, Wiper Blades, Motor Oil (6 qts), Radiator ('08 Chevy Colorado) (\$173), Radiator Cap, Shop Rags (60 lbs) (\$172), Trailer Plug, Socket, Stop Lights (4) (\$104), Sand Pump Belts (STP) (\$197), Brake Line Fittings (6), Pressure Washer Hose (3/8" x 50') (\$176), Gear Oil (\$73), Hydraulic Oil (13 gal) (\$198), Battery Terminals (2) (\$37), Hose Clamps (8), T-Bolts (8) & Solder	1,319.99
43	North Bay Gas	Carbon Dioxide (\$32) & November Cylinder Rental (\$92)	125.20
44	Novato Builders Supply	Concrete (4 yds) (\$701), Framing Square, Lumber, Rebar, Nails, Cement Dye, Gravel Mix, Roofing Shingles & Nails (\$269)	1,168.36
45	Novato, City of	Resurfacing of Hamilton Parkway	10,000.00

Seq	Payable To	For	Amount
46	Novato Chevrolet	Brake Shoe Kit, Drums (\$374) & Water Pump (\$148) ('08 Chevy Colorado)	523.32
47	Pace Supply	Couplings (24) (\$1,096), Elbows (2), Bushings (2), Service Saddles (5) (\$432), Hub Adaptors (3), Tees (2), Valve (\$158), PVC Pipe (400) (\$1,431), Nipples (7) & Hydrants (2) (\$2,332)	6,012.68
48	NMWD Petty Cash	Petty Cash Reimbursement	93.80
49	PG&E	Energy Charges for 15 Gustafson Ct. (11/25-12/16)	11.91
50	Pini Hardware	Window, Circular Blade, Hole Saw Blade, Cable Ties, Electrical Connector, Dishwasher Hose (Office), Battery, Downspouts (STP) (\$132), PVC Cement (2-32 oz), Primer (16 oz), Elbows, Coupler, House Keys (25 Giacomini Rd), Breakaway Locks for Fire Services (8) (\$61), Roof Patch, Foil Tape, Plumbing Supplies (STP), Garden Sprayer, Screws & Brackets	448.43
51	Postmaster Novato	Annual "Caller Service" Fee (PO Box)	1,160.00
52	Ramudo, Pablo	Exp Reimb: Attendance of BAWWA Tour & Dinner Meeting in Oakland. Tour & Meeting \$60, Mileage \$33, Toll \$5 & Travel Expenses: ACWA WQ Committee Meeting in Los Angeles on 12/3/13. Mileage \$50, Parking \$28, Airfare \$360, Hotel \$221, Hotel Parking \$40, Rental Car \$22, Gasoline \$7, Conf Parking \$20 & Meals \$21.	879.61
53		Cafeteria Plan: Uninsured Medical Reimbursement	341.21
54	Santiago, Tony & Karen	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	50.00
55	Sebastopol Bearing & Hydraulic	Hydraulic Oil for Pump (\$380) & Hose (1' x 1 1/4")	396.96
56	Shoemaker Structural	Installation of 6" Hat Flange	300.00
57	Shook, William	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
58	Siemens Water Technologies	Service on Deionization System	221.07
59	SPG Solar	Energy Delivered Under Solar Services Agreement (11/1-11/30/13)	7,396.36

Seq	Payable To For		Amount
60	Staples Advantage	Correction Tape (30), Scotch Tape (6), Envelopes (250), Stackable Drawer & Copy Paper (Letter-\$144 & Ledger \$91)	308.55
61	State Water Resources Control	RW N-Segment 1	40,196.44
62	Thomas Scientific	Detergent & Sterility Indicator (\$106)	136.84
63	United Parcel Service	Delivery Service: Repair of Atmosphere Tester	6.79
64	US Postal Service	Meter Postage	1,000.00
65	VWR International	Water & Chemical Resistant Marking Tape (16)	89.69
66	Walchli, David	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
67	Walton, Richard	Novato "Washer Rebate" Program	50.00
68	Warren, Robert	Novato "Toilet Rebate" Program	100.00
69	Young, Katie	Retirement Gift from District (Moore) TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	200.00 \$742,710.53

The foregoing payroll and accounts payable vouchers totaling \$742,710.53 are hereby approved and authorized for payment.

Auditor-Controller

Date

General Manager

Date

## NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT CHECK REQUEST

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DISPOSITION OF CHECK	Prepared By Accounting Review	POST DATE	Vendor No.	NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT			
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□ Hold for X OTHER:	Invoice Number (CK Req ID)	Invoice (CK Req) Date	Invoice (Cl	< Req) Amount			
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#### **MEMORANDUM**

**Board of Directors** To:

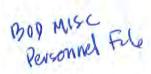
December 13, 2013

From: Alicia Manzoni, Consumer Services Supervisor

Subj:

Freeze Summary t:\cons srvc\memo\freez 2013.docx

Starting December 9, 2013 our Field Service Representative started receiving calls about frozen pipes. Between December 9, and December 11 they responded to roughly 40 calls for burst pipes on the consumer side of meter. The office staff took in about 200 calls regarding consumer pipes that had frozen. Staff did a great job responding to all customers that needed help turning off their water.





### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Marin County Civic Center 3501 Civic Center Drive Suite 329 San Rafael, CA 94903 415 473 7331 T 415 473 3645 F 415 473 6172 TTY www.marincounty.org/bos December 4, 2013

Drew McIntyre 58 Shields Lane Novato, CA 94947

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

I am pleased to inform you of your reappointment to the Flood Control Zone #1 Advisory Board. Your appointment was made by unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on December 3, 2013. Your term is for four years and will expire November 30, 2017.

You no longer need to come to the Board of Supervisors' office to take your Oath of Office. Check with the staff member for your Board for details.

Your interest in continuing to serve on this important advisory Board is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Patrice Stancato

Deputy Clerk of the Board

cc: Supervisor Judy Arnold, 1<sup>st</sup> District Pat Balderama, Public Works



## Heroes of Marin: Dietrich Stroeh, Environmental Stewardship

by Stephanie Powell | Posted: Friday, December 6, 2013 9:00 am

Up to 60 percent of the human body is water. About 70 percent of the earth's surface is covered by water. If there's one thing that is hard to do without in this world—it's water.

But Marin faced just that scenario in the winter of 1976 when the amount of rainfall and runoff into the reservoirs was nearly 60 percent down for the year—throwing us into one of the worst droughts Marin has ever seen and putting us on a track to, at late-'70s consumption rates, be out of water by July 1977.

But with things at their bleakest, Dietrich "Diet" Stroeh, general manager at the Marin Municipal Water District, preferred to see the glass half full.

Born and raised in Novato, Stroeh's upbringing catered to his water-watchdog career with practices of early environmentalism. His family grew all its own vegetables, raised chickens and pigs and made compost. Despite his early foundation in conserving, Stroeh's educational path led him elsewhere, to the University of Nevada where he majored in civil engineering. After graduating, Stroeh found himself back in his hometown and county working as a junior engineer at the MMWD. Stroeh would spend 20 years of his career at the MMWD, six as the general manager and one dry year in particular, 1977, struggling to find the necessary water to keep Marin County hydrated.

"I think it was the first time in my life that I ever felt fear—that if I didn't make this happen, people would run out of water," recalls Stroeh.

In the mid-'70s, Marin required about 30 billion gallons of water from its combined seven reservoirs for urban water use, irrigation and industrial water use. In late 1976, Stroeh and his team were looking at a total of 12 billion gallons of water left in the reservoirs for Marin's 170,000 inhabitants. Luckily for Stroeh, he had a friend in Ron Robie, director of the California Department of Water Resources. Stroeh and Robie set up a meeting in Sacramento with multiple water agency officials and organizations, including the Metropolitan Water District in southern California. They negotiated a "memo of understanding" that stated that some of southern California's water from the delta would be released for Marin's use.

But, even though Marin had found a resource for more water, larger issues continued to manifest: How would the MMWD get the water from the delta to Marin County? A meeting was set up with East Bay water agencies to shop an untested, and highly expensive, idea—flow the water via

pipeline from southern California to Alameda County (with the consent and help of the East Bay Municipal Utility District), and then over the Richmond Bridge to Marin. Stroeh worked out a deal with Caltrans to take over one lane of the Richmond Bridge with a 6.5-mile long, 24-inch diameter pipeline that would pump the water over to Marin's county lines.

"Sometimes I look back on it and I think god I can't remember how the hell [this happened]," Stroeh explains. "Maybe I was just naïve and just figured I could make it happen, it's just unheard of building a pipeline that long in 3.5 months."

But they got it done. The pipeline was completed and the "tap" began flowing on June 7, 1977, but Stroeh's work wasn't done—the MMWD needed to pay for all this. He reached out to Arnold Baptiste, the president of the Marin County Board of Supervisors—who, Stroeh notes, was a personal friend of President Jimmy Carter. And off to Washington, D.C., he went with Congressman John Burton and Supervisor Gary Giacomini to lobby for federal drought aid. A meeting was arranged with Carter's people and Stroeh delivered a proposal to a room full of "heavy hitters," overcoming the objections that a rich county like Marin could raise the money itself by taxing its community. Stroeh explained the drought was a regional issue that could affect multiple western states. Four days and many millions of dollars in drought aid later, a bill was enacted by Congress and signed by President Carter.

With adequate funding and the construction of the pipeline complete, MMWD continued to ensure Marin made conservation a priority. MMWD allotted families 46 gallons per person per day, a staggering drop from the normal 120 gallons per person per day that Marin residents were used to. If residents went over the allotment, monetary increases were charged based on the number of overused cubic feet.

While it may have been his nerves of steel during the drought that led the *Pacific Sun* to name him "person of the year" in 1978, but Stroeh's legacy stretches beyond a Richmond Bridge pipe. In his time at the MMWD, Stroeh implemented a comprehensive water management plan—one of the first to stress water conservation. He also assisted in the passing of significant water conservation legislature that required all new buildings to include low-flush showers, toilets and include water-efficient plumbing.

In 1980, Stroeh left MMWD to pursue one of his original passions—engineering. He is a founding partner of CSW, Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group, where his specialty is in none other than the design and management of water and sanitary sewer distribution systems. His engineering firm is involved in multiple environmental projects that take "engineering solutions to the next step," including creek restoration, erosion control and geothermal heating—they recently worked on a project with College of Marin.

Today, Stroeh continues to live in a house he built in Novato. He considers himself semi-retired, making it into his office about three days a week. As for the MMWD, he says, "I'm still involved one way or another with different things."

"I've been lucky very, very lucky to have the life that I've had," Stroeh looks back. "People ask me if I'd do it all over again and I say, 'You better believe it.'"

#### Hero FYI:

- Former *Pacific Sun* reporter Michael McCarthy wrote a book, *The Man Who Made It Rain*, about Stroeh's experiences at the water district during the drought.
- Stroeh received a runt pig as a birthday present and his daughters named it Wilbur. It grew to be 250 pounds.
- In 2012, Stroeh wrote *Three Months: A Caregiving Journey from Heartbreak to Healing*. The focus of the book was his late wife, who passed away from pancreatic cancer.
- Stroeh continues to grow his own vegetables and fruits and has a compost pile.
- Stroeh is an honorary advisor to the engineering department at the University of Nevada.
- Stroeh admits to drinking only four (of the advised) eight glasses of water a day, and that he also enjoys drinking scotch.

BOD MILL

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## The Press Democrat



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**Road Warrior** 

## **Update: Marin-Sonoma Narrows widening, Part 2**

Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 5:34 by Road. Warrior



Sonoma County's portion of the Marin-Sonoma Narrows widening project. See larger portions below.

Widening a 16-mile stretch of highway doesn't sound like a big deal, but when that roadway is as complicated as the Novato Narrows, there is no quick fix. The \$475 million Marin-Sonoma Narrows widening project began in April, 2013, and won't be finished until 2016.

Representatives from Caltrans and the Sonoma County Transportation Authority recently took a drive through the project to answer questions and explain the construction that is causing agonizing delays between Petaluma Boulevard North (Old Redwood Highway) and Highway 37 in Novato. Here's what they had to say.

Traffic has grown steadily over the years as a result of population growth and Sonoma County's steadily growing tourism industry, which causes weekend gridlock. Bumper-to-bumper traffic heads north on Fridays and Saturdays, then returns south on Sundays.

The Narrows is the last four-lane stretch between Windsor and the Golden Gate Bridge, a remnant of days gone by with driveways and country roads that feed right into the highway. Portions are steep enough to slow big rigs and circuitous enough to block motorists' views of traffic conditions ahead. The road also passes through two counties, which means any construction must be jointly planned and executed, and it contains four bridges that had to be widened or replaced.

When the project is done, it will have made room for HOV lanes, rebuilt bridges that cross 101 and created one central interchange between Petaluma and Novato, eliminating access from the small farm roads and San Antonio Road. And although Highway 101 will have been widened to accommodate six lanes, the middle two will remain closed until funding is available to create HOV lanes.

Officials say HOV work would take about two years and could begin as early as 2015 on the stretch of 101 between Petaluma Boulevard South and the Sonoma-Marin county line, as early as 2016 on the rest of the Narrows. Getting the money is likely to take longer. Expect bottlenecks to continue until at least 2020, Press Democrat reporter Matt Brown wrote in a recent story.

"This whole project is setting (Highway 101) up for future HOV lanes," Jit Pandher of the Transportation Authority of Marin said in an earlier conversation. That includes acquiring right-of-ways, doing environmental impact studies, relocating utilities and reconfiguring the highway for six lanes of traffic.

When funding for the HOV lanes is available, it will be easy to add them, providing the final link between Windsor and the Golden Gate Bridge.

<u>Click here</u> to read an earlier report about the southern portion of the project overseen by the Transportation Authority of Marin, including the Redwood Landfill interchange, and some answers to earlier questions (<u>read them here</u>).

The lion's share of Sonoma County's early attention has gone to bridge-building. The most complicated of the projects is replacing the four-lane Petaluma River Bridge with a new structure wide enough to hold six lanes of traffic and long enough to make more room for larger boats to pass beneath.

They also are building a new interchange at Kastania Road, requiring a new four-lane bridge across 101. And existing two-lane bridges at Old Redwood Highway/North Petaluma Boulevard and the Redwood Landfill are being expanded to four lanes, requiring the construction of new two-lane bridges alongside.

The next phase will involve regrading the hill and adjusting the curve at San Antonio Road.

Only when these tasks have been completed can the highway be widened and repaved. Starting first with the largest projects under construction:

\* Petaluma Boulevard South Interchange / Petaluma River Bridge (\$127 million) — In addition to replacing the bridge, the existing Petaluma Boulevard South interchange will be replaced by a new tight diamond interchange at Kastania Road. The existing Boulevard will continue south on both sides of the highway, serving local traffic as frontage roads with Class II bike lanes. Once all the phases of the widening project are complete, the bike lanes will connect to those running north from Novato. (See map below.)

By doing this work to restrict vehicles from entering 101 except at formal interchanges, the highway will qualify as an expressway, setting the stage for future HOV lanes. Work began in January 2013 and should be done by 2016



Middle section of the Marin Sonoma Narrows project showing the new Petaluma Boulevard South interchange. Click to enlarge. (Caltrans illustration)

\* Kastania Road interchange (included in the Petaluma Boulevard budget) — The new bridge crosses 101 just south of the existing South Petaluma Boulevard interchange. Westbound traffic will connect with the existing Kastania Road, which will serve as a frontage road serving farms and the gas station. That road will end at Gunn Road. (See map below.) Work is underway and is expected to finish in 2015.

Just south of Gunn Road, the freeway will be shifted slightly to the west to provide a better line of sight for northbound drivers. The southbound lane will move to the west, and the northbound lane will move into the existing southbound lane. The new lanes are visible as green lines on the map below.



Marin Sonoma Narrows project south of the new interchange at Kastania Road. (Caltrans illustration)

\* San Antonio curve correction (not yet under contract) — Highway 101's alignment as it crosses San Antonio Hill haven't changed since the road was designed in 1953 or 1954, although speeds have changed dramatically. To make it safer, the road will be moved to the west and the grade will be flattened between San Antonio Road and the Petaluma River Bridge. A new six-lane bridge also will be built over San Antonio Creek to resolve flooding issues, and a new Class I bike lane will be built along the creek, connecting east and west frontage roads.

Access to the freeway from San Antonio Road also will be restricted, with local traffic directed south along the frontage roads to an expanded interchange at the Redwood Landfill. Work is expected to begin in 2015 and end in 2017.

\* **Redwood Landfill interchange** — Marin County has been in charge of expanding the existing two-lane bridge to four lanes and creating a true tight-diamond interchange with on- and off-ramps in each direction. It is expected to be done in 2014.

Other smaller projects further north include:

- \* Old Redwood Highway/North Petaluma Boulevard (\$27 million) The two-lane overcrossing will be widened to four lanes, and new on- and off-ramps will be built. The new structure that will hold the two new lanes is being built alongside the existing bridge. Sound walls also are being built there. It is expected to be done in 2015.
- \* Lakeville Highway (Route 116) Interchange (\$32.9 million) The existing Lakeville Highway bridges will be widened to make room for the future HOV lane, and truck climbing lanes on Highway 101 will be upgraded in both directions. Sound walls also will be installed. All traffic is scheduled to shift onto the southbound bridge in mid-December so the northbound bridge can be demolished. All work is expected to wrap up in 2015.



Lakeville Highway interchange. (Caltrans illustration)

Stay tuned this week for answers to more specific questions from Road Warrior readers.



- Mailbag: Where's the traffic coming from on Hwy. 12? | Road Warrior (this site)
- Michelle Obama's DNA Test Show Slave Owner as Ancestor (Ancestry.com)

- Update: Marin-Sonoma Narrows widening, Part 1 | Road Warrior (this site)
- Is it legal to pass on the shoulder?
  | Road Warrior (this site)
- Stony Point Road work begins in January | Road Warrior (this site)
- Where does Jim Harbaugh rank in the NFL list of jerks? | Cohn Zohn (Cohn Zohn)
- Man Lost in Wilderness for 3 Months Saves Himself with Gut-Wrenching Decision (Articles in the News)
- The 12 Worst Supermarkets in America (The Fiscal Times)
- 10 Weapons You Won't Believe Are Legal (The Fiscal Times)
- New Rule for California Drivers (Lifestyle Journal)

Recommended by

#### Comments

#### 11 Comments

#### 1. Wilson

**Ouestions for CalTrans** 

You have known for many years this was going to happen. Why didn't you purchase the old quarry site when it was available to make the new interchange less convoluted than it is going to be?

Actually the Sonoma County Open Space District should have purchased the land for greenbelt separator but they haven't really been concerned about buying important land like this until recently.

Also. I thought that the whole idea was for eventually three lanes each direction as far south as Highway 37 in Novato. Yet the center divider all of the way through Novato has now been filled in for a fourth lane. So if ever the Narrows gets its third lane, there will STILL be a bottleneck at the north end of Novato. CalTrans, please explain that for me.

Thank you.

December 3rd, 2013 9:30 pm

#### 2. stuck in the narrows

**Ouestions:** 

Why can't we double the number of workers on all these projects? The traffic is unbearable, and is costing the County.

When will the whole thing be 100% done? three clean lanes from Atherton Ave. -Petaluma Blvd North exit.

December 4th, 2013 9:49 am

#### 3. Stephen Landwehr

And are we going to raise the roadbed so it will not flood again at San Antonio Creek????????? Current residents may have never seen that.

December 4th, 2013 3:21 pm

4. Doug

Wilson, I agree. I guess each county gets funding and projects approved independently, but the \$50 million or whatever amount spent on widening the section of middle and north Novato to four lanes was a section that did not need widening and was a waste in my opinion. Too bad that money couldn't have been put toward a third lane all the way. What gets me is that our transportation officials "made a choice to do the safety improvements first". Did they consider how unsafe the main roadway would be because emergency vehicles can't get through jammed traffic? But the dairy farmer, his 75 cows, and the 14 people that visit Olompali each year will have great improved access while the thousands of us passing through every day are forced into a tunnelway, getting jammed closer and closer between ever narrowing barriers in hour long stop and go. I've seen highways in the bay area widened and then widened again over the past 20 years, but now it will be another seven years for the narrows to just get a third lane? Maybe there's not enough outcry from the north county to get this done.

December 4th, 2013 3:43 pm

#### 5. Road. Warrior

Yes, you're absolutely right.

December 4th. 2013 6:10 pm

#### 6. Sebastopol Queen

Road Warrior, thank you for helping us try to make sense of this mess as it is maddening. There are many people to blame for our current situation, but we can all do something to make it better in the meantime.

Fellow Commuters: will you please TAKE THE BUS??!!!

I take the bus every day from Rohnert Park and would never even consider driving. The bus is like BEING AT A SPA compared to driving. The bus is the fastest, most comfortable, easiest, safest, least stressful and ONLY way to commute to the city, in my opinion. There are plenty of seats, everyone is silent, & no one talks to each other! I get through my work & personal emails on my phone, I make lists & get organized, and I work on files saved to my laptop. And a lot of people get GREAT SLEEP on the bus-I am not one of them, but you could be!

If you take the bus a couple of times & get into your routine, you will never want to drive again. And I swear I don't work for Golden Gate Transit! Please figure out how to take the bus at least one day a week. If you do, we may regain some collective sanity. Thank you for your help.

Thank you for your neip.
goldengatetransit.org/schedules/current/

December 4th, 2013 7:33 pm

#### 7. I'll be home in an hour, er make that two.

The planning of this construction is terrible and slow. I have more hope that the Smart Train will be available before this third lane! Okay, who am I fooling. I have no confidence in either! Other states have much more efficient short and long term planning for their roadways than California does. Think of the lack of productivity/family time we are missing out on as a state, county or community? Ridiculous.

December 5th, 2013 12:18 am

#### 8. GG

This is ridiculous. How do these officials respond to the very justified critiques about how this project was handled? The traffic between Novato and Petaluma has been terrible for decades. I would guess that it is (and was when this project started) the worst bottleneck on Hwy 101 north of Novato. So why is this the last, least-funded portion to be started? Was the third lane between Santa Rosa and Windsor, for example, so vital that they could ignore the much, much, much larger problem at the southern end?

This is really infuriating. Telling us that we will be waiting another SEVEN years for something that really should have been done 20 years ago is asinine. Someone needs to answer for this. More importantly, someone needs to figure out a way to get this done before 2020. If CalTrans officials can figure out a way to demolish, rebuild, test and reopen a significantly damaged and complicated portion of the MacArthur Maze in 26 days, they can figure out how to add two lanes to 16 miles of highway in less than seven years.

December 5th, 2013 2:20 am

#### 9. Kevin

We have to go through all this construction hassle for years only to end up with our original 2 lanes of usable roadway. The HOV lanes are lightly used while the other 2 are stop and go. Seems like opening up all 3 would actually be a benefit to everyone as traffic would then flow. HOV lanes presume that people are commuting to common areas, but there are no large industries that people are commuting to, so everyone has a separate destination.

December 5th, 2013 6:47 am

#### 10. stuck in the narrows

Doug

Why in the world is your overwhelming logic, which everyone who travels the narrows daily agrees with, being ignored by the authorities? The narrows are beyond un-safe(accidents daily), and it blows my mind that a new approach isn't being taken. For example: the instant they widening 101 up to Atheron to 4 lanes, they should have brought all the workers to the Atherton area to widen to three lanes to the dump. Instead we got a WORSE chokepoint than the one that existed previously. Whenever I tell people I live in Petaluma, the first response is "oh my god, how do you deal with the traffic"...not exactly what I expected when I moved to the green acres.

December 5th, 2013 7:46 am

#### 11. Cathy

I agree with the fact that once you get used to the bus, you would rather take poison than drive in to SF under any circumstances! Why don't people take the time to understand what they are voting for? Why are people surprised when these half-baked ballot measures end up being reality? What about the Casino in Rohnert Park? No one looked at the ramifications of the project and JUST ONE of the ramifications was the increased traffic on a 1950's style road – 101 through the Narrows, which we will be stuck with until 2020 and when it is finally installed, wanna bet it is out of date by then? Some of the NEW BRIDGES ALREADY look too small.

December 5th, 2013 2:49 pm

#### **Submit Your Comments**

Name

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Required, will not be published

BOD MASC

### PG&E seeks reduction in releases to Eel River due to drought

Redwood Times Redwood Times Posted:

RedwoodTimes.com

Virginia Graziani

Redwood Times

Pacific Gas and Electric Company is preparing to ask the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for a variance that will allow the power company to reduce the amount of water released into the main stem Eel River at Cape Horn Dam in Mendocino County, PG&E environmental scientist Paul Kubicek told the Eel-Russian River Commission at its most recent meeting last Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Protocols, which establish when and how much water must be released into the Eel instead of being diverted to PG&E's Potter Valley hydroelectric plant and then into the East Branch of the Russian River, require release of 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) beginning Dec. 1 to aid salmon migration.

But Lake Pillsbury, the much larger reservoir 12 miles upstream from Cape Horn Dam, which impounds water from the upper reaches of the Eel, is at critically low levels because of a dry spring followed by what is likely to be the driest fall on record in Northern California.

Only 13,000 acre-feet of water remain in Lake Pillsbury, which has the capacity to store up to 75,000 acre-feet. (An acre-foot is approximately 326,000 gallons, the amount of water needed to cover an acre one foot deep.)

PG&E plans to meet with several regulatory agencies, most importantly the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), to hammer out an agreement about how much they can reduce releases into the Eel and still maintain enough flow for upmigrating salmon and steelhead.

When all the parties settle on a number, PG&E will apply to FERC for the variance to the Potter Valley Project's operating license. The license also requires PG&E to produce a certain amount of electricity and to release water into the East Branch of the Russian River in Potter Valley to meet its agreements to provide water for agricultural, domestic, and fisheries uses in the Russian River watershed.

The Eel-Russian River Commission also heard a presentation by Janet Pauli, chairman of the Mendocino Inland Water and Power Commission and a member of the Potter Valley Irrigation District, on the beneficial uses of water in the Russian River watershed.

Pauli's talk illustrated how critical water from the diversion is to the economy and culture of Mendocino and Sonoma Counties.

Prior to the construction of Scott Dam and the creation of Lake Pillsbury in 1922, the East Branch of the Russian River dried up in the summer time. After water became available to Potter Valley farmers year-round, "everything changed," said Pauli.

Potter Valley became a thriving agricultural community, which today has nearly 5000 acres under cultivation, producing wine grapes, pears, hay, pasturage for cattle and sheep, and miscellaneous other crops, with a total value of \$13.5 million.

Because Potter Valley sits on a "geotectonically fractured watershed" it has no groundwater reserves but is totally dependent on flows in the East Branch, Pauli explained. Additionally, a 1950s study identified five possible sites for reservoirs capable of storing up to 14,000 acrefeet of winter rainfall, but found that they would not be filled three out of every five years.

Following the construction of Coyote Dam and the impoundment of Lake Mendocino, a 122,000 acre-foot reservoir downstream from Potter Valley in 1929, the Ukiah Valley and communities as far south as Healdsburg grew and prospered on the new abundance and reliability of water in the Russian River.

"These are farms... This is a place where people live and raise families," Pauli continued, citing the economic and social benefits of agriculture, related industries and businesses, and recreation and tourism.

She also noted that most communities have established water conservation programs and are looking into new technologies, such as wastewater recycling, to make the best use of the water available.

PG&E's environmental consultant, Park Steiner, updated the commissioners on fall salmon counts so far.

"It's been a slow year" because of low river levels, Steiner said. With the Eel River at historic low levels for this time of year and little water in the tributaries as well, a small number of chinook salmon have been "working their way slowly up," Steiner said, but they are not finding enough water to spawn.

Steiner's crew found two redds (spawning nests) in the upper main Eel in areas where natural "structures" such as logs created an area of increased flow velocity. The crews also counted eight chinook.

As of Dec. 3, the day before the meeting, the Van Arsdale Fisheries Station had counted only 18 fish coming up the fish ladder to spawn in the stretch of the river between the two dams.

On the same day last year the total count for the season was 3400 chinook.

"Once [salmon] enter fresh water they're on the clock," Steiner said. "They have only so much time to spawn before they die." When the need becomes urgent, the salmon will

spawn wherever they are, often in conditions that are far from ideal for survival of the eggs and fry.

Adult salmon turn black in fresh water and develop fungus infections, seen as white spongy patches on their bodies.

Sometimes secondary ocean runs bring more chinook into the rivers in December or even January, but "So far it's not looking very good," Steiner concluded.

Steiner also reported on temperature monitoring and fish populations in the main stem Eel River during the past summer. Water temperatures in general throughout the season were warmer than normal, to no one's surprise, peaking as high as 86 degrees in some places.

As a result, Steiner's crews found only a few steelhead in deep pools, some roach, "an occasional lamprey," and lots more pikeminnow than in recent years.

Steelhead, whose young grow to maturity in fresh water before returning to the ocean, need cold water to thrive and are subject to predation by pikeminnow, which do better in warm water.

Summer 2013 marked the lowest count of steelhead from Hearst, east of Willits, downstream, since Steiner began conducting studies.

After the meeting the participants were invited to visit CDFW's Van Arsdale Fisheries Station, where biologist Scott Bauer demonstrated how salmon are captured, counted, measured, and released to resume their journey to spawning areas between Cape Horn and Scott Dams.

"What we do here is so simple - all we do is count fish," he said.

Although only 15 chinook had been counted for the season as of the previous day, on the day of the visit Bauer had 25 in the trap partway up the fish ladder where the counting takes place.

"We sent them a memo. We told them to show up for the visitors," quipped a PG&E employee.

Bauer's job may be simple, but that doesn't mean it is easy. Donning waders, he entered the trap, up to his waist in water that he told the group was 44 degrees Fahrenheit, nearly 10 degrees colder than usual at this time of year.

He "herded" the salmon in the long narrow pool by pushing a grate-like gate slowly through the water until all the fish were confined in a small area. With a large fisherman's net he scooped up a few fish and then held the net out of the water for a minute, propping the heavy net against the gate frame. The fish thrashed wildly in the net. "It calms them down," he explained.

He grabbed one of the fish at the base of its tail and tried to catch it near the head with his other hand as it twisted and struggled, splashing Bauer and everyone nearby with icy-cold drops.

When the fish was slightly subdued, Bauer's co-worker snipped a small piece from its tail fin for laboratory analysis. Bauer laid the fish out briefly on a centimeter scale and called out its sex and length for his helper to write down.

Then he tossed the fish over the side of the trap into an adjoining extension of the fish ladder, where it could resume its journey upstream past the dam, possibly a bit shaken but none the worse.

Bauer continued the process until all 25 fish had been counted. His goal is to count, measure, and get tissues samples of every fish that comes up the ladder.

"Last year, when there were 3400 salmon here, I was done," he said emphatically.

At the fisheries station the Redwood Times caught up with Kubicek, the PG&E scientist.

"At the current rate [of river flow at Cape Horn Dam] we could continue to release 100 cfs [into the Eel River] for several months," Kubicek said in response to our question.

PG&E's concern is that unless they conserve water in Lake Pillsbury now, if the drought continues through the winter, they will run out of water by the spring, and it will be too late to conserve.

Earlier during the meeting, commissioner Mike McGuire of Sonoma County said he had been told by National Weather Service personnel that no major storms are predicted for December. Kubicek had responded that PG&E had to plan for "lack of significant rainfall in the short term, if not the long term."

The protocols under which PG&E operates the system are designed to cover as many years and conditions as possible, Kubicek said. They include different schedules and amounts of releases depending on whether the water year (July 1 through June 30) is classified as very wet, wet, dry, or very dry.

Nevertheless, occasionally a year is distinguished by extremes not accounted for in the protocols, and 2013/14 seems to be one of those years.

Kubicek said he had not seen conditions like these since the year he began working for PG&E, 1977, the year of the worst drought in California history (so far). Although he was not working on the Eel River then, he remembered the difficulty of dealing with extremely low water levels in Lake Oroville on the Feather River.

The Eel-Russian River Commission is comprised of one county supervisor and an alternate each from Humboldt, Mendocino, and Sonoma Counties. The commission is primarily a forum for the members to discuss their concerns, provide information, and facilitate cooperation among them.

Second District supervisor Estelle Fennell represents Humboldt County on the commission, but was absent from last week's meeting. The alternate commissioner, 1st District supervisor Rex Bohn, explained that Fennell had just returned to work after a lengthy illness and would attend the next commission meeting.

"She took a lickin' but keeps on tickin'," Bohn said.

The commissioners agreed to meet in the spring, probably in April. Among other items on the spring agenda will be a report from the National Marine Fisheries Service on a program to improve weather predictions, a critical component of planning for releases from dams.

The commission has recently established a website on which meeting dates, agendas, and minutes of past meetings are posted. See www.eelrussianriver.org for details. The website includes a place to fill in your contact information if you wish to receive notification of meeting dates and agendas.

#### REDWOOD TIMES PHOTOS BY VIRGINIA GRAZIANI

- 1. Standing in 44-degree water, CDFW fisheries biologist Scott Bauer gets ready to measure this struggling chinook salmon at Van Arsdale Fisheries Station. After measuring the fish and taking a small tissue sample from its tail, Bauer releases it so it can continue up the fish ladder, past the dam, and on upstream to its spawning grounds.
- 2. Cape Horn Dam impounds Van Arsdale Reservoir, where water from the upper Eel River is diverted through a tunnel in the hills to Pacific Gas and Electric's hydroelectric plant in Potter Valley. Beginning Dec. 1, PG&E is required to release at least 100 cubic feet per second back into the Eel River to maintain flows for fall-running salmon.
- 3. Record-breaking drought has left this boat launch at Lake Mendocino high and dry. The stream on the left is the East Branch of the Russian River, the principle source of water for the lake. At this time of year virtually all of the water in the East Branch comes from the upper Eel River through the Potter Valley Project diversion.
- 4. Salmon and other fish migrating upstream in the upper main stem Eel River must come up this fish ladder at Van Arsdale Fisheries Station, where they are trapped, counted, and measured before being released to continue their journey.

## **Supervisor Kinsey elected head of state Coastal Commission Posted:**

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Supervisor Steve Kinsey was elected chairman of the California Coastal Commission on Wednesday.

The 61-year-old Kinsey, North Central Coast region commissioner since returning for another stint on the panel in 2011, takes the seat formerly held by public member Mary Shallenberger.

Kinsey, a Forest Knolls resident who has served on the county Board of Supervisor since 1996, issued a call for teamwork, urging the sometimes fractious panel to work together "because our strength depends on all of us doing our part."

"I want to strengthen the operations and efficiency of the organization and place an emphasis on partnerships with local governments and public advocates," Kinsey said in a statement.

The commission staff currently is studying revisions to Marin coastal policies submitted last month.

The commission has 12 voting members appointed by either the governor, speaker of the Assembly, or the Senate Rules Committee — which appointed Kinsey.

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