

**NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
October 18, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

President Petterle announced that due to the Coronavirus outbreak and pursuant to the Brown Act as modified by Assembly Bill 361, this was a virtual meeting. President Petterle called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water District to order at 6:00 p.m. and the agenda was accepted as presented. President Petterle added that there was not a public location for participating in this meeting, but any interested members of the public could participate remotely by utilizing the video or phone conference dial-in method using information printed on the agenda. President Petterle announced that in the event of technical difficulties during the meeting, the District Secretary will adjourn the meeting and the remainder of the agenda will be rescheduled for a future special meeting which shall be open to the public and noticed pursuant to the Brown Act.

President Petterle welcomed the public to participate in the remote meeting and asked that they mute themselves, except during open time and while making comments on the agenda items. President Petterle noted that due to the virtual nature of the meeting he will request a roll call of the Directors. A roll call was done, those in remote attendance established a quorum. Participating remotely were Directors Jack Baker, Rick Fraitas, Jim Grossi, Michael Joly and Stephen Petterle.

President Petterle announced that all public attendees will be invited to speak and will need to use the raised hand icon in Zoom or dial *9 to be called upon.

Mr. Williams performed a roll call of staff, participating remotely were; Tony Williams (General Manager), Terrie Kehoe (District Secretary), Eric Miller (Assistant GM/Chief Engineer), Julie Blue (Auditor Controller), Robert Clark (Operations/Maintenance Superintendent), Chris Kehoe (Interim Construction/Maintenance Superintendent) and Rebecca Sylvester (Receptionist/Customer Service Assistant). Additionally, District employee Connie Filippi joined the meeting.

President Petterle requested that for those joining the virtual meeting from the public to identify themselves and there was no response.

MINUTES

On motion of Director Baker seconded by Director Joly, the Board approved the minutes with a minor edit from the October 4, 2022 Regular Board Meeting by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Williams announced that on October 7th the County of Marin had a meeting with the West Marin water providers to discuss the County of Marin's actions in order to comply with SB552, which identifies them as the lead for drought planning. He identified the small West Marin community water systems to include; Muir Beach, Stinson Beach, Bolinas, Inverness, Cal Water, Estero Mutual and Hamilton Mutual water companies, in addition to NMWD. Mr. Williams reported the County of Marin is developing a County Drought and Water Shortage Risk Mitigation Plan to help those agencies handle water emergencies.

Mr. Williams informed that the Board, that on request from Ken Levin from the Point Reyes Station Village Association, he gave a presentation on October 13th which provided an overview of the West Marin system; including the water supply sources from the Coast Guard and Gallagher wells. Mr. Williams reported there was good attendance, noting the members had some really good questions. He added that he offered to come back should they wish another presentation.

Mr. Williams apprised that the Board that he and President Petterle met with Supervisor-elect Eric Lucan on October 14th. He stated that it gave them the opportunity to discuss the history and status of the District as well as the importance of our relationship with Sonoma County Water Agency.

Mr. Williams reported that he and Director Baker participated in a Russian River Water Forum interview on October 17th in regards to the Potter Valley Project. He stated that current stakeholders are being interviewed before a formal Steering Committee and subordinate committees will be formed. Mr. Williams noted that the report is expected to be done in late November or early December.

President Petterle asked if there were any comments or questions from the Directors.

Director Joly referred to the County Drought and Water Shortage Risk Mitigation Plan and asked if there were any issues in which we may be put in a position to help out, noting we already

have a restricted supply. Mr. Williams replied that he let the committee know that we already have an emergency connection agreement with the Inverness Public Utilities District, as well as with MMWD. Director Joly asked if the study would be done by the end of the year. Mr. Williams replied that January of 2023 is the required milestone. He noted that in the meeting they asked us about operations and we reported our limitations, emphasizing we have no surplus water.

President Petterle asked if there were any comments or questions from the public and there was no response.

OPEN TIME

President Petterle asked if anyone from the public wished to bring up an item not on the agenda and there was no response.

STAFF/DIRECTORS REPORTS

President Petterle asked if any Directors or staff wished to bring up an item not on the agenda.

Director Joly inquired about an upcoming NMWD holiday gathering. Ms. Kehoe responded that at this time she has only sent out a “save the date” email, noting that the event will be in house and more information will be available later.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On the motion of Director Fraites, and seconded by Director Joly the Board approved the consent calendar by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

AMEND GENERAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – FREYER & LAURETA, INC.

The Board authorized the General Manger to amend the General Services Agreement between NMWD and Freyer & Laureta, Inc. and increase the budget by \$61,200, for a new total not-to-exceed amount of \$159,800.

ACTION CALENDAR

RENEWAL OF GRAZING LEASES – GROSSI, BELL & LEVERONI IV

Mr. Clark provided the grazing lease agreement renewals for Grossi Beef Parcel No. 2, Bell Cattle Company Parcel No. 4 and David Leveroni IV Family Parcel No. 5. He noted that the only change was an extension of the lease from two to five years. Mr. Clark noted that everyone benefits by extending the lease and the District benefits from the grazing leases as it keeps the grasslands under control and minimizes a potential fire hazard.

President Petterle asked if there were any comments or questions from the Directors.

Director Fraites asked if there was a buffer and if the runoff of manure could end up in Novato Creek. Mr. Clark replied that over the years teachers and students have restored the watershed by planting willow in parcels along Novato and Vineyard Creek. He added that the Grossi parcels have the golf course as a buffer, adding many years ago solar panels were installed at one of the parcels and there is no longer grazing there or anywhere adjacent to the Stafford Lake. Mr. Clark also clarified that the leases are for grazing only. Director Fraites asked if they spread manure in the parcel below the dam. Mr. Clark clarified that the leased parcels are only used for grazing. Mr. Clark added that staff has checked over the years and have not detected any minerals or nutrients run off into Stafford Lake. Director Grossi added that the property in question below the dam is not NMWD property and is above Bowman Creek.

Director Grossi announced that he even though he has no conflict of interest voting on this item since he is not involved with the Grossi Beef operation, he has decided to abstain from the vote.

President Petterle asked if anyone from the public would like to speak and there was no response.

On the motion of Director Fraites and seconded by Director Joly the Board approved the grazing lease agreement renewals for Grossi Beef Parcel No 2, Bell Cattle Company Parcel No. 4 and David Leveroni IV Family Parcel No. 5 by the following vote:

AYES: Director Baker, Fraites, Joly and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Director Grossi

ABSENT: None

INFORMATION ITEMS

NBWA MEETING – OCTOBER 7, 2022

Director Fraites reported on the NBWA meeting that was held on October 7, 2022. He apprised the Board on the presentation given by Jessica Davenport from the State Coastal Conservancy. Director Fraites stated that Ms. Davenport reported on the Bel Marin Keys Wetland Restoration Project; which consists of restoring 1,600 acres of former tidal marshlands near Bel Marin Keys. He added that this project will help stop sea water intrusion in the Bay over the next twenty to thirty years.

President Petterle asked if there were any comments or questions from the Directors or staff.

Mr. Williams stated that he is still having a problem getting meeting notifications from

NBWA. Director Fraites replied that he does as well and has to go directly to their website.

President Petterle asked if anyone from the public would like to speak and there was no response.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board received the following miscellaneous items: Disbursements – Dated October 6, 2022, Disbursements – Dated October 13, 2022, MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT w/ Customer Service Questionnaire, Salinity Notice – Point Reyes Light - October 6, 2022, Salinity Notice – Point Reyes Light – October 13, 2022 and Vendor Letter.

The Board received the following news articles: Mercury News – La Nina: What it means for California’s drought and the upcoming winter rainy season; Marin IJ – A Roadmap to Water Resilience for Marin Municipal Water District – 2021-2022 Marin County Civil Grand Jury Final Report Summaries; Marin IJ – State girds for potential of another arid winter – WATER SUPPLY; Point Reyes Light – Giacomini dairy drills well; Marin IJ – Wells run dry as drought depletes groundwater – CALIFORNIA; Marin IJ – Late storms give more time for water source decisions – MARIN DROUGHT OUTLOOK; Marin IJ – Water district to preview new supply possibilities – DROUGHT; Press Democrat – Close to Home: Stop treating water as if it’s free; and Point Reyes Light – North Marin demurs on sewer concept.

The Board received the following social media posts: NMWD Web and Social Media Report – September 2022.

President Petterle asked if there were any comments from the Directors.

Director Joly asked if someone could explain the disbursement for the water meter testing bench. Mr. Clark replied that as a result of the AMI project, it was identified that the District should develop a meter maintenance program including testing one-inch meters and smaller periodically to ensure accuracy and to be sure the meters met the AWWA standards. Director Joly asked if this was a one-time purchase and Mr. Clark confirmed.

Director Joly asked about the Complaints and Service Orders in the Monthly Progress Report. He asked if there was anything to comment on, as it looked like a large increase in leaks. Mr. Williams replied that there is a reason for that, he stated that the numbers reflect an increase in customer awareness and it is not surprising. Ms. Blue added that there has also been a change in the process, which has resulted in the creation of more tags. Director Petterle noted that the increased concern over customer leaks is a wonderful indication that our public is listening and our messaging is working. Director Petterle also shared a customer’s response which praised NMWD for its stellar customer service, adding over the years he has never heard a negative response. Director Petterle noted that this is the same sentiment he gets from customers he talks

too, and has been his own personal experience. Director Petterle commended staff for their good work and asked management to be sure to make them know the Board is appreciative. Mr. Williams reported that Mr. Kehoe recommended he visit the field crew more often. Mr. Williams stated that he met with the crew while working on a leak and noted that it was evident that the crews try their best not to disturb the neighborhood. Director Petterle shared a personal experience he had with the crew when they were working in his neighborhood. He stated that he needed to leave his residence, and without having to say a word, the crew moved out of the way.

Director Joly noted that Ms. Blue and her department have done a nice job at dramatically bringing down the receivables and debt. He also noted that the Covid-19 costs seem to have plateaued. Ms. Blue replied that the only cost incurring at present is when an employee needs to say home due to a Covid-19 related illness. She noted that the District is obligated to provide sick leave for that. Director Joly praised staff for the transparency of the report; which is clearly defined.

President Petterle asked if anyone from the public would like to speak and there was no response.

ADJOURNMENT

President Petterle adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Theresa Kehoe".

Theresa Kehoe
District Secretary