

**NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 19, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

President Joly called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water District to order at 4:00 p.m. at the District Headquarters, and the agenda was accepted as presented. Present were Directors Jack Baker, Ken Eichstaedt, Rick Fraites, Michael Joly, and Stephen Petterle. Also present were General Manager Tony Williams, District Secretary Eileen Mulliner, and AGM/Chief Engineer Eric Miller. Auditor-Controller Julie Blue was absent.

District employees Chris Kehoe, Construction Superintendent, Robert Clark, Operations and Maintenance Manager, Tim Kennedy, incoming Operations and Maintenance Manager, Pablo Ramudo, Lia Solar, Susan Dove, Corey Reed, Vincent Verissimo, and Tim Fuelle were also in the audience. Student interns, Sophia Schiltgen and Ellis Stahley, and customer Kim Stahley were also in the audience.

MINUTES

On the motion of Director Petterle, seconded by Director Baker, the Board approved the minutes of the July 30, 2025, special meeting by the following vote:

AYES: Director(s) Baker, Eichstaedt, Fraites, Joly, and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

On the motion of Director Eichstaedt, seconded by Director Joly, the Board approved the minutes of the August 5, 2025, regular meeting by the following vote:

AYES: Director(s) Baker, Eichstaedt, Fraites, Joly, and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Tony Williams had a brief Potter Valley Project update. He said PG&E had a public workshop on August 11 with a presentation by David Manning, a staff member from Sonoma Water representing ERPA. He said he will get a copy of the presentation when PG&E provides it. He said the timeline of the surrender and decommissioning were discussed. Mr. Williams said on August 14, he attended a Marin Sonoma Water Coordination meeting where they discussed the Potter Valley Project and PG&E's submittal. Supervisors Dennis Rodoni and David Rabbitt were in

attendance as well as representatives from Sonoma Water, Marin Water, NMWD, and City of Petaluma.

Mr. Williams introduced the District's newly hired Operations and Maintenance Manager, Tim Kennedy, who is replacing Robert Clark on his retirement. He said Tim comes from Marin Water and that it was good to have time for a turnover with Robert. Prior to working at Marin Water, Mr. Kennedy worked at San Francisco PUC for 19 years. Mr. Kennedy received his degree from San Francisco State and resides in Novato with his family. Mr. Kennedy also possesses both T5 and D5 state certifications. Mr. Williams reminded the Board that they adopted Policy #50 which allows the District to hire a replacement early for overlapping of staff.

Mr. Williams reminded the Board that there is a closed session at the end of the Board meeting.

OPEN TIME

President Joly 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 Joly asked if there were any staff or director's reports.

Tim Fuelle, Senior Engineer, addressed the Board. Mr. Fuelle said he oversaw two student interns, Sophia Schiltgen and Ellis Stahley, that worked for the District in the Engineering Department over the summer and he said it was a pleasure to have them with us. He said they are both San Marin High School students. He said that Sophia is a junior member of the varsity cross country team, Captain of the Robotic Club, Co-founder of the SAGE Club, and President of the Speech and Debate Team. Ellis is a member of the STEM program, has been on the baseball and water polo teams as well as a member of the jazz ensemble group, and active in the community. Mr. Fuelle said that the Engineering Department benefited greatly by having Sophia and Ellis work for them. Sophia spoke to the Board and said it was a privilege to work in the Engineering Department. She said it provided knowledge and a real-world sense of working in engineering. She said she learned a great deal and gained valuable experience. She said her favorite part was visiting the job sites. Sophia said she saw the process of problem solving. She said the takeaways were that engineering requires continuous learning, and that a great team makes a difference, and that she was allowed to explore her interest and wants to go into civil engineering. She said that she is very grateful to everyone in the office. Ellis spoke to the Board and said he felt privileged to work here and it was very meaningful. He said he worked on many projects and saw how projects are planned and managed, and also visited several job sites. He said he could see the connection between the office and the job sites. He also saw how important civil engineering is to the

community and wants to major in civil engineering. He thanked the Board for supporting the program and thanked Mr. Fvette.

Director Petterle said he has utilized interns in his work in the past and told them to pay this forward. He commended staff for taking advantage of this opportunity. He said that both Sophia and Ellis did a very good job at speaking. Director Baker said he was glad they had this opportunity. President Joly thanked them for their service and will mention their names and service to the principal at San Marin High. He wished them luck in their junior and senior years. He also thanked Mr. Fvette.

Director Eichstaedt said he met with the General Manager at Inverness Public Utilities District (IPUD) about the housing issue and also met with Katherine Donahue, their Board President. He mentioned the house in Pt. Reyes Station that NMWD currently owns. He mentioned to both that IPUD could rent or buy the house. Director Eichstaedt said that he would like us to have a mutual aid agreement with IPUD. Director Fraites said he was in Pt. Reyes Station to see the house. Mr. Williams restated staff's position that the District shouldn't be landlords and that the house is an asset that can be put into the housing inventory in Pt. Reyes. He reminded the Board that there is no physical District office out there and that if we had an employee living there, they would have to drive to Novato each day for work.

ACTION CALENDAR

APPROVE: ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA) REGIONAL 1 BOARD ELECTION

Tony Williams said he serves on the ACWA Region 1 Nominating Committee. He said that the General Manager serves as a voting representative for the District. He said this item was to get authorization to vote on the Region 1 representatives. He mentioned who is on the ballot for Region 1 Board.

On the motion of Director Baker, and seconded by Director Fraites, the Board approved the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Regional 1 Board Election by the following vote:

AYES: Director(s) Baker, Eichstaedt, Fraites, Joly, and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVE: EMPLOYER ASSISTED HOUSING LOAN – REQUEST FOR SUBORDINATION FOR REFINANCE

Tony Williams said that Pablo Ramudo, Water Quality Supervisor, has an employer assisted housing loan with the district. Currently, we are the junior deed of trust on the property. Mr. Ramudo would like to refinance his loan. Typically, we would like to be the senior on the loan

however the mortgage company wants to remain the senior. If there were to be a default on the loan, we would be second in line but due to Mr. Ramudo's tenure at the District Mr. Williams said the District feels a default would be a very low risk and there is enough value on the property. Mr. Williams noted that District counsel provided input on this matter and are in agreement.

On the motion of Director Eichstaedt, and seconded by Director Petterle, approved the Employer Assisted Housing Loan Request for Subordination for Refinance by the following vote:

AYES: Director(s) Baker, Eichstaedt, Fraites, Joly, and Petterle

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Director Eichstaedt asked how many outstanding loans we currently have, and Mr. Williams said we have three. Director Eichstaedt also asked how long we have been offering these loans, Mr. Williams said about 20 years and that we have had 14 loans in total. Director Baker said we are lucky to have Mr. Ramudo at the District.

INFORMATION ITEMS

2024/25 END OF YEAR PROGRESS REPORT – WATER QUALITY

Pablo Ramudo addressed the Board and thanked them for approving the Subordination Agreement. He also mentioned that the lab has had interns in the past as well, saying that three of our current staff started as interns. Mr. Ramudo gave his presentation on the 2024/25 End of Year Progress Report for Water Quality. He summarized the details of water quality monitoring, water quality reports, and public health goals. He said the lab staff monitors for algae in Stafford Lake and that it was moderate last year. Director Baker asked if the cool weather has perhaps helped minimize the bloom and Mr. Ramudo said it did. Mr. Ramudo said that they test for specific algal toxins that can be harmful. President Joly asked if Indian Valley Golf Course takes water from the lake, Mr. Ramudo said it does. Mr. Williams added that the County does also for Stafford Lake Park. Mr. Ramudo said that treatment performance was very good. In West Marin, he said that the Gallagher wells are doing well from a water quality standpoint. Director Fraites asked if the Coast Guard Wells are active and Mr. Ramudo said they are and that they are a small amount of the total supply volume. He said they provide a higher instant flow when needed which is weekly for the backwash process. Director Fraites also asked if housing project have been held up because of the wells and Mr. Williams answered and said that no, not at all. Mr. Ramudo went on to say the Pt. Reyes Treatment Plant is doing well. He mentioned Deer Island Recycled Water Facility has been offline for the reporting period and will eventually likely be decommissioned. He said it would take significant maintenance to get it back up and running. Director Eichstaedt asked if we test the redwood tanks and if we use any disinfection byproducts. Mr. Ramudo said we do but nothing greater than our other tanks. He also said that we monitor the chlorine levels closely. In the

presentation, Mr. Ramudo showed the water quality reports for Novato and West Marin. He said that in the Novato report, it mentions that there are new detections for hexavalent chromium and PFAS. He said that there are new federal maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for PFAS and also California notifications levels. Mr. Ramudo said that Sonoma Water had some detections at their Mirabel and Wohler Wells. He said that we have had no detections from Stafford Lake or the Aqueduct. He said that we haven't yet tested in West Marin, but will be doing so this year. He said that there are new California regulations that took effect in October 2024 for hexavalent chromium. He said that we have very low levels. The public health goal is 0.02 ug/l, which is a very small amount, and we are unable to test for that level. President Joly asked what Mr. Ramudo would say if someone mentioned it to him and Mr. Ramudo said he refers people to the physician if they have concerns. Director Fraites asked if we test for microplastics, Mr. Ramudo said there is a proposed test in California now, and that there have been no detections in Sonoma Water's water. He said we aren't testing yet because the test is not approved yet. Director Fraites mentioned the mussels that have been an issue and Mr. Ramudo said that staff is trained to look for them and also that no boats are allowed on the lake, which is how the mussels usually enter a body of water, so there is very low exposure. Director Baker asked if people could get a boat on the lake, Mr. Ramudo said it is very difficult to do so. The Board thanked Mr. Ramudo.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board received the following miscellaneous items: Disbursements – Dated August 7 and 14, 2025, Monthly Progress Report, Auditor-Controller's Monthly Report of Investments for June 2025, ACWA Regulatory Roundup – August 2025, California Water Views – 2025 Outlook.

The Board also received the following articles: Marin IJ – Proposal filed for restoration of landmark Grandi building – POINT REYES STATION, Marin IJ – Public leery about plan to expand reservoir – NICASIO, The Sonoma County Gazette - A watery tale of two cities.

Regular Board meeting recessed at 5:15 p.m. before entering closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

President Joly convened the Board into closed session at 5:21 p.m. to discuss anticipated litigation related to a District construction project and the construction contractor in accordance with California Government Code Section § 54956.9(d)(2)). In addition to the five Board Directors, Tony Williams General Manager, Eric Miller AGM/Chief Engineer, and Kevin Moore, District Counsel (via Zoom and telephone), were present.

OPEN SESSION

Upon returning to regular session at 5:46 p.m., President Joly stated that no reportable action had been taken during Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

President Joly adjourned the meeting at 5:47 p.m.

Submitted by



Eileen Mulliner
District Secretary