**NORTH BAY WATER DISTRICT**

**22950 BROADWAY, SONOMA, CA  95476**

Board of Directors

Mike Mulas, President, and Chair (Sonoma Valley); Craig Jacobsen, Vice-President (Petaluma Valley); Carolyn Wasem, Secretary (Petaluma Valley); Matthew Stornetta, Treasurer (Sonoma Valley); and Mike Sangiacomo (Sonoma Valley). Craig Jacobsen (Petaluma Valley) was not in attendance.

PVGSA Advisor: Eugene Camozzi SVGSA Advisor:  Jim Bundschu

SGMA Compliance Advisor: Mike Martini

Technical Advisor: GinaLisa Tamayo

Legal Counsel: Richard Idell

Date: April 11, 2023

Time:  6:00 pm

Location:   22950 Broadway, Schell-Vista Station #1 Sonoma, Ca

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chair Mike Mulas called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.Chair Mike Mulas and Directors Carolyn Wasem, Sand Craig Jacobsen were present.

Advisors Richard Idell, Mike Martini, Jim Bundschu, Eugene Camozzi and GinaLisa Tamayo were also present.

1. **CLOSED SESSION**

(Prior to holding any closed session, the Board of Directors shall disclose, in an open meeting, the item or items to be discussed in closed session.

There were no closed session items.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public comments.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Director Jacobsen made a motion to approve the March Minutes, Director Sangiacomo made a second. The March 2023 Minutes were unanimously approved.

1. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Chair Mulas reported that NBWD has $48,214.20 in the bank. No outstanding bills at this time. He also shared that we should be getting something from the GSAs, in terms of fees in the near future. Director Wasem shared that at the preliminary 2023-2024 Budget presented at the last Petaluma Valley GSA meeting, there was no mention of contributions from the NBWD. However, that is a discussion we will have at future meetings. The planned revenue was from three major providers: the State Grant, the County of Sonoma ($500,000) and Sewer and Water Fees.

Director Stornetta made a motion to approve the March Financial Report, Director Jacobsen made a second. The March 2023 Financials were unanimously approved.

1. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Item 1. Report by Counselor Idell

Counselor Idell shared with the Board, that post covid emergency orders, meetings should be conducted as they were prior to the issuance of the order. Zooms will not be allowed on a regular basis.

Director Wasem noted that 6 pm meetings were going to be difficult to make given the constraints that she has with other commitments. The Board briefly discussed the option to move the meetings to an earlier time to accommodate Director Wasem’s conflicts.

Chair Mulas asked if Director Stornetta had a conflict for the next meeting – if we opted for meeting at 4 pm. Director Stornetta shared that his next Advisory Meeting was scheduled for May 16th.

Seeing no objections from the Board Members Chair Mulas suggested moving the next meeting to 4:00 p.m. Director Jacobsen made a motion to the move meetings (on an ongoing basis) to 4 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Director Wasem seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The next item that Counselor Idell was the need to consider how to pay for future elections.

Chair Mulas asked: if our Board election coincides with a general election, does NBWD need to pay for the election. It was Counselor Idell’s opinion that was the case.

The Board agreed that this issue will need to be discussed in detail in the coming meetings.

**Item 2: Report of Director Sangiacomo**

Director Sangiacomo shared that the last Sonoma Valley GSA meeting was held on the 27th of March. The majority of the meeting was taken up with housekeeping items and the consent calendar. The GSA Board punted on fee structures, so we are not yet certain with NBWD will be required to contribute to the GSA. The County will supplement for one more year.

They GSA Board approved a preliminary budget, with some slight discrepancies noted. As part of the Annual Report recommendations for GSA project were discussed. The Board and the consultants (Sonoma Water) were more optimistic about initial needs. However, Sonoma Water expressed additional project concerns.

The GSA Board discussed the need to replace two members of the Advisory Board.

A large portion of the meeting was taken up with a Well Ordinance presentation. We also approved several contracts. We will see what happens after this wet winter.

Director Jacobsen asked if the shallow aquifers had recovered?

Director Sangiacomo shared that the GSA Board discussed how to improve aquifer recharge in the Franciscan soils.

**Item 3: Report of Director Carolyn Wasem**

Director Wasem shared that the last Petaluma GSA meeting was on March 23rd. Aside from housekeeping items, and approval of contracts for Outreach and Administration, the meeting focused on the Well Ordinance. The GSAs are to be “consulted” as new wells are permitted that are within the footprint of the GSA. Permit Sonoma, along with the Board of Supervisors, determined that consultation would be a referral – for information purposes only to the GSA. If the GSA had a concern with the proposed permit, they could comment. However, the issuance of the permit would not be held up waiting for a response from the GSA. Advisor Martini will discuss later in the meeting the elements of the Well Ordinance.

Finally, the Board briefly touched on the need for consolidation of the GSAs. That will be discussed in greater detail in future meetings.

**Item 4. Report by Advisor Jim Bundschu**

Advisor Bundschu shared that there was nothing to report as the last meeting of the last Advisory Committee meeting was held on February 14th. The next Advisory Meeting will be held on May 16th.

**Item 5. Report by Advisor Eugene Camozzi**

Advisor Camozzi shared that there was little to report as the last Advisory Committee meeting was held on February 8th. However, there are two new representatives. One representing environmental interest and the other agriculture. We discussed the 2022 estimated water use. The following numbers were presented:

* Ag used 1400 af of water
* Rural residential 600 af of water
* Petaluma 200 af of water
* Golf courses 180 af of water

Agriculture needs to continue to argue that we don’t use that much water. More realistically that number should be 700-800 af. The city used less water last year due to additional restrictions.

Chair Mulas shared that it was hard for the GSA and the consultants to move off such a high number for agriculture.

Advisor Camozzi reminded the Board that initially the estimated water use for agriculture was set 4,000 af annually. The consultants will eventually need to shift the pie to represent each group uses 1/3rd of the groundwater in the basin.

Advisory Martini shared that Sonoma Water is raising their rates – however, that will only apply to municipalities.

 The next Advisory Meeting will be held on May 17th.

**Item 6. Report by Advisor Mike Martini**

Advisor Martini shared that he wanted to report on two items:

1. I have met with Mark Bramfitt of LAFCO to discuss the proposed Alexander Valley Water District. Supervisor Gore was in attendance, and he did an outstanding job of moving Mark to that point that he agreed to a “study session” on the issue. We are still considering how to work with the NBWD – that may be the best option at some point. So far, we have experienced the political will to create the water district, however there does not seem to be the bureaucratic will.
2. I want to update the Board on the Well Ordinance. The Well Ordinance draft will be finalized shortly and is on the April 4th Agenda for the Board of Supervisors. The elements of the Ordinance are as follows:

**Map of Well Ordinance Impact Areas**

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**Magenta Block Areas: Identified Public Trust Area (new wells that do not demonstrate an offset**

**and have a Farm Plan will require a discretionary permit)**

**Magenta Colored Stream Corridors (setbacks required)**

1. **Franciscan Soils 100’ setback**
2. **Sonoma Volcanics Soils 250’ setback**
3. **Alluvium 750’setback**

**Flowchart of Permit Process**

Within Public Trust Review Area

No

Ministerial WellClass?

Injection Well

Public Water Well

Surface Water Diversion (Water Board required)

LEVEL 1 requirements

Low Water Use Parcel

Level 1 requirements

Existing Use or Zero Net Increase

Level 1 + 2 requirements reqrequirements

No

Discretionary Public Trust Review

Ministerial Permit – Level 1 Conservation Requirements

L

yes

1. ggest item to report on: LAFCO and formation of a new water district in Alexander Valley. LAFCO is going through significant changes. There are two open seats on LAFCO. I am trying to get people we can support – for LAFCO seat. There is support for changes at LAFCO. I will keep you posted

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| **Agricultural Water Conservation Practices Plan** (Farm Plan) Includes: Drip or micro sprayers, monitoring of soil moisture or shoot tips, irrigation scheduling, irrigation system maintenance, etc.  |
| **Vineyard and Orchard Irrigation Limits** (excludes frost protection) 0.6 AFY per acre, or existing use supported by data or study |
| **Frost Protection** Enrollment in a frost protection program or a frost protection plan |

**GSA Coordination**

* **Ministerial Permits**

No review by GSA (unless required by Gov. Drought Executive Order)

* **Discretionary Public Trust Review**

Referred to GSA for opportunity to review

No response required

* **Coordinate with GSA on:**

**Data gaps/monitoring**

Modeling

Water conservation requirements and programs

Zero net increase standards

**NOTES: Baseline water use is allowed with replacement wells**

Replacement wells are ministerial as long as no net increase in water use (even if in public trust area) for Sonoma Valley – it is about 80% in the review area.

Advisor Stornetta asked what about a definition for a replacement well?

Advisor Martini replied that that it applies to replacement of a well because of failure – you have to document that you are not going to use more water.

Advisor Camozzi asked how public trust was defined?

Advisor Martini shared that public trust was defined using a model where extraction of groundwater has the potential to impact stream flow. Of those waterways – those that impact stream flow and are valuable habitat for salmonids which ones are valuable for salmonid are identified as public trust water.

In addition, the well ordinance also identifies valuable habitat, independent of stream flow impacts. On those identified sites, setbacks, based on soil types is required.

Rural residential was able to proceed with not additional restrictions associated with proving how much water they use.

**Item 7: Report of Technical Advisor Tamayo**

Advisor Tamayo shared that she did not have a communications report prepared. She will have a report at the next meeting.

Advisor Tamayo reported that Director Wasem talked with Sean Skaggs, the ESA attorney for the Safe Harbor Agreement to better understand how to proceed with NBWD. Mr. Skaggs shared that NBWD had will need to sign on the certificate.

The Farm Bureau did an excellent job in terms of providing background on the Safe Harbor at their recent workshop. The vast majority of attendees walked away ready to sign up.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to discuss, Director Wasem made a motion to adjourn. Director Sangiacomo seconded the motion. The Meeting was adjourned at 6:51 pm.

The Next scheduled meeting is May 9th at 4:00 pm. The meeting will be held in person at the Schell- Vista Station.

*Board meeting documents are available to review prior to the meeting at the Shell-Vista Station, 22950 Broadway, Sonoma California. Please call or contact Mike Mulas for an appointment to obtain a copy.*