**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)

PVGSA Advisor: Eugene Comozzi SVGSA Advisor:  Jim Bundschu

SGMA Compliance Advisor: Mike Martini

Legal Counsel: Richard Idell

Date: June 8, 2021

Time:  6:00 PM

Location:   22950 Broadway, Schell-Vista Station #1 (via Teleconference due to Covid-19 Shelter-in-Place Order)

**MEETING MINUTES**

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

Chair Mike Mulas called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Board Members Michael Sangiacomo, Craig Jacobsen, Matt Stornetta, and Carolyn Wasem were present. Counselor Richard Idell, Advisor Martini, and Advisor Bundschu were also present.

1. **CLOSED SESSION**

There were no closed session items.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Jim Meyers, a veterinarian from the Ventura area, shared his concerns related to SGMA and the future cost of water. He cautioned the Board that the outcomes associated with the Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) could be very detrimental to keeping land in agriculture production. In the Ventura area, where he has approximately 10 acres of cropland, the charge per acre of irrigation is over $1,000.

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

Director Jacobson made a motion to approve the May, 2021 Minutes. Director Sangiacomo seconded the motion. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

1. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Chair Mulas reported that the NBWD account had a balance of $ 566.20. Advisor Martini shared that SAVE has $3,000 for the District. Director Wasem shared that JFW will contribute an additional $2000. Both of these will be considered part of a match. Director Wasem made a motion to approve the Financials. Director Jacobsen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

1. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Item 1: Update from Counselor Richard Idell

Counselor Idell’s major talking points centered on the need to raise funds for NBWD. He suggested that it is easier to give the dollars to the Vintners and then provide support to the NBWD. Directors Sangiacomo and Wasem along with Counselor Idell met with the Sonoma Valley Vintners to discuss the need to raise funds. The response form the Vintner’s Board was overwhelmingly positive. It was suggested that the Vintners (Sonoma Valley) host a fundraising, educational event. Director Wasem and Sangiacomo offered to sit on an Ad Hoc to review the invitations for the event.

Counselor Idell shared that a fundraising event is scheduled for the 15th of July at Wing and Barrel. Taylor Serres, a member of the Vintners, Farm Bureau and SAVE Boards has made the arrangements with the venue. Wing and Barrel will provide the food, and Taft Street/Jackson Family and Sangiacomo will provide and/or arrange for the wines. The goal is to get people to attend that will be willing to contribute. We need to raise enough money to secure the matching dollars, as a private donor will match dollars received up to $40,000. We will have an invitation letter that will go out 3 weeks out from the event.

Director Sangiacomo asked what the money needs were, currently? Director Mulas indicated that the situation was beyond concerning. Advisor Martini shared that SAVE has budgeted additional money for the September dues to the GSAs. If we need to provide dollars on a more expedited timeline, Advisor Martini suggested that we would be able get a check processed shortly.

Item 2: Report of Director Mike Sangiacomo on Sonoma Valley GSA

Director Sangiacomo informed the Board that the last GSA meeting was cancelled so nothing new to report.

Item 3: Report of Director Carolyn Wasem on Petaluma Valley GSA

Director Wasem informed the Board that the last GSA meeting was cancelled so nothing new to report on that front. Director Wasem shared that she (JFW) has begun working with Sonoma Water on groundwater recharge projects. While a major push is being made by the Agency to focus on Alexander Valley, there are options for the Santa Rosa Plain. The challenge that we face in Petaluma is that there is little water available and the soils in that region are so heavy that percolation will be difficult. Sonoma Valley has challenges around water for diversion to fill reservoirs to use for recharge. And, the soils in much of that region are heavy as well, therefore not ideal for recharge purposes.

Item 4: Report by Advisor Jim Bundschu

Advisor Bundschu shared that he has concerns about postponing the meetings. He is worried that GSA staff is taking this time to develop the Plan – and without input from the stakeholders. He indicated that he would attend the meeting hosted by the Farm Bureau slated for the next day. Many of the GSA Advisors continue to feel frustrated that little is being attention Is given to their perspective.

Item 5: Report by Advisor Eugene Comozzi

Not in attendance, so no update. However, the FB indicated that he would attend their meeting scheduled for the next day.

Item 6: Report of Compliance Advisor Mike Martini

Advisor Martini provided an update on the assessment – as a long-term opportunity for funding the NBWD. He was misinformed as to the process. After conversations with Peter Kiel, a local water rights attorney and a member of the Petaluma Valley GSA Advisory team, the only people who can oppose are those being assessed. It is not the assessment on the parcel, but the amount considered for assessment. Dollars equate to vote weight. NBWD will need to move through the assessment process to secure support from LAFCO. He further shared that he was very impressed with Peter Kiel’s efforts and his breadth of knowledge about the LAFCO process.

Once the fundraiser has taken place, and assuming that it will be successful, the NBWD should be in decent financial shape to proceed with the assessment.

Item 7. Report by GinaLisa Tamayo on Website Development

Guest Tamayo shared with the Board that the website went live, and within a day there are already 23 subscribers. She also shared with the Board *Mission* and *Core Values* statements. Feedback from the Board is needed so that aspect of the website can be updated. Question: Does the Board want the invite to the Wing and Barrel fundraising event posted on the website? If the goal is to develop support, in the context of dollars only, that may not be appropriate the course of action. Feedback on that is requested as well.

Guest Tamayo will continue to update the website on a regular basis as the Board determines the need to share with the general public and the agriculture community.

1. **ADJOURNMENT** Director Wasem made a motion to adjourn. Director Stornetta seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

The Next scheduled meeting is scheduled for July 13th at 6:00 pm. Those who wish to attend in person will be able to do so There will be a zoom option for those that cannot make the meeting in person.

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.