NORTH BAY WATER DISTRICT

22950 Broadway, Sonoma, CA. 95476

**Board of Directors**

Mike Mulas, Chair (Sonoma Valley): Craig Jacobsen, Vice Chair (Sonoma Valley); Matthew Stornetta, Treasurer (Sonoma Valley); Carolyn Wasem, Secretary (Petaluma Valley); Mike Sangiacomo (Sonoma Valley)

SGMA Compliance Advisor: Mike Martini

SVGSA Advisor: Jim Bundschu, PVGSA Advisor: Eugene Camozzi

MEETING AGENDA

Date: November 12, 2024

TIME: 4:00pm

Location: 22950 Broadway, Schell-Vista Station #1 Sonoma CA 95476

AGENDA:

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting was called to order at 4:13pm. Chair Mulas, Counselor Idell, Director Sangiacomo, and Director Jacobsen were in attendance along with Advisors Mike Martini and Eugene Camozzi. Director Wasem was not in attendance and Advisor GinaLisa Tamayo took the minutes.

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). Item to be discussed: The Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement for Viticultural Activities on Existing Vineyards in the Santa Rosa Plain for the Sonoma County Population of California Tiger Salamander. Government Code Section 54956.9. Closed session was moved to the end.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

(At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. For items appearing on the agenda, the public will be invited to make comments at the time the item comes up for consideration by the Board of Directors)

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

Chair Mulas asked for approval of the Minutes for the previous meeting. Director Sangiacomo made a motion to approve the October 2024 minutes. Director Mulas seconded the motion. The October 2024 Minutes were unanimously approved.

1. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Chair Mulas reported that North Bay Water District (NBWD) has $ 22,884.76 in the bank. No outstanding invoices were reported. Director Mulas made motion to approve the financial report. Director Sangiacomo seconded the motion. The October 2024 Financial Report was unanimously approved.

1. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Item 1: Update from District Lawyer, Richard Idell

Counselor Idell brought up compliance with the Brown Act. He said that Directors can only use the virtual option twice per year according to the Brown Act. Advisor Mike Martini added he thinks the Board of Supervisors participate via zoom more than twice per year. NBWD will need to discuss this policy more. Additionally, Mr. Idell reached out to a consultant at the County re: the NBWD election. Candidates should have gotten the paperwork mailed to them directly.

Items 2: Report of Director Mike Sangiacomo Sonoma Valley GSA

Director Sangiacomo also discussed issues related to how ag can structure the monitoring program. Director Sangiacomo said the two issues were Caribou Road including how to recharge and how to trade out groundwater for recycled water. Advisor Martini asked whether they were planning on taking high flows in the winter? It was unclear. He also shared conversations he’s had with supervisors about metering agricultural wells. Chair Mulas and Director Sangiacomo talked about setting up a meeting with farmers about well metering and thinks ag needs to come up with a plan.

 Item 3: Report of Directory Carolyn Wasem GSA Petaluma Valley (provided by Carolyn Wasem, delivered by Mike Martini)

 Aside from renewing/updating contracts, the GSA heard presentations on groundwater monitoring plans. Key tasks for a monitoring program include:

1. Design and Permitting of Monitoring Wells
2. Monitoring Well Construction/Oversight/Management
3. Monitoring and Well Sampling Analysis
4. Project Management and Reporting

A presentation was made by Marcus Trotta re: Level Up Program: The program is seeking property owners with wells in Santa Rosa Plain, Sonoma Valley and Petaluma Valley to participate in a local voluntary groundwater well monitoring program. The program is free to participants. The program includes groundwater-level monitoring programs to secure accurate data about the groundwater levels at individual property owner sites. Available voluntary monitoring programs include groundwater-level monitoring program in all three basins and groundwater salinity sampling in the southern portions of Sonoma Valley and Petaluma Valley. The program has meet with limited success with a couple of dozen participants. Farmers/ag lands are not participating to any appreciable level. A discussion with ag producers is scheduled for early December to better understand a program that can provide confidence and data confidentiality assurances to ag producers.

The Directors also received an update on the Advisory Committee Activities:

The Advisors met on September 11th – the following items were discussed:

1. An update on the Voluntary Flow-Metering Work Plan – Advisory Committee members provided input to the work plan and messaging for the public.
2. Voluntary Water-Use Efficiency Work Plan – Consultants gave an overview of the initial findings of the water use efficiency assessment, potential water-use efficiency measures, and objectives and goals. Advisory Committee members provided input on potential water use efficiency measures.
3. Stormwater Capture and Recharge Pilot Update - Samantha Fung of Bachand & Associates gave an update on stormwater capture and recharge pilot project planning and shared next steps along with the project schedule.
4. Voluntary Monitoring Program and General Outreach - Outreach staff provided an update including ongoing activities and the Voluntary Well Monitoring Program.
5. Proposition 4, and the approved Fee Study Update. Marcus Trotta provided updates on other Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation actions, along with a proposed approach for addressing new well permit applications in Undesirable Result areas. Advisory Committee members indicated that the approach seemed appropriate for handling new wells in areas of Undesirable Results should they occur (none exist in the Petaluma Valley subbasin currently). (Advisory Minutes, September 11, 2024)

Mr. Martini highlighted the following outcomes from the meeting:

1. If the GSA cannot get critical mass engaged in the voluntary metering program, they will consider a mandatory program.
2. Wells proposed in public trust areas in each basin are subject to GSA referral.  That may include recommendations for CEQA review.
3. The GSA staff will likely ask that the County expand Public Trust areas in the SV.

Item 4: Report of Advisor Jim Bundschu - absent

Item 5: Report of Advisor Eugene Camozzi

Advisor Camozzi said he spoke up for agriculture at the last advisory meeting and asked how much the City of Petaluma pays into the GSA. He reported the City of Petaluma only pays $85,000 and the rest of it falls on agriculture and rural residential. The GSA keeps going back to agriculture for money. He spoke about his neighbor who went in to amend their ability to have more weddings at their property. One of the requirements of the permit was to agree to meter their well on the property. Advisor Camozzi reminded the advisory committee that ag is efficient. Chair Mulas emphasized how important it is for ag to get data to prove that they aren’t using as much water the GSA claims. Director Sangiacomo asked Marcus Trotta about acreages. Mr. Trotta said there are 14,000 acres and 5,000 irrigated acres in the Sonoma Valley GSA.

Item 6: Report of Compliance Advisor Mike Martini – report given during items 2 & 3

Item 7: Report of GinaLisa Tamayo, Technical Advisor – no report

ADJOURNMENT Director Jacobsen made the motion to adjourn, and Director Sangiacomo seconded at 4:54pm.

The Board decided to cancel the December meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2025.