

**Minutes of Meeting**

9:00 A.M., Friday, October 7, 2022  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
5550 Skylane Blvd. Suite A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

**Friday, October 7, 2022**

**Video recordings of Board meetings (since 2/2019) are available at:**

[Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](#)

**Audio recordings of Board meetings (11/2018 and before) are available at:**

[Prior Board Meeting Audio recordings](#)

i. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Board Member Bedolla led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ii. **Roll Call and Introductions:**

Board Members present:

Hector Bedolla, Gregory Giusti, Shaunna McCovey (virtual), Bill Matsubu, Crystal Robinson (virtual).

Regional Water Board staff present:

Jordan Filak, Kason Grady, Matthew Herman, Carrieann Lopez, Nathan Jacobsen, Devon Jorgenson, Jeremiah Puget, Matt St. John, Zane Stromberg, Shannon Strong, Claudia Villacorta, Chris Watt.

iii. **Board Member Reports and Ex Parte Communication Disclosure.** Board members Matsubu and Robinson attended a tour of timber lands with Green Diamond Resources Company on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

iv. **State Water Board Liaison's and Executive Officer's Reports:** State Water Board Liaison Dorene D'Adamo, gave a comprehensive update on various topics including a conservation update, draught status, issuance of the draft general WDR for Sanitary Sewer Systems, issuance of the Stormwater Construction General Permit, adoption of emergency regulations in September 2022 based on state budget, adoption of the State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan adoption of drinking water policy handbook related to microplastics, upcoming affordability workshop for Safe and Affordable Drinking Water and the upcoming Water Quality Coordination Committee meeting on October 27-28, 2022. Executive Officer Matt St. John discussed his decision to step down from the position of Executive Officer and to transition into a new position at the

Regional Water Board and explained that recruitment efforts for the replacement were on-going.

- v. **Regional Board Chair's Report:** Chair Giusti reported that the Board had held two closed sessions since the last board meeting to recruit for the position of the new Executive Officer and thanked Board members Bedolla and Matsubu for their leadership in the recruitment process. Chair Giusti reported that Item #7 would be held at a specific time.
- vi. **Public Forum:** Comments were received from the following members of the public:
- Dave Webb
  - Nick Joslin
  - Brenda Adelman

Specific comments can be reviewed on [Cal-Span's Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](http://cal-span.org/) (<http://cal-span.org/>).

Chair Giusti requested that the Executive Officer convene a call with Mr. Webb and staff to discuss the issues and concerns that Mr. Webb raised in his comments and to report back to him on the status.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: August 4 & 30, 2022

**Motion:** Vice Chair Bedolla moved to adopt August 4 & 30, 2022, Board meeting minutes; Board member Matsubu seconded the motion; Chairman Giusti initiated a roll-call vote:

- McCovey     aye
- Quinto       aye
- Matsubu     aye
- Bedolla      aye
- Giusti       aye
- Robinson    aye

**Motion passed unanimously**

### Uncontested Items

2. Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Recycling Requirements for the City of Healdsburg, City of Healdsburg Wastewater, Recycling and Disposal Facility, WDID No. 1B82046OSON, NPDES No. CA0025135 (*Matthew Herman*)
3. Cease and Desist Order requiring the City of Healdsburg to cease and desist from discharging or threatening to discharge effluent in violation of waste discharge requirements, WDID No. 1B82046OSON, NPDES No. CA0025135 (*Matthew Herman*)

**Motion:** Vice Chair Bedolla moved to adopt Agenda Item 2 - Order R1-2022-0017 and Agenda Item 3 - Order R1-2022-0018; Board member Matsubu seconded the motion; Chairman Giusti initiated a roll-call vote:

- McCovey aye
- Quinto aye
- Matsubu aye
- Bedolla aye
- Giusti aye
- Robinson aye

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Action Item**

4. Resolution R1-2022-0040, Policy Statement for Groundwater Protection in the North Coast Region (*Chris Watt*)

Regional Board Staff presented on the Proposed Policy Statement Resolution including a position statement on groundwater protection in the North Coast Region as well as changes made to the resolution based on public comment. The proposed Policy Statement Resolution directs staff to use all existing authorities to protect high-quality groundwater, restore degraded groundwater, and to develop a Work Plan for implementation of actions to address implementation challenges, limitations and complexities.

Comments were received from the following members of the public:

- Carolyn Wasem

Specific comments can be reviewed on [Cal-Span's Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](http://cal-span.org/) (<http://cal-span.org/>).

**Motion:** Vice Chair Bedolla moved to adopt Agenda Item 4 - Order No. R1-2022-0040; Board member Matsubu seconded the motion; Chairman Giusti initiated a roll-call vote:

- McCovey aye
- Quinto aye
- Matsubu aye
- Bedolla aye
- Giusti aye
- Robinson aye

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Information Items**

5. 319h Nonpoint Source Grants Program: Solicitation Overview and Project Cultivation (*Carrieann Lopez*)

Regional Board Staff presented an overview of the 319h Nonpoint Source Grants Program including application information and eligibility requirements, solicitation timelines, funding trends in the North Coast Region, current grants, and the evolution of the Region's 319(h) NPS grants program. In addition, staff presented the new "Water

Improvement Projects and Funding Catalog” which provides a tool to more efficiently organize, manage, and prioritize future projects for the various funding options and sources available.

**6. Enforcement Update: Discussion of Regional Enforcement Priorities for 2022-2023**  
*(Kason Grady, Jeremiah Puget, Jordan Filak, and Zane Stromberg)*

Regional Board Staff presented the annual update on the region’s enforcement activities and regional enforcement priorities for 2022 – 2023 and requested input from the public and the Board on possible alterations to those priorities. This presentation included an overview of enforcement actions since the last update to the Board, the previous year’s enforcement priorities, and a brief overview of the State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Enforcement Policy (2017).

Comments were received from the following members of the public:

- Nick Joslin
- David Webb
- Brenda Adelman

Specific comments can be reviewed on [Cal-Span’s Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](http://cal-span.org/) (<http://cal-span.org/>).

Chair Giusti asked the Executive Officer and Regional Board staff to follow up with Mr. Webb on his concerns related to enforcement of requirements within the Shasta River watershed and the Montague Water District.

No changes to the region’s enforcement priorities were made after public and board input.

**7. Public Workshop on the Draft Resolution No. R1-2023-0001 Condemning Racism, Xenophobia, Bigotry, and Racial Injustice and Strengthening Commitment to Racial Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Access, and Anti-Racism in the North Coast Region**  
*(Devon Jorgenson, Shannon Strong, Kason Grady)*

Regional Board Staff held a workshop on the Draft Resolution Condemning Racism, Xenophobia, Bigotry, and Racial Injustice and Strengthening Commitment to Racial Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Access, and Anti-Racism in the North Coast Region. The purpose of the workshop was to provide an overview of the draft resolution to Board members and the public, to receive feedback on the draft resolution, and to create a space for black, indigenous, Latinx, Asian, and other people of color to share their experiences and knowledge related to water quality with Board members and staff. Chair Giusti provided an opening statement. Staff presented on the relationship between race and environmental pollution, described racial equity as a Regional Water Board priority, and presented the goals and outcomes of the racial equity initiative. Staff provided a timeline for the project and identified several upcoming listening sessions being held throughout the region and virtually and explained the method for providing written comments on the draft resolution and the initiative.

Board members unanimously thanked the staff for doing this work. Board members Bedolla and Matsubu stated they intended to participate in one of the upcoming listening sessions. Board member McCovey stated she wanted to engage on the

workplan and specific actions that the board can take in this regard and stated she wanted to help to find ways for staff to get more in-depth training on tribal issues, tribal governance and sovereignty, and tribal engagement and consultation. Chair Giusti advised staff to be open to edits and alterations based on what they hear at the listening sessions.

Comments were received from the following members of the public:

- Ria Espinoza
- Kasil Willie – Save CA Salmon
- Konrad Fischer – Water Climate Trust

Specific comments can be reviewed on [Cal-Span's Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](http://cal-span.org/) (<http://cal-span.org/>).

In response to comments by Mr. Fischer, Chair Giusti stated that the Regional Board is on record for its view that water quality and water quantity are intimately connected.

- 8. Executive Officer's Report.** Executive Officer Matt St. John spoke to and summarize two of the written Executive Officer Report articles found in the agenda materials. He also noted that a new item is planned for the December Board meeting - a presentation by the City of Santa Rosa on the surveillance and assessment of viruses in the regional wastewater treatment plant.
- 9. Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items and Other Items of Interest.** Board member Bedolla requested an update of the region's climate change adaptation and resilience strategies and actions that the new position focusing on climate change will be developing.
- 10. Closed Session:** The board did not meet in closed session.
- 11. Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**  
9:00 a.m., Thursday December 8, 2022  
Online – Zoom Meeting,  
Santa Rosa, CA

**Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.**