

State of California  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region

**Minutes of Meeting**

8:30 A.M., Thursday, July 11, 2018  
David C. Joseph Meeting Room  
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Audio recordings of Board meetings are available at: [www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast), go to the Board Info tab and click on Meetings.

ii. **Roll Call and Introductions**

Board Members present: Hector Bedolla, John Corbett, Kelli Gant, David Noren, and Valerie Minton Quinto

Board Members absent: Gregory Giusti

Regional Water Board staff present: Patti Corsie, Clayton Creager, Josh Curtis, Diana Henriouille, Nathan Jacobsen, David Kuszmar, Alydda Mangelsdorf, Evelyn Reynolds, Matt St. John, and Claudia Villacorta

i. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Board Member Gant led the Pledge of Allegiance.

iii. **Board Member Reports and Ex Parte Communication Disclosure:**

- Board member Corbett attended a retrospective on the Arcata Marsh Project, and discussed the pros and cons, along with stating that he wrote legislation for the project.

iv. **State Board Liaison's Report:** The State Water Board Liaison, Steven Moore was not in attendance.

**Executive Officer's Report:** Matt St. John, Executive Officer (EO) announced new employees to the Regional Water Board: 1) Lynette Shipsey, Water Resources Control Engineer, Adaptive Management Unit; 2) Heidi Bauer, Engineering Geologist, Compliance Assurance Unit; 3) Maurice Washington, PhD., Water Resource Control Engineer, Cannabis Regulatory Unit 2; and 4) Sumer Alsatarwah, Water Resource Control Engineer, NPDES Unit. The Cannabis Regulatory Unit 2 will be relocating to a satellite office in Eureka, CA. in the near future; the Eureka office will also be staffed by various other State agencies associated with cannabis regulations.

v. **Public Forum:**

**Comments were taken from:**

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** April 11 and May 17, 2018

Motion: Board member Corbett moved to adopt both April 11 & May 17, 2018 minutes, Board member Bedolla seconded the motion; Chairman Noren initiated a roll-call vote:

Minton Quinto aye  
Corbett aye  
Noren aye  
Gant aye  
Bedolla aye

Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Consideration of Resolution expressing appreciation to Fred Blatt.** Chairman Noren read the Resolution of appreciation to Fred Blatt for his distinguished and loyal service to the people of the State of California, and the waters of the state, and for his outstanding work as the Division Chief of the Nonpoint Source & Surface Water Protection Division for the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

### **Uncontested Items**

3. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2018-0002 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for Forestville Water District Wastewater Treatment, Recycling, and Disposal Facility, WDID No. 1B831000SON, NPDES No. CA0023043.** *(Cathleen Goodwin)*
4. **Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2018-0013 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for DG Fairhaven Power, LLC, Fairhaven Power Facility, WDID No. 1B85026RHUM, NPDES No. CA0024571.** *(Justin McSmith)*

**Motion:** Board member Corbett moved to adopt Item 5, Board member Minton Quinto seconded the motion; Chairman Noren initiated a roll-call vote:

Minton Quinto aye  
Corbett aye  
Noren aye  
Gant aye  
Bedolla aye

Motion passed unanimously.

### **Action Items**

5. **Public Hearing on Proposed Resolution No. R1-2018-0025 Approving the Water Quality Trading Framework for the Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed.** Board Vice-Chair Valerie Minton Quinto disclosed that she was involved in developing some

of the local stakeholder recommendations proposed through her employment at the Sonoma Resource Conservation District but she does not have any financial or other interest in the development or implementation of the WQTF presented here and that she can consider the proposed WQTF in an unbiased manner.

David Kuszmar, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Cannabis Regulatory Unit 1, gave a presentation starting with a recap of the June 2017 Workshop, reviewed the history of the Watershed, the regulatory context, and provided a summary of the framework. Mr. Kuszmar reviewed the public comments received, staff responses and revisions made to the proposed Resolution and the Laguna Water Quality Trading Framework.

**Comments were taken from:**

- Rita Miller, City of Santa Rosa
- Toni Bertolero, Town of Windsor
- Mike Thompson, Sonoma County Water Agency
- Bob Legge, Russian Riverkeeper
- Birkin Newell, Russian Riverkeeper
- Tawny Tesconi, Sonoma County Farm Bureau
- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee
- Amelia Whitson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Motion:** Board member Corbett moved to adopt Items 5, Board member Minton Quinto seconded the motion; Chairman Noren initiated a roll-call vote:

Minton Quinto aye  
Corbett aye  
Noren aye  
Gant aye  
Bedolla aye

Motion passed unanimously.

**Information Items**

6. **Information Item to discuss Draft Policy Statements to be included in the 2018 Triennial Review Adopting Resolution.** Alydda Mangelsdorf, Supervising Environmental Program Manager, Planning & Stewardship Division, gave a presentation overview of the policy-making tools available to the Board, draft Policy Statements presented at the May 17, 2018 Board meeting, and solicited Board input on new policy statements topics, revisions to the draft policy statements, and a summary of proposed language changes. Chairman Noren facilitated a discussion of the draft policy statements and potential new policy statement topics.
7. **Update on Regional Water Board Enforcement Priorities.** Diana Henriouille, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Compliance Assurance Unit, introduced Yvonne West, Director, Office of Enforcement, State Water Board, who gave an overview of the State Water Board's recent changes to the 2017 Water Quality Enforcement Policy and the Supplemental Environmental Projects Policy, and

outlined the enforcement prioritization process. Ms. Henriouille provided an update on proposed regional enforcement priorities for the North Coast Regional Water Board which include:

- Coordinate enforcement and compliance assistance efforts in Disadvantaged Communities and communities with financial hardship to seek resolution of water quality violations, to improve/protect the quality and beneficial uses of waters within those communities.
- Prioritize and pursue enforcement cases for discharge violations associated with site development and use for cannabis cultivation.
- Identify, prioritize, and pursue enforcement cases for discharge violations associated with agricultural activities other than cannabis cultivation.

The Board discussed and endorsed the propped enforcement priorities.

**Comments were taken from:**

- Regina Chichizola, Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations
- Bob Legge, Russian Riverkeeper

8. **Executive Officer’s Report.** Matt St. John, EO, summarized the article in the EO’s report on the Smith River which highlights staff efforts since the April 19, 2018 Board meeting. Mr. St. John also summarized the article on the Russian River Pathogen TMDL, the State Water Board August 7, 2018 hearing on the statewide objectives for bacteria, and the planned Regional Water Board hearing on the Russian River TMDL at the November 14 or 15, 2018 Board meeting.

9. **Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items.** Board Member Corbett requested inviting Sharon Levy, author of *The Marsh Builders – The Fight for Clean Water, Wetlands, and Wildlife* to make a presentation about the Arcata Marsh to the Board.

10. **Other Items of Interest.** No Other Items of Interest requested.

11. **Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment**

8:30 a.m., Thursday, September 6, 2018  
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A  
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12. **Closed session:** The Board met in closed session regarding: People of the State of California, Ex. Rel. The Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region v. Independence Corporate Offices, Inc., a California Corporation; Clay Tucker, an individual; Rincon Land Holdings LLC, an Arizona Corporation and Does 1-50 Inclusive (September 11, 2017) Trinity County Superior Court, Case No. SCV-17CV066.

**Meeting adjourned** at 5:00 pm.

Chairperson\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_