

Minutes of Water Advisory Committee- FINAL  
For Meeting of October 3, 2005

Attendees:

Chris DeGabriele, North Marin Water District  
Rick Fraitas, North Marin Water District  
Jack Baker, North Marin Water District  
Drew McIntyre, North Marin Water District  
Mike Ban, City of Petaluma  
Steve Simmons, City of Petaluma  
Al Bandur, City of Sonoma  
Krishna Kumar, Valley of the Moon Water District  
Sanford Smith, Valley of the Moon Water District  
Randy Poole, Sonoma County Water Agency  
Spencer Bader, Sonoma County Water Agency  
Pam Jeane, Sonoma County Water Agency  
Lynn Florey, Sonoma County Water Agency  
Jay Jasperse, Sonoma County Water Agency  
Tim Anderson, Sonoma County Water Agency  
Miles Ferris, City of Santa Rosa  
Mike Martini, City of Santa Rosa  
Greg Scoles, City of Santa Rosa  
Jane Bender, City of Santa Rosa  
Dana Roxon, MMWD  
Darrin Jenkins, City of Rohnert Park  
Jake Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park  
Matt Mullan, Town of Windsor  
Richard Burt, Town of Windsor  
Toni Bertolero, City of Cotati  
Janet Orchard, City of Cotati  
Terry Stubbings, City of Cotati

Public Attendees:

Brenda Adelman, RRWPC  
Don McEnhill, League of Women Voters  
Bob Anderson, United Wine Growers  
Fred Soares, Southwest Neighborhood Alliance  
Jim Downey, Penngrove / Kenwood Water  
Tony Lindstrom, Larkfield-Cal-Am  
Tom Yarish, Friends of the Esteros  
David Keller, FOER

1. Check In

Miles Ferris, City of Santa Rosa, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The attendees checked in.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval and Recap of August 1, 2005 Minutes

Jack Baker, North Marin Water District, made a motion to approve the minutes, and Jake Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park, seconded. All approved.

4. Ahwahnee Principles – Generic Resolution for use by Contractors

Jake Mackenzie gave WAC members a handout of the Ahwahnee Water Principles for Resource Efficient Land Use and a sample resolution.

Chris DeGabriele, North Marin Water District (NMWD), advised he would not recommend #7 of the Ahwahnee Water Principles pertaining to the purple pipe installation.

Mr. Mackenzie responded that these principles are only for consideration and can be amended to fit the needs of each agency. Mr. Mackenzie offered to attend meetings to answer any questions.

Jake Mackenzie motioned that contractors take the draft resolution to their governing bodies to ask for its adoption. Janet Orchard, City of Cotati, seconded. All approved.

Mr. Mackenzie added that he would like to know the progress of the adoption of the principles.

5. Discussion of New Agreement by North Marin Water District (NMWD)

Chris DeGabriele advised WAC that NMWD did not approve of the Restructured Water Agreement, by a 3-2 vote, due to the language pertaining to the acquisition of the Potter Valley Project (PVP), specifically section 2.4. They would like language added for unanimous approval of the WAC or have the acquisition removed from the agreement.

Rick Frites, NMWD, added that they felt they did not want the future acquisition of the PVP to be placed on the rate payer due to the uncertainty of the financial obligations.

Mike Martini, City of Santa Rosa, asked about the possibility of NMWD opting out of the obligation. Randy Poole, SCWA, advised that was not an option. He further stated

that PVP was a small part of the Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan to be discussed further with item #7 of the agenda.

Brenda Adelman, RRWPC, asked why SCWA doesn't have a workshop to educate both the public and the WAC members about the complexity of the PVP. Mr. Poole responded that they have meetings every week that are open to the public.

David Keller, FOER, inquired about the costs of the program, what the projected benefits are, what the program is, and what SCWA is expecting from PG&E? He suggested that the WAC members get costs before signing the agreement. Mr. Poole informed him that since the existing permit does not expire until 2022 the costs are uncertain at this time.

Chris DeGabriele asked WAC members what their status was on the approval of the Restructured Agreement.

- City of Rohnert Park & City of Cotati-both the MOU and the Restructured Agreement have been approved.
- City of Sonoma-approved the MOU and will be considering the Restructured Agreement at a later time.
- City of Santa Rosa – MOU was approved and the Restructured Agreement is scheduled for late October.
- City of Petaluma – MOU has been approved but not the Restructured Agreement.
- Valley of the Moon – both will be addressed on October 4, 2005.
- MMWD – has considered the MOU but has taken no position on it and MMWD is not a party to the proposed Restructured Agreement.
- Town of Windsor - Considering both on October 5, 2005.

Randy Poole informed the WAC that the new MOU was tied to the Restructured Agreement and both needed to be approved. Without approval of both, the WAC would continue to operate under the 11<sup>th</sup> Amended Agreement and the old MOU.

Jake Mackenzie suggested that WAC meet with NMWD to answer any questions they have. He would also like the discussion brought back to the Sonoma County Water Agency Board.

Tom Yarish, Friends of the Esteros, feels WAC should be concentrating on current issues such as rising energy costs and the Ahwahnee Water Principles.

Mr. Ferris explained that the reason the PVP was put into the agreement was for WAC to remain in control of the future acquisition. If it is not on the agreement WAC would lose control of the acquisition.

Mr. Keller stated that dewatering the Eel to benefit the salmon is absurd and that there currently is too much water in the Russian River for the species. He added that they were willing to kill the Eel in order to save the Russian River and feels SCWA needs to reconfigure the low-flow proposal. Mr. Ferris asked to see his data because all their research shows the contrary. Mr. Keller offered to show anyone the data that he has. Ms. Adelman concurred with Mr. Keller's statement.

6. Engineering Recruiting Proposal

Spencer Bader, SCWA, provided WAC with a handout outlining a proposal to work with WAC in the recruitment of staff by working together to develop a recruiting program. He will be sending an e-mail inviting members to become part of the recruitment team.

7. Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan

Sean White, Principal Environmental Specialist, presented WAC with a handout of the SCWA Board Agenda Item authorizing SCWA to initiate discussions with PG&E concerning Chinook, the Russian River, and the Eel River.

Some of the points he made were:

- The Chinook run is approximately October 1<sup>st</sup> through to Thanksgiving
- Proposing closure of fishing in the Russian River during the that time
- Proposing closure outside the mouth of the Russian River during that time
- Due to studies 52% of the Chinook may be harvested commercially each year

Mr. Keller inquired why the Friends of the Eel River were not aware of this proposal if it was a collaborative effort.

Sean White indicated that this is only a request to start discussions.

Darrin Jenkins, City of Rohnert Park, asked about the removal of the dams in Lake Pillsbury and if the fish are better off with the reservoir or not.

Mr. Keller indicated that cold water goes into the silted basin of Lake Pillsbury and then produces a warm water discharge while most of the water withdrawal is diverted.

Terry Stubbings, City of Cotati, asked what the direct impact would be to the WAC contractors.

Randy Poole said it was unknown at this time how any of this would affect the water supply.

8. Check Out

LRT2 Projects – Chris DeGabriele would like to be added to the December agenda.