



RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
October 26, 2023 at 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

(HYBRID MEETING)

Zoom and

Healdsburg City Council Chambers  
401 Grove Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448

***MINUTES***

Directors and Alternates Present

Marjorie Morgenstern	City of Cloverdale
Ben Ford, Vice-Chair	City of Cotati
Ron Edwards	City of Healdsburg
Stephen Zollman	City of Sebastopol
Mark Stapp	City of Santa Rosa
Mari Rodin	City of Ukiah
Maureen Mulheren, Chair	County of Mendocino
Adriane Garayalde	Sonoma County
Andrea Rodriguez	Sonoma Water
Sam Salmon	Town of Windsor

Directors present represented ten of the ten RRWA member agencies and constitutes a quorum.

Additional Attendees

Derrick Montanye	City of Cloverdale
Michael Harrigan	City of Healdsburg
Chris Herrod	City of Healdsburg
Patrick Fuss	City of Healdsburg
Sean McNeil	City of Santa Rosa
Claire Myers	City of Santa Rosa
Josephine Slovt	County of Mendocino
Billy Dixon	Sonoma Water
Paul Piazza	Sonoma Water
Bob Anderson	Public
Andy Rodgers	RRWA Executive Director
Vanessa Apodaca	RRWA Staff
Indigo Bannister	RRWA Staff

**A. Call to Order and Introductions**—Meeting called to order by Chair Mulheren at 9:01 am. Roll call was taken.

**B. Approval of the Agenda**— Director Edwards moved to approve. Director Zollman seconded. None opposed. Agenda was approved with no revisions.

**C. Approval of Standing Items**

The Russian River Watershed Association complies with ADA requirements and will attempt to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities upon request.

Please contact Andy Rodgers, Executive Director, at 707-508-3670 with any questions.

- a. Minutes: August 24 Board of Directors Meeting  
Director Ford moved to approve. Director Edwards seconded. None opposed.  
Minutes approved with no revisions.

**D. October 10 TWG Meeting Updates**

- a. CASQA Conference updates- Andy (RRWA) congratulated Santa Rosa and Sonoma State University (SSU) for recent CASQA award wins. Sean McNeil (Santa Rosa) shared more of the Streets to Creeks program award and thanked RRWA for being an early supporter of the Program, as well as the SSU Stormwater project regarding homeless activity and water quality that also won a CASQA award.
- b. FY 2022/23 year-end calculations/Rollbacks. Vanessa (RRWA) shared:
  - FY 2022/23 total funds expended \$544,905
  - Funds credited: \$78,822
    - Cloverdale: \$9,936                      Ukiah: \$11,188
    - Cotati: \$6,199                              Mendocino County: \$4,990
    - Healdsburg: \$6,108                      Sonoma County: \$12,921
    - Santa Rosa: \$4,484                      Sonoma Water: \$9,089
    - Sebastopol: \$6,185                      Windsor: \$7,723

**E. Board of Directors Business**

- a. Election of RRWA 2024 Officers—Director Edwards nominated Maureen Mulheren for Chair and Ben Ford for Co-Chair. Director Garayalde seconded. None opposed. All in favor.
- b. BOD 2024-25 Work Plan development update-Andy (RRWA) went into detail regarding the effort of planning the next Fiscal Year (FY) work plan and reviewed the timeline of development and adoption. Draft 1 of the work plan was included as a handout to this meeting packet. Proposed changes include an extra Board meeting under the Executive Director tasks to help facilitate a field trip in the year. Other changes include a potential website overhaul related to outdated looks and software, and an increase in outreach for staff to table events when needed. Other suggested edits were discussed.
  - Andy offered one-on-one agency meetings (Jan/Feb)
  - Operating Budgets due end of November
- c. Operators Forum and Grant Support – Consider approval for budget amendment
  - Andy provided details on and function of the Executive Programs & Initiatives (EPI) Committee’s recommendation of two new initiatives for the 23/24 Work Plan
    1. C.12 – Grant Support Add \$16,308 to the current budget
    2. C.13 – Operators Forum Add \$26,576 to the current budget
    3. Total budget increase to the 2023-2024 Work Plan is \$42,884
    4. Currently four member agencies participating
    5. Costs to be divided evenly between participating agencies

Sean McNeil (Santa Rosa), as a representative of the EPI Committee, shared support of the new tasks and how RRWA can help with regional grant applications. Director Rodin moved to approve. Director Stapp seconded. None opposed. Budget amendment approved.

- d. Key project updates
  - i. Creek Week (September 16-23) event results. Pictures and a chart showing all the event results received by members was shared and can be viewed on the meeting presentation slides.  
  
Director Rodin requested an electronic copy of the creek week metrics.
  - ii. Fiesta de Independencia (September 10) update. Thank you, Michael Harrigan, City of Healdsburg for volunteering booth time.
  - iii. HS Student Video Contest
    - 1. Theme reminder: *Put a LID on it!* What is Low Impact Development (LID) and how can it protect the Russian River watershed?
    - 2. Save the Date – Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 9th (time TBD)
  - iv. Russian River-Friendly Landscaping
    - 1. Applications – One Pending
    - 2. Re launch of Carbon Gardening videos in November
  - v. Executive Programs & Initiatives Committee (EPIC)—September 25
    - 1. Operators Forum
    - 2. Regional funding support
    - 3. Meeting frequency
    - 4. RRFL Event in Ukiah/Mendocino County
  - vi. Safe medicine and sharps disposal
    - 1. National Prescription Drug Take Back Day October 28, 2023
      - a) Participating locations
        - i. Cloverdale Police Department
        - ii. Cotati Police Department
        - iii. City of Rohnert Park Police & Fire
        - iv. Santa Rosa Police
        - v. Sebastopol Police Department
        - vi. Town of Windsor Police Department
      - 2. Safe Medicine Disposal Education Campaign launching in December
        - a) Three videos— Spanish and English versions— optimized for mobile Facebook and Instagram reels
        - b) Four monthly graphic posts optimized for both Facebook and Instagram that draw graphics directly from the videos, so they have a consistent look.
      - 3. Placemats – 48 locations in the watershed
        - a) Omelette Express (112 4th St, Santa Rosa)
        - b) Two Dog Night (9240 Old Redwood Hwy #100, Windsor)
        - c) King Falafel (100 Brown St #150, Sebastopol)
        - d) Wicked Slush in Healdsburg CLOSED
        - e) NY Pie in Santa Rosa CLOSED

For more information, view the presentation in PDF format at  
<https://www.rwatershed.org/event/board-of-directors-meeting-27>

#### **F. Regional Advocacy and Initiatives updates**

- a. RRWA/RWQCB
  - i. Quarterly meeting updates October 11
    - 1. Advocated for members regarding new permit
    - 2. Drought/water conservation initiative
  - ii. RRWA presentation to RWQCB December 12

1. Santa Rosa to present Streets to Creeks
2. County to present Respect Russian River and R3MP
- b. Russian River Water Forum—The November meeting was canceled. The partners have a proposal in to PG&E. The decommissioning plan will come out in December and that's when the Forum will have their next meeting. The working groups continue to meet and educate the public.
- c. Russian River Regional Monitoring Program (R3MP)
- d. Russian River Confluence
  - Respect Russian River Campaign – going well with new vendors and resupplies ahead of holidays
  - Conservation Works Intern, Charles Bottino
  - Confluence meeting planned for Jan to share Strategic, Communication & Marketing Plans
- e. North Coast Resources Partnership
  - Quarterly meeting October 20-summary pending
- f. Comment/Support Letters (Handouts were included in meeting packet)
  - CASQA cost reporting draft comment letter
  - Support for the Town of Windsor's Esposti Well Treatment and North Windsor Well Installation and Well Treatment Projects

**G. Guest Presentations:**

- a. City of Healdsburg Water Supply Resilience Efforts - Patrick Fuss, Utility Engineering Manager, City of Healdsburg

**H. Items of Interest**

- a. Summary of Board of Directors Action Items
- b. North Bay Watershed Association 2024 Conference  
Andy (RRWA) discussed his other roll as Executive Director of the North Bay Watershed Association and the conference they are planning in April of 2024 related to reinvesting in the watershed community-infrastructure and workforce being primary themes. Sonoma State University may be the location.

**I. Guest Presentation/Tour: City of Healdsburg Water Supply Resilience Efforts**  
Patrick Fuss, Utility Engineering Manager, City of Healdsburg

Patrick discussed the following topics:

- a. City Historical and projected water usage from UWMP
- b. City water supply resources based on surface water rights and impacts of drought
- c. Aquifer storage and recovery project
- d. Municipal recycled water pipeline project
- e. Amending the Water Right at Dry Creek Well Field

For more information, view the full presentation in PDF format at <https://www.rrwatershed.org/event/board-of-directors-meeting-27>

No comments or questions from Board or public.

**J. Public Comment—None.**

**K. Adjourn—Meeting adjourned at 10:31 am**

Tour of the Healdsburg Water Reclamation Facility commenced.

**RRWA Calendar Summary:**

Unless otherwise noted meetings are held at Windsor Town Council Chambers,  
 9291 Old Redwood Highway, Windsor, California 95492

<b>Upcoming TWG Meetings            (Virtual meetings only)            10:30 am – 12:30 pm</b>	<b>Upcoming Board of Directors meetings            9:00 am – 11:00 am</b>
January 9, 2024 April 9, 2024	February 22, 2024 May 23, 2024
<b>Environmental Columns</b>	
October — Thank you, Colleen Hunt, Stone Creek Environmental Consulting LLC, and the City of Cotati - Small Actions, Big Impact – Simple Ways to Keep Your Water Clean November — Thank you, Michael Harrigan, of City of Healdsburg - From Runoff to Renewal: Green Strategies for a Cleaner Environment in the Russian River Watershed December — Santa Rosa - (Topic: Stormwater)	
<b>Important Dates</b>	
October 28, 2023 — National Prescription Drug Take Back Day February 10, 2024 — 15th Annual Steelhead Festival May 9, 2024 – Awards Ceremony for High School Video Contest (Time TBD)	