



RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 14, 2009, 9:00 AM
Windsor Town Council Chambers
9291 Old Redwood Highway, Windsor, CA 95492

A G E N D A

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions**
- 2. Approval of the Agenda**
- 3. Approval of Standing Items**
 - A. Minutes: February 26, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting
- 4. Presentation of awards for 2009 Student Video Contest and Student Environmental Column winners**
- 5. BOD Business**
 - A. IRWMP update
 - B. Potential RRWA comment letters
 - C. Schedule for next RRWA Board meeting (tentative date: June 25, 2009)
- 6. Working Group Activities**
 - A. Working Group activities
Next meeting: June 9, 2009
- 7. Items of Interest**
- 8. Public Comment**
- 9. Adjourn**

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

Please contact Phoebe Grow at (707) 833-2553 with any questions.

**APPROVED
JUNE 30**

**MINUTES
RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

Minutes for the regular meeting of the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) Board of Directors.

Date: Thursday, May 14, 2009
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Windsor Town Council Chambers

Directors and Alternates Present. Directors present included:

Jake Mackenzie	City of Rohnert Park
Pam Stafford	City of Rohnert Park
Mike Kirn	City of Healdsburg
Marsha Vas Dupre	City of Santa Rosa
Robin Goble	Town of Windsor
Richard Burt	Town of Windsor
Nina Regor	City of Cloverdale

Directors present represented a quorum of 5 out of the 9 RRWA participants.

Additional Attendees:

Dave Richardson	RRWA Executive Director
Phoebe Grow	RRWA
Diane Lesko	SCWA
Renée Webber	SCWA
Cary Olin	SCWA
Glen Wright	City of Santa Rosa
Brenda Adelman	RRWPC
Virginia Porter	member of public/independent consultant
Colleen Fernald	member of public

Board Actions.

1. Call to order. (Jake Mackenzie, Chair). Mr. Mackenzie called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and everyone introduced themselves.

2. Approval of the agenda. Mr. Mackenzie requested that the Board approve the agenda with the following amendments: 1. moving the awards presentation for the Student Video Contest to correspond with the arrival of the students and 2. adding a discussion of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) orders regarding water conservation and Russian River flows. The agenda was approved with these amendments.

3. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of February 26, 2009. The minutes from the February 26th, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting were approved.

4. Presentation of awards for 2009 Student Video Contest and Student Environmental Column winners The topic for this year's Water Awareness High School video contest was Outdoor Residential Water Conservation. The contest is structured such that entries can be an individual

or group effort and prize awards are split 50% between the individual(s) who submit the video and the high school they attend.

All 26 high schools in the Russian River Watershed and SCWA service areas received information on the contest in January. We received 18 videos from 5 high schools with participation by 44 students. High Schools that submitted videos:

- El Molino
- Analy
- Novato High School / Marin School of the Arts
- Petaluma High School
- Cardinal Newman

There was an eight member judging panel comprised of water conservation, public information and media professionals. Videos were judged on:

- Incorporation of Outdoor Residential Water Conservation Message
- Creativity – Originality
- Entertainment Value
- Accuracy of Information
- Composition (length, technical construction, audio quality)

Winning videos are used as public service announcements and as educational outreach materials. They will also be aired on local community media channels, linked to the SCWA website (http://www.scwa.ca.gov/education/video_contest.php) and uploaded to YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bphzJwZTVjs>). Each RRWA member agency will receive a copy of the winning videos

The videos were viewed at the meeting. After the viewing, the winners were announced:

- **1st Place:** Randall Brown, Cardinal Newman High School; Principal: Graham Rutherford
- **2nd Place:** Aren Vierra & Bella Castellino; El Molino High School; Instructor: Seth Friesen
- **3rd Place:** Jason Kummerfeldt, John Latham, & Andres Miranda-Katz; Novato High School – Marin School of the Arts; Instructor: Dana Tamura

Chairman Mackenzie presented 1st place winner Randall Brown and his Principal Graham Rutherford with framed certificates and checks. The 2nd and 3rd place winners could not attend due to Advanced Placement exams. Their certificates and checks will be sent to them in the mail.

Thanks to Cary Olin from SCWA for all her work in coordinating the Student Video Contest.

The student environmental column contest was won by Simone Dvoskin. Ms. Dvoskin was not able to attend the meeting. Her certificate and check will be mailed to her. RRWA plans to work with Ms. Dvoskin to adapt the column slightly and submit the column for publication later this year.

5. Board Business

A. North Coast IRWMP Update: Lisa Renton (SCWA) provided an update via e-mail on North Coast IRWMP activities that was read by Phoebe Grow (RRWA). Jake Mackenzie provided additional information on each of the following items:

- **Regional Acceptance Process** – Staff submitted a Regional Acceptance Process (RAP) application on behalf of the North Coast IRWMP to DWR on April 29th. The RAP is an eligibility requirement for future IRWM funding under Propositions 84 and 1E. The RAP outlined the North Coast IRWMP's governance structure, communication framework, stakeholder outreach, regional boundary, and the plan's approach to effectively integrate multiple water management strategies. The County of Humboldt's Board of Supervisors unanimously agreed to submit this application on behalf of the North Coast Region, and a copy of their resolution was included within the application. A full copy of the RAP

application text, maps and appendices can be found in the library section of the North Coast IRWMP website (www.northcoastirwmp.net). If the North Coast application is initially approved, Supervisor and Policy Review Panel Chair, Jimmy Smith of Humboldt County and Councilmember and Vice-Chair, Jake Mackenzie along with North Coast IRWMP project staff will attend an interview with DWR and other State agency representatives to answer any additional questions regarding the North Coast's planning process.

- **Prop 50, Round 1 Implementation Projects** – Unfortunately, although the Prop 50, Round 1 implementation grant was included on the bond suspension exemption list the projects have yet to receive funding. These projects are victims of the State's budget crisis and have been suspended since January. Conversations with SWRCB staff indicate that the Controller's office is setting up the accounts for distribution and that funding should be rolling out "any day now". North Coast IRWMP staff is continuing to track this issue and will continue to keep all of you and our project proponents informed.
- **Prop 50, Round 2 Contract Update** – The projects included in the 2nd round of funding did not make the Pooled Money Investment Board's exemption list and are still in a holding pattern. We have been told by our grant manager that an agreement should be in place by early July – the beginning of the next fiscal year. We will continue to keep you all posted as we receive news.
- **The North Coast IRWMP Policy Review Panel and Technical Peer Review Committee** are planning a meeting in Humboldt County at the end of June. Once a date and location have been finalized the information along with a draft agenda will be posted on the North Coast IRWMP website.
- **The North Coast Regional News** section of the website has been updated to include upcoming meetings, workshops, conferences as well as updates on funding opportunities, local, regional, state and national news and publications. Additionally, a new page has been added to the site called, "North Coast Strategies for Energy Independence and Emissions Reduction" and can be accessed under the North Coast Planning and Implementation header on the home page. The website address is (www.northcoastirwmp.net) and can also be accessed through the RRWA website (www.rrwatershed.org).

A question was asked as to when the Round 1 Projects must be completed per the terms of the contract and whether or not it will be a problem to met this deadline considering the delays in payment/funding due to the State budget crisis. RRWA staff will get an answer to this question from Lisa Renton (SCWA) or other knowledgeable persons.

B. Potential RRWA Comment Letters: Dave Richardson (RRWA) introduced the topic of whether or not RRWA should write a comment letter in support of the EIR/EIS for the North Bay Water Reuse Authority's North San Pablo Bay Restoration and Reuse Project. SCWA is the lead agency for the EIR/EIS. The comment period closes on June 26 for the EIR. A flyer containing basic information about the project was distributed at the meeting. Information about the project and links to download the EIR/EIS are available at www.nbwra.org.

Discussion points included:

- NBWRA's North San Pablo Bay Restoration and Reuse Project is an entirely different project than the North Sonoma County Agricultural Reuse Project.
- The North San Pablo Bay Restoration and Reuse Project will serve users that are outside of the Russian River watershed but will offset the use of potable water that originates from the Russian River.
- Agricultural users in the proposed service areas of the North San Pablo Bay Restoration and Reuse Project are generally supportive of the project. Recycled water is already in use for crop irrigation in areas adjacent to the proposed service areas.
- Brenda Adelman commented that recycled water projects are expensive and that there are concerns about chemicals (such as pharmaceuticals) in the treated water.

The Board decided that a draft comment letter should be prepared in support of the North San Pablo Bay Restoration and Reuse Project. The draft comment letter will be discussed at the upcoming June 9th RRWA Working Group meeting. After the Working Group's comments have been incorporated, the Board will decide whether or not to submit the letter. The draft and final comment letter will be circulated to the RRWA general distribution e-mail list.

It was also discussed that the Low-Threat Discharge permit is an item that RRWA may be interested in commenting on. This potential comment letter will be discussed at the June 9th Working Group meeting.

C. Schedule for next RRWA Board meeting: The next RRWA Board meetings had been tentatively scheduled for June 25, 2009 and August 27, 2009. The Board decided to cancel both of these meetings and instead schedule a meeting for July 30th (the 5th Thursday in July) RRWA's website will be updated to reflect this change. Board members not in attendance will be notified of the change by e-mail.

D. SWRCB Order regarding conservation/Russian River flows: Jake Mackenzie provided some background information on the Order. The following text has been adapted from the SCWA website (<http://www.scwa.ca.gov/newsroom/stateboardorder2009.php>.)

The SWRCB issued an Order responding to the Sonoma County Water Agency's Temporary Urgency Change Petition for reduced Russian River flows. The Order allows for "dry" year flow conditions and requires SCWA to reduce diversions from the Russian River by 25 percent through October 2, 2009. As a condition of water delivery to its contractors, SCWA is directed to prohibit the irrigation of commercial turf grass within the SCWA service area for the period of May 1, 2009 until the expiration of the Order – October 2, 2009. SCWA will be working with its contractors to implement this provision. Within 30 days of the date of the Order, SCWA will submit a plan to SWRCB to obtain cooperation and participation of agricultural and municipal Russian River water users to reach a water conservation goal of 25 percent in Sonoma County and 50 percent in Mendocino County for the period of April 6, 2009, until October 2, 2009.

At the meeting, it was noted that the SWCRB has defined what is and is not "commercial turf" but SCWA considers the ban to apply to commercial and government turf that is primarily ornamental and not used by many people. It is uncertain whether or not commercial sod growing operations are considered to be commercial turf. SCWA's water contractors generally do not have the authority to prohibit private entities from irrigating "commercial turf".

6. Working Group Activities: Phoebe Grow (RRWA) gave an update of Working Group activities including:

- RRWA is coordinating a Russian River stakeholders meeting focusing on the differences between Prop 50 IRMWP and Prop 84 IRWMP, especially the climate change/energy independence elements. The meeting will be modeled on meeting conducted in Trinity County and will be scheduled sometime at the end of June. West Coast Watersheds (Karen Gaffney) will be assisting through a subcontract to RRWA.
- RRWA is tracking the Phase I and Phase II MS4 permits. A new draft of the Phase I permit is expected very soon. The Phase II permit is still being formulated by the SWRCB.
- RRWA is preparing to take over the administration of Safe Medicines Disposal programs currently run by Santa Rosa and SCWA. RRWA is also working with SCWA and Santa Rosa to develop new protocols to distribute to the disposal sites (mostly pharmacies).
- RRWA's environmental column is going strong. Upcoming topics include proper fireworks disposal, non-storm runoff, and greywater use/rainwater harvesting.
- RRWA staff is working with Lisa Steinman at the Sonoma County Waste Management Authority to create an outreach program focused on encouraging small contractors to properly secure loads they bring to the dump.

- RRWA is creating a two-page brochure about the Russian River First Flush (RRFF) monitoring events. The brochure will discuss the past RRFF events, how people can get involved with potential future RRFF events, and how people can protect water quality in the Russian River watershed.

The next TWG meeting is June 9th, 2009 at 8:30 am at the Windsor Town Council Chambers.

7. Items of Interest:

- Marsha Vas Dupre (Santa Rosa) introduced the topic of finding a local Executive Director for RRWA and suggested that Virginia Porter be considered for this role. Dave Richardson (RRWA) noted that RRWA has always been open to the idea of finding a locally-based Executive Director. Dave Richardson and Phoebe Grow of RRWA met with Virginia Porter a couple weeks before the Board meeting to discuss this possibility. Brenda Adelman mentioned that her previous interactions with Virginia have shown her that Virginia is skilled at listening to/reaching out to a wide variety of groups/interests. Nina Regor (Cloverdale) asked that RRWA consider some type of public noticing about the potential availability of the Executive Director job. RRWA staff will prepare written suggestions for the Board outlining options for phasing in a local Executive Director to be considered at a subsequent Board meeting.
- The distribution of the RRWA Environmental Column was discussed. Currently, the Environmental Column appears monthly in the following papers: Ukiah Daily Journal, Sonoma West Times, Healdsburg Tribune, Windsor Times, West County Gazette, Russian River Times, and Community Voice. Marsha Vas Dupre mentioned that it would be great to get the column in the Press Democrat and that she would contact people that she knows at the paper. Previous RRWA attempts to get the column in the Press Democrat have been unsuccessful. It was also noted that RRWA could try to get the column into the North Bay Bohemian and the Cloverdale Reveille.
- Presentations regarding rainwater harvesting and greywater use were delivered at the Santa Rosa City Council meeting on May 12, 2009. The video recording of the meeting is available at - http://ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/doclib/agendas_packets_minutes/Pages/20090512_CC_video.aspx. The presentation slides as well as other information about rainwater harvesting are available at www.srcity.org/rainwaterharvesting.

8. Public Comment: Public comments were taken during the course of the discussions summarized above. Additionally, Colleen Fernald spoke about potential partnering opportunities between RRWA and the Russian River Watershed Council (RRWC). RRWC (<http://www.rwrc.net/www.rwrc.net>) has a history of hosting successful public forums and has conducted several interesting projects including the Russian River Interactive Information System (RRIIS) and the Russian River Watershed Adaptive Management Plan (WMP). Colleen sits on the RRWC Board but was speaking simply as a citizen of the watershed and not as a representative of RRWC.

9. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:50 am

NEXT MEETING INFORMATION

Date: Thursday, July 30th, 2009
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Windsor Council Chambers
Windsor Town Hall, Building 400
9291 Old Redwood Highway
Windsor, CA 95492

FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday, October 22nd, 9:00 am