



RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 2, 2010, 9:00 AM
Windsor Town Council Chambers
9291 Old Redwood Highway, Windsor, CA 95492

A G E N D A

A. Call to Order and Introductions

B. Approval of the Agenda

C. Approval of Standing Items

- Minutes: September 23, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting

D. Guest Speaker Presentation – Dialogue with Catherine Kuhlman, Executive Officer of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

E. BOD Business

- IRWMP Update
 - RRWA Project
 - Next steps
- 2010-2011 Work Plan Project Updates
 - Outreach to Eligible Entities
 - Stormwater Permit Support – Training Schedule
 - Russian River Friendly Landscape Guidelines
 - Safe Medicines Disposal
- Recent and on-going RRWA advocacy items
 - Update from October 28th RWQCB meeting
 - Update from November 18th meeting RWQCB EO and staff
 - Next meeting with RWQCB EO and staff – February 10th 2011
- 2011-2012 Work Plan guidance
- Board Meeting calendar for 2011
- Next meeting – January 27th or February 24th

F. Working Group Activities

- Next meeting: December 14th, 2010

G. Items of Interest

H. Public Comment

I. Adjourn

MINUTES
RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

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

Date: Thursday, December 2, 2010
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Windsor Town Council Chambers

Directors and Alternates Present. Directors present:

Pam Stafford, Acting Chair	City of Rohnert Park
Richard Burt	Town of Windsor
Nina Regor	City of Cloverdale
Mike Kirn	City of Healdsburg
Mark Landman	City of Cotati

Directors present represented 5 out of the 9 RRWA member agencies, constituting a quorum.

Additional Attendees.

Virginia Porter	RRWA Executive Director
Phoebe Grow	RRWA
Jim Flugum	City of Healdsburg
Rita Miller	City of Santa Rosa
Brenda Adelman	RRWPC
Bob Anderson	United Wine Growers
Jean Mayer	Windsor resident

Board Actions.

A. Call to Order and Introductions. (Pam Stafford, Acting Chair). Ms. Stafford called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and everyone introduced themselves.

B. Approval of the Agenda. Ms. Stafford requested that the Board approve the agenda. The agenda was approved.

C. Approval of Standing Items. The minutes from the September 23, 2010 Board of Directors meeting were reviewed and approved.

D. Guest Speaker Presentation - Dialogue with Catherine Kuhlman, Executive Officer of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Ms. Kuhlman first thanked RRWA for its ongoing support and complimented the work we have done. Ms. Kuhlman had four key topics to discuss – stormwater, wastewater, the Laguna TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load), and the Mid-River TMDL.

Stormwater: The Regional Board approach to stormwater is prevention first, and filtration of water that can not be percolated. The goal is to protect the natural hydrograph. The Phase I agencies have been the focus for a long time and the Phase II agencies are now coming more into alignment with the Phase I's. The Regional Board appreciates the RRWA web site and monthly environmental columns, and looks forward to the Low Impact Development (LID) workshop. Also, they have appreciated our training efforts on stormwater regulations.

Wastewater: Ms. Kuhlman takes personal pride in the level of treatment in our region – it has had a huge effect on water quality. We need to be vigilant regarding maintaining infrastructure. The Regional Board is very interested in RRWA taking part in developing guidance tools for the use of recycled water for agricultural purposes in our watershed. We need tools that can be used so that recycled water is being applied at agronomic rates. These guidance tools could streamline the permitting process. There is overall concern regarding CEC's (constituents of emerging concern); bioscreening tools need to be developed to screen for these chemicals.

Laguna TMDL: A number of our member agencies will be affected by the Laguna TMDL and the Regional Board would like RRWA to participate as a stakeholder during the development. The Regional Board is working closely with the Laguna Foundation – trying to define “what we think the Laguna ought to look like.” Adoption of the TMDL is schedule for the 2012-2013 timeframe.

Mid-River TMDL: Though most of our agencies are not directly affected by this regulatory framework, the health of the watershed and the river are affected. The primary concern here is with the impact of septic systems, the homeless, and recreation on the water quality of the river. SCWA is working with the Regional Board to install portable toilets in known problem areas.

The RRWA Board and Ms. Kuhlman agreed that regular updates are a good idea and RRWA staff will continue to schedule these dialogues.

A number of RRWA Board Members and the public had questions and comments, and a general discussion of key topics took place. Mike Kirn (City of Healdsburg) commented that the role of the wastewater treatment plant and the challenges of treatment are driven by many things that are beyond the City's control – such as how medicines are dispensed and the life of medicines in aquatic systems. Ms Kuhlman commented that source control needs to be part of the solution. Brenda Adelman (RRWPC) expressed her organization's concern about the level of flow in the Russian River and the lack of riparian habitat in the Laguna.

The Regional Board is interested in having members of the State Water Resources Control Board visit Region 1 to get a better idea of our unique conditions and regulatory priorities. RRWA Board members agreed that this would be very good for our region.

E. Board of Directors Business.

- IRWMP Update - Virginia Porter, Executive Director, provided the update: RRWA's project was not selected as a priority project so will not be recommended for funding in this round of Prop. 84; RRWA staff will meet with NCIRWMP staff to find out what we need to do to improve our chances for funding; proposed changes to the MOMU (Memorandum of Mutual Understandings) include including 3 tribal seats on both the PRP (Policy Review Panel) and the TPRC (Technical Peer Review Committee) – RRWA will consider signing the MOMU at our February meeting. Nina Regor (City of Cloverdale) asked if the changes were substantial; Ms. Porter said there are numerous changes which bring the MOMU up to the current procedures plus adding the tribes. Ms. Porter will send the current MOMU and proposed MOMU to the Board. Mike Kirn (City of Healdsburg) asked whether this change would affect non-tribal entities in their ability to obtain federal funds designated for tribes, perhaps in partnership; Ms. Porter will follow up on this with NCIRWMP staff.
- 2010-2011 Work Plan Projects Update
 - Outreach to eligible entities – Ms. Porter has again contacted the City of Sebastopol; their City Manager indicated RRWA membership will be included in their water and sewer rate study. Staff will continue to try to get Mendocino County on board also.
 - Stormwater Permit Support – Training Schedule – Phoebe Grow provided the update including a draft schedule of training topics and target dates. Our goal is to have an overview session in early 2011, followed by Construction General Permit certification training related to preparation and oversight to the Storm Water Pollution Prevention

- Plans. RRWA may sponsor the certification training in Santa Rosa and Ukiah, depending on demand.
- Russian River Friendly Landscape Guidelines – The launch event was a very big success. Brenda Adelman noted that she heard from a local nursery owner that it was very good. David Noren, vice-chair of the RWQCB spoke, as well as a number of landscape professionals in our watershed. The documents are being distributed to all member agencies.
 - Safe Medicine Disposal – We currently have ads in the Sonoma County Transit busses, and will soon begin a radio ad campaign. The contract for hauling is now fully executed with the new hauler.
 - Video Contest topic – The Technical Working Group proposed these topics to the Board – Hydrologic cycle and Low Impact Development; sanitary sewer vs. the stormdrain; Creek clean-ups; Know your watershed. The Board discussed these options and also the topic of pet waste. Their recommendation was for either pet waste or the difference between the stormdrain system and the stormwater system. RRWA staff will check in with SCWA with the Board's recommendation. Winning videos will be shown to the Board in April 2011.
- Recent and on-going advocacy items
 - Update from Oct. 28 RWQCB meeting – Ms. Porter provided RRWA's comments to the Regional Board regarding Healdsburg's NPDES permit for their reclamation system. In the course of the meeting the Board asked RRWA to be involved in the regional effort which will include WaterReuse, to develop standards for agricultural use of recycled water.
 - Update from Nov. 18 meeting with RWQCB EO and staff – The EO provided input on the role RRWA can play in the development of the Laguna TMDL and standards for agricultural use of recycled water; RRWA staff would like to be involved as soon as possible on reviewing and commenting on the Phase II Stormwater Permit; all would like to see Sebastopol become a member.
 - Next meeting with RWQCB EO and Staff – Feb. 10, 2011 – no new topics were introduced.
 - 2011-2012 Work Plan Guidance – The Board reviewed structure and work effort proposed for the 2011-2012 RRWA Work Plan which RRWA staff and the TWG have developed. This year the Work Plan will maintain all ongoing projects, and introduce two new projects – the Agricultural Recycled Water Use Guidance (General Benefit) and Laguna TMDL Collaboration and Comment (Special Benefit). A key change is the proposal to bring a local firm, ECON, on as Project Management and Administrative staff, and move RMC Water and Environment to an advisory role. These staffing changes along with keeping our work in "maintenance mode" results in the budget being approximately 20% lower than last year's budget. Ms. Porter asked if she could use January to meet with each member agency regarding the Work Plan in lieu of having a January Board meeting, The Board discussed and agreed this approach was good, and asked the TWG and RRWA staff to continue to refine the Work Plan and bring it forward to the Board in February to the full Board.
 - Board meeting calendar for 2011 - 2011 Board of Directors Meeting Calendar was approved as follows:
 - All meetings Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - Windsor Town Hall
 - Feb. 24
 - April 28
 - July 28
 - Sept. 22
 - Dec. 8
 - Next Meeting Jan. 27 or Feb. 24 – The Board supported the idea proposed by Ms. Porter that she meet with all member agencies regarding the Work Plan in January, and that the Board consider the Work Plan for approval at the February meeting. The next meeting would then be February 24.

Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA)

F. Working Group Activities

- Next meeting Dec. 14 – Integrate Board input into Work Plan

G. Items of Interest. No items of interest were presented

H. Public Comment. Public comment was taken during the course of the meeting.

10. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am

NEXT MEETING INFORMATION

Date: Thursday, February 24, 2011

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Windsor Town Hall

FUTURE MEETINGS

2011 Board of Directors Meeting Calendar

All meetings Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - Windsor Town Hall

- Feb. 24
- April 28
- July 28
- Sept. 22
- Dec. 8