

## Minutes of Meeting

9:00 A.M., Thursday, February 3, 2022  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Video Conference

### Thursday, February 3, 2022

Video recordings of Board meetings (since 2/2019) are available at:  
[Prior Board Meeting Video recordings.](#)

Audio recordings of Board meetings (11/2018 and before) are available at:  
[Prior Board Meeting Audio recordings](#)

- i. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Giusti led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ii. **Roll Call and Introductions:**

Board Members present: Hector Bedolla, Gregory Giusti, Shaunna McCovey, and Valerie Quinto.

Regional Water Board staff present: Patti Corsie, Josh Curtis, Matt Herman, Nathan Jacobsen, Heaven Moore, Matt St. John, and Claudia Villacorta
- iii. **Board Member Reports and Ex Parte Communication Disclosure.** Chairman Giusti disclosed he spent 5 days in Crescent City, CA area and met with a lilly bulb farmer and toured lilly bulb fields in the Smith River plain, as well as the restoration projects ongoing in Delilah Creek, Del Norte County. Chairman Giusti also spoke with an associate who is familiar with the Crescent City Harbor District and the challenges the in dealing with the District is facing regarding dredging and the disposal of the dredge spoils.
- iv. **State Water Board Liaison's and Executive Officer's Reports:** Executive Officer, Matt St. John discussed an article in his written report: *Development of a Racial Equity Resolution for the North Coast Region*. The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) identified in its Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Work Plan that staff will develop a region-specific racial equity resolution for Regional Water Board consideration by Spring 2023 and Mr. St. John described the interested parties engagement process that staff plan to employ in developing the draft . Board Members Bedolla, McCovey, Quinto, and Chairman Giusti gave their wholehearted support for the development this important Resolution and provided guidance regarding the process for engaging with interested parties in developing the resolution. State Water Board Liaison Dorene D'Adamo, gave a comprehensive update on the

drought, Emergency Curtailment Orders, funding for drinking water needs, and water conservation measures being taken at the State Water Board.

- v. **Regional Board Chair's Report:** Chairman Giusti reported that he had several meetings and briefings with Mr. St. John, Dorene D'Adamo, State Board Vice-Chair and Liaison to the North Coast Regional Board; and Joaquin Esquivel, State Board Chairman to discuss various topics affecting the North Coast Region.

vi. **Public Forum:**

**Comments were taken from:**

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

1. **Election of Board Officers:**

**Motion:** Board member Quinto nominated Gregory Giusti to continue as the Board Chair and Hector Bedolla as the Vice-Chair; Board member McCovey seconded. Chair Giusti initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla aye  
Quinto aye  
McCovey aye  
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously

2. **Presentation of Executive Officer's 2021 Water Quality Stewardship Award:** Mr. St. John presented the 2022 Water Quality Stewardship Awards to the following individuals for their leadership & outstanding career accomplishments to protect the waters of the North Coast and beyond:

- Pete Cafferata, Retired, Cal-Fire Watershed Protection Program
- Dr. Josh Collins, Retired, San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) & The Aquatic Science Center
- Dr. Dave Smith, Retired, Merritt Smith Consulting
- Cherie Blatt, Retired, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Cathy Goodwin, Retired, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** December 2, 2021

**Motion:** Board member Bedolla moved to adopt December 2, 2021 Meeting minutes; Board member McCovey seconded the motion; Chairman Giusti initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla aye  
Quinto aye  
McCovey aye  
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously

### Uncontested Item

4. Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2022-0002 to consider adoption of proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for Humboldt County Resort Improvement District No. 1, Shelter Cove Wastewater Treatment Facility, WDID No. 1B84086OHUM, NPDES No. CA0023027 (*Matthew Herman*)

**Motion:** Chairman Giusti initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla aye  
Quinto aye  
McCovey aye  
Giusti aye

Motion passed unanimously

### Information Items

5. **Update on Monthly Water Conservation and Reporting & Curtailment Activities for North Coast Region.** Marielle Rhodeiro and Charlotte Ely, Office of Research, Planning and Performance, State Water Board updated the Board on the status of the urban water conservation efforts in the North Coast, reviewed the monthly conservation and production report results for the North Coast that showed the average residential daily per capita (R-GPCD) water use in the North Coast is 38% lower than the statewide averages, and discussed the efficiency framework (AB1668/SB606) bills adopted on May 31, 2018, to establish a new foundation for long-term improvements in water conservation and drought planning to adapt to climate change by amending existing laws to provide expanded authorities and requirements to enable permanent changes and actions to improve the state's water future for generations to come. Sam Boland-Brien, and Erin Ragazzi, Division of Water Rights, State Water Board updated the Board on the continued implementation of two drought emergency regulations adopted in 2021 that cover the Russian River watershed and the Scott & Shasta River watersheds. The drought emergency regulations provide for curtailment of water rights in order of priority to protect senior water rights and establish minimum instream flows for the protection of coho and Chinook salmon in these watersheds. These emergency regulations also encourage local cooperative solutions to support flow and fisheries needs.

**Comments were taken from:**

- Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee

- Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager, Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District.

**6. Executive Officer's Report:** See written report and Item iv.

**7. Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items and Other Items of Interest:** Chairman Giusti inquired about the status of the development of the vineyard permit for the North Coast Region (about which there was a written article in the Executive Officer's Report) and provided direction to keep the work plan milestones for the project on schedule. Mr. St. John responded to Chairman Giusti's inquiry.

**8. Closed Session:** The Board did not meet in Closed Session.

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

9:00 a.m., Thursday April 7 and

9:00 a.m., Friday April 8, 2022

Online – Zoom Meeting,

Santa Rosa, CA

Meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_