

DRAFT MINUTES OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Utilities Field Operations Training Center
35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, CA
September 8, 2025

Attendees: Chelsea Thompson, City of Petaluma
Matt Fullner, Valley of the Moon Water District
Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa
Tony Williams, North Marin Water District
Craig Scott, City of Cotati
Mike Berger, City of Sonoma
Cristina Goulart, Town of Windsor
Cortney Bowser, City of Rohnert
Lucy Croy, Marin Municipal Water District
Michelle Montoya, City of Santa Rosa

Staff/Alternates: Grant Davis, Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA)
Don Seymour, SCWA
Brian Lee, SCWA
Kent Gylfe, SCWA
David Royall, SCWA
David Manning, SCWA
Oriana Hart, City of Petaluma
Shannon Cotulla, Town of Windsor
Peter Martin, City of Santa Rosa
Claire Nordlie, City of Santa Rosa

Public: Dick Dowd, Business Alliance of Sonoma County
Bob Anderson
Neil Hancock
Phil Sotter

1. Check In
Chair Burke called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
2. Public Comment
No public comment.
3. Water Supply Conditions and Temporary Urgency Change Order
Don Seymour, SCWA, spoke on this topic. Lake Mendocino is currently at 76,000 acre-ft and Lake Sonoma is currently at 235,000 acre-ft. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued an order approving PG&E's flow variance request that was filed in February. With that variance, there has been a decrease in cubic ft per second (csf) diverted into Lake Mendocino from the Eel River from 115 cfs to 25 cfs. Sonoma Water's temporary urgency change order (TUCO) expires on December 23, 2025 and the minimum instream flows will be adjusted on October 1, 2025. The minimum instream flows on the Russian River will increase beginning on October 16, 2025, moving from 125 csf to 150 csf on the upper river and from 70 csf to 125 csf on the lower river.
No public comment.
4. Sonoma Marin Saving Water Partnership
 - a. 2025 Water Production Relative to 2013 Benchmark (See Attachment)
Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa, spoke on this topic.
For the month of July 2025 in comparison to 2013 the partnership is down 25%. The year-to-date shows a 23% decrease.

No public comment.

b. Water Use Efficiency Outreach Messaging (See Attachment)

Brian Lee, SCWA, presented.

Social media outreach featured posts on landscape design templates, Garden Sense, the landscape maintenance manual, and the water smart plant labels. For September, the focus will be on rain water and grey water rebates. The Master Gardeners designed, installed, and staffed the exhibit at this year's Sonoma County Fair, which had more than 700 direct interactions with fair attendees.

No public comment.

5. Sonoma Water Operations Update (See Attachment)

David Royall, SCWA, presented and answered questions regarding the earthquake preparedness drill which will be simulating a 7.2 earthquake on the Rodgers Creek Fault, the Sonoma Water emergency operations center (EOC) drill in October, recent grants that have been awarded including a security grant from Homeland Security which will implement cameras, and detection monitors at various tank sites and lift stations. Mr. Royall also reviewed new security enhancements taking place at various sites and gave updates on the Cotati Tank # 3 improvements and the Wohler-Mirabel repairs near Pier 2.

6. Biological Opinion Status Update (See Attachment)

David Manning, SCWA, presented and answered questions on the Dry Creek enhancement maintenance, the updated fish numbers from recent monitoring, the Russian River estuary being open, and the 2025 Russian River Biological Opinion.

No public comment.

7. Eel Russian Project Authority and Potter Valley Project Update

David Manning, SCWA, presented and answered questions on PG&E's license surrender application, the various presentations that have been given on the Eel Russian Project Authority (ERPA), as well as on the New Eel Russian Facility (NERF). For the Potter Valley Project, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document is being prepared for the decommissioning piece of the project, with the State Board releasing its Notice of Preparation (NOP) around September 15, 2025. Sonoma Water is currently in discussions with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding the scope of work for the \$9 million grant that was awarded to the NERF. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is hoping to award the funds in November.

No public comment.

8. Business Services and External Affairs Division Update

Grant Davis, SCWA, confirmed that Brad Sherwood, SCWA, is out and will give a full report at the next meeting.

No public comment.

9. Items for Next Agenda – October 6, 2025

Grant Davis, SCWA, mentioned that on October 22, 2025 Lake Mendocino will have a formal signing of the Water Control Manual. Mr. Davis gave a brief update on the Advanced Quantitative Precipitation Information (AQPI) program, including that the fifth and final radar is due to be installed at Mount Barnaby in November. This item will be added to the October 6, 2025 TAC agenda.

No public comment.

10. Check Out

Chair Burke adjourned the meeting at 9:39 a.m.