

DRAFT MINUTES OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Utilities Field Operations Training Center
35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, CA
October 6, 2025

Attendees: Chelsea Thompson, City of Petaluma
Matt Fullner, Valley of the Moon Water District
Peter Martin, 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)
Paul Piazza, SCWA
Stuart Tiffan, SCWA
Brad Sherwood, SCWA
Chris Delaney, SCWA
Christian Williams, SCWA
Kent Gylfe, SCWA
David Royall, SCWA
David Manning, SCWA
Oriana Hart, City of Petaluma
Shannon Cotulla, Town of Windsor
Claire Nordlie, City of Santa Rosa

Public: Dick Dowd, Business Alliance of Sonoma County
Brenda Adelman
Bob Anderson
Neil Hancock
Phil Sotter
Vanessa Luna, Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC)
Chad Hedge, City of Santa Rosa

1. Check In
Vice Chair Fullner called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
2. Public Comment
None.
3. Santa Rosa Junior College Water Resources Technology Program Presentation (Attachment)
Vanessa Luna, Dean of Water Resources Technology Program with SRJC, and Chad Hedge, City of Santa Rosa representing the Water Resources Technology Program with SRJC, presented and answered questions on degree and certification options, job placements, agencies where students have been successfully placed, and introduced the Water Resources Technology Program.
No public comment.
4. Recap from the September 8, 2025 TAC Meeting and Approval of Minutes (Attachment)

Motion made by Tony Williams, North Marin Water District, seconded by Peter Martin, City of Santa Rosa. Unanimously approved.

No public comment.

5. **Water Supply Conditions and Temporary Urgency Change Order**

Chris Delaney, SCWA, presented and answered questions on Lake Mendocino, which is currently at 67,000 acre-ft, which is about 5,000 acre-ft more than this time last year. Lake Sonoma is currently at 228,000 acre-ft, which is where it was at this time last year. Increase in flow in the upper Russian River after the recent rainfall. Currently, operating under Temporary Urgency Change Order (Order) issued last June by State Water Control Board. A new Temporary Urgency Change Petition was submitted and is waiting for approval. This will hopefully be approved before the current Order expires at the end of December.

a. **Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual Signing Ceremony, October 22, 2025 from 11 am – 2 pm**

Chris Delaney, SCWA, spoke and answered questions on the upcoming signing of the Lake Mendocino Water Control Manual which codifies forecast informed reservoir operations.

Grant Davis, SCWA, asked that TAC members check in with their WAC members and encourage attendance.

No public comment.

6. **Sonoma Marin Saving Water Partnership**

a. **2024 Water Production Relative to 2013 Benchmark (Attachment)**

Matt Fullner, Valley of the Moon Water District, spoke on this topic.

For the month of August 2025 compared to 2013, the partnership saw a 20% reduction. The year-to-date compared to 2013 is showing a 22% reduction.

b. **Water Use Efficiency Messaging (Attachment)**

Paul Piazza, SCWA, presented and answered questions on the Summer outreach and the transition messaging to Fall including the social media outreach toolkit, social media posts, planting season for California native plants and other low water use plants, and shared partnership resources.

No public comment.

7. **Biological Opinion Status Update (Attachment)**

David Manning, SCWA, spoke and answered questions on the Dry Creek enhancement site maintenance, habitat restoration, fish numbers including the increase in Coho Salmon, the Russian River estuary closing last Thursday which is creating conditions that are most optimal for fish, public policy, and the temporary urgency change petitions that were filed with the State Water Board.

Neil Hancock spoke regarding the Lake Mendocino turbidity and asked what the impact on spawning may be.

8. **Eel Russian Project Authority and Potter Valley Project Update**

David Manning, SCWA, spoke and answered questions on the planning for the New Eel Russian Facility (NERF), State Water Board California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping meetings being held this month related to PG&E's decommissioning activities, a contract for CEQA compliance for the NERF going to the Sonoma Water board on December 16, 2025, and negotiations with PG&E and the Eel Russian Project Authority (ERPA) on the asset transfer which will be confidential and may take a few years. For funding, California Fish and Wildlife has a pre-proposal from ERPA to show intended use of the \$9 million and is waiting to receive feedback. Also, Prop 4 has \$5.5 million identified

for Potter Valley dam removal and habitat restoration. For the design of the Eel Russian facility, the 60% design is moving forward, however, with government shutdown, grant funds may take a little longer to receive. Looking for a date in December for another ERPA board meeting.

No public comment.

9. **Business Services and External Affairs Division Update**

Brad Sherwood, SCWA, spoke on the budget which is currently on track including deliveries and sales, budget team coming to WAC/TAC in November to speak on close out of last fiscal year. On the HR side, recruitment will be going out for Lynne Rosselli's position which will now be called the Manager of Fiscal Services, this person will manage the 8 enterprise budgets. The goal is to fill before Lynne retires. For Community Engagement and Employee Engagement, October 22 is the FIRO event at Lake Mendocino. Held winter forecast webinar last week and the recording is available on website. Over 100 participants, including participants from D.C who work on various authorization committees. Water Education department is back out in the field now that school is back in session. On the IT side, October is cyber security month and a SCADA penetration test has been completed. There will be a new item in budget for annual penetration testing of the cybersecurity system. This week is Water Professionals Appreciation Week. Preparing for annual capital improvement projects (CIP) and operations and maintenance (O&M) update to water contractors Boards and Councils in January and February. The D.C. team is following the current government shutdown. The Army Corps at local facilities have funding to keep facilities staffed as is for at least three months.

No public comment.

10. **Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) Advanced Quantitative Precipitation Information (AQPI) Update and Ceremony**

Grant Davis, SCWA, spoke on \$100 million dollars available through Prop 4 for this pilot program. Hope is that the state will continue to fund the program. North Coast Resource Partnership will be meeting on October 16 and 17 in Yreka. The goal is to have finalized document by April of 2026. AQPI's biggest hurdle is about to be complete, with the final C-Ban radar being set up on Mount Barnabe. Will host a celebration in December or January.

No public comment.

11. **WAC Statement of Interests Regarding New Eel Russian Facility (NERF) (Attachment)**

Matt Fullner, Valley of the Moon Water District, spoke and answered questions on the WAC statement of interests regarding NERF.

- a. **Consider Recommendation of WAC Statement of Interests Regarding NERF**
Motion made by Cortney Bowser, City of Rohnert Park, seconded by Cristina Goulart, Town of Windsor to approve the WAC Statement of Interests Regarding NERF with non-substantive changes. Unanimously approved.

Neil Hancock suggested that for Item 6 be changed to "Portfolio of Water Supply Resilience Solutions".

12. **Items for Next Agenda – November 3, 2025**

None.

13. **Check Out**

Vice Chair Fullner adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.