

DRAFT* MINUTES OF THE WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AND
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
Utilities Field Operations Training Center
35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, CA
May 4, 2026

Attendees: Dan Herrera, City of Petaluma
Janice Cader Thompson, City of Petaluma
Matt Fullner, Valley of The Moon Water District
Jon Foreman, Valley of the Moon Water District
Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa
Natalie Rogers, City of Santa Rosa
Tony Williams, North Marin Water District
Jack Baker, North Marin Water District
Syliva Lemas, City of Cotati
Ron Wellander, City of Sonoma
Mike Berger, City of Sonoma
Sam Salmon, Town of Windsor
Cristina Goulart, Town of Windsor
Emily Sanborn, City of Rohnert Park
Cortney Bowser, City of Rohnert Park
Lucy Croy, Marin Municipal Water District
Ranjiv Khush, Marin Municipal Water District
Michelle Montoya, City of Santa Rosa

Staff/Alternates: Grant Davis, Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA)
David Rabbitt, Sonoma County
Brad Sherwood, SCWA
Jessica Martini-Lamb, SCWA
Cynthia de la Fuente, SCWA
David Royall, SCWA
Kent Gylfe, SCWA
Paul Piazza, SCWA
Jake Spaulding, SCWA
Mitch Pearson, City of Rohnert Park
Shannon Coutulla, Town of Windsor
Larry Russell, Marin Water
Peter Martin, City of Santa Rosa
Claire Nordlie, City of Santa Rosa
Elise Miller, City of Santa Rosa

Public: Brenda Adelman, Russin River Protection Water Shed
Neil Hancock
Tom Yarish
Brad Hecht, CEO
Bob Anderson

1. Check In
Chair Foreman called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.
2. Public Comment
None.
3. Brenda Adelman Proclamation

Chair Foreman read aloud the proclamation for Brenda Adelman.
Brenda Adelman spoke regarding her time with the Russian River Watershed Protection.

No public comments.

4. Recap from the April 6, 2026 WAC/TAC Meeting and Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Janice Cader Thompson, City of Petaluma, seconded by Natalie Rogers, City of Santa, Rosa. Unanimously approved.

No public comments.

5. Water Supply Coordination Council – April 20, 2026
Chair Foreman stated the Water Coordination Council meet on April 20, 2026 and prepared today's agenda.

No public comments.

6. Water Supply Conditions and Temporary Urgency Change Order
Don Seymour, SCWA, spoke and answered questions on Lake Mendocino currently being at 84,600 acre-ft which puts the Russian River watershed into dry conditions, and brings minimum flows to 75 cfs (cubic feet per second) on the upper Russian River and 85 cfs on the lower Russian River. Lake Sonoma is currently at 264,000 acre-ft, which is about the same level as 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Brenda Adelman spoke regarding her research showing that we are at 96% of normal rainfall for the year and asked how that translates into there not being enough water in Lake Mendocino to give us normal flows in the Russian River.

Don Seymour, SCWA, also shared that Sonoma Water is currently operating the Russian River releases under December's temporary urgency change order.

7. Sonoma Marin Saving Water Partnership (TAC)
 - a. 2026 Water Production Relative to 2013 Benchmark
For the month of March 2026 compared to 2013, the partnership saw a 6% reduction and the year-to-date compared to 2013 saw a 15% reduction.

Brenda Adelman spoke regarding contractor's review chart out of date and would like it updated.

- b. Water Use Efficiency Outreach Messaging
Paul Piazza, SCWA, spoke on the Russian River friendly landscape symposium, the dye tab challenge, Fix-a-Leak-Week, the spring and summer rebate campaigns, the eco-friendly garden tour, and the partnership resources.

No public comments.

8. Sonoma Water Operations Update
David Royall, SCWA, presented on tank maintenance and recoating, Caisson 5-pump 10 replacement, the Occidental Road well, emergency inventory, and tank security cameras.

No public comments.

9. Biological Opinion Status Update
Jessica Martini-Lamb, SCWA, spoke regarding applications still under review for the Dry Creek habitat enhancement project. Once applications are approved, maintenance work can move forward. Also, spoke regarding spawner season ending,

Neil Hancock spoke regarding Lagunitas Creek and Navarro River.

10. Eel Russian Project Authority and Potter Valley Project Update

Don Seymour, SCWA, spoke regarding a grant received from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for \$9 million for the Eel Russian Project Authority (ERPA) and \$9 million for restoration efforts which will be used for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process and taking the 60% design for the New Eel Russian Facility (NERF) to 95%, then to 100%.

Director Rabbitt spoke regarding monitoring the situation with Lake Elsinore.

No public comments.

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

Brad Sherwood spoke regarding the Potter Valley Project and noted that SCWA's D.C. lobbyist is doing everything she can to get the project federal funding, Subseasonal to Seasonal Coalition that is working towards getting \$15 million appropriated for a western pilot, and on the state side, spoke regarding the most recent Sacramento lobby day. Shared some Sonoma Water staffing updates.

No public comments.

12. **Integrated Regional Water Management Plan(s) Update**

Grant Davis, SCWA, spoke regarding the Water Plan 2028 kickoff and gave an update from the North Coast Resource Partnership meeting in April.

No public comments.

13. **Items for Next Agenda (next combined WAC/TAC meeting is August 3, 2026)**

None.

14. **Check Out**

Chair Foreman adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.