

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
August 3, 2026

Attendees: Chelsea Thompson, City of Petaluma
Janice Cader Thompson, City of Petaluma
Amanda Hudson, 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
Laura Sparks, City of Cotati
Craig Scott, 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
Larry Russell, Marin Municipal Water District
Paul Sellier, 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
David Manning, SCWA
David Royall, SCWA
Kent Gylfe, SCWA
Mato Maso, SCWA
Paul Piazza, SCWA
Mitch Pearson, City of Rohnert Park
Peter Martin, City of Santa Rosa
Claire Nordlie, City of Santa Rosa

Public: Neil Hancock
Bob Anderson
Martha Davis
Brad Hecht, CEO

1. Check In
Chair Foreman called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
2. Public Comment
None.
3. WAC Proclamation – Grant Davis
Chair Foreman read aloud the proclamation for Grant Davis, SCWA.
Grant Davis spoke about his time with Sonoma Water.
WAC and TAC members spoke about Mr. Davis' time with Sonoma Water.
Neil Hancock thanked Mr. Davis for his work affecting Cotati.

4. Recap from the May 4, 2026 WAC/TAC Meeting and Approval of Minutes
Moved by Janice Cader Thompson, City of Petaluma, seconded by Natalie Rogers, City of Santa Rosa. Unanimously approved.
5. Recap from the July 6, 2026 TAC Meeting and Approval of Minutes (TAC)
Moved by Tony Williams, North Marin Water District, seconded by Cortney Bowser, City of Rohnert Park. Unanimously approved with Valley of the moon abstaining.
6. Water Supply Coordination Council – July 21, 2026
Chair Foreman announced that the Water Supply Coordination Council met on July 21, 2026 and set today's agenda.
7. Water Supply Conditions and Temporary Urgency Change Order
Kent Gylfe, SCWA, spoke regarding Lake Mendocino current storage at 72,400 acre-ft with current releases at 150 cubic feet per second (cfs). Lake Sonoma is at 247,100 acre-ft of storage, with current releases at 124 cfs. The Army Corps. is still in control of releases, however, the change of control back to Sonoma Water may happen within the next week. Current minimum instream flow release into the east fork of the Russian River is 25 cfs. Based on June 1, 2026 storage levels, conditions are dry, with the minimum instream flows for the upper Russian River at 75 cfs and 85 cfs for the lower Russian River.
No public comment.
8. Sonoma Marin Saving Water Partnership (TAC)
 - a. 2026 Water Production Relative to 2013 Benchmark
For the month of June 2026 compared to 2013, the partnership saw an 18% reduction and the year-to-date compared to 2013 saw a 21% reduction.
No public comment.
 - b. Water Use Efficiency Outreach Messaging
Paul Piazza, SCWA, presented on the summer campaign which started at the beginning of June and will go through end of September, the social media toolkit, campaign to reduce lawns with Less Lawn, More..., video resources that are available on YouTube, evergreen resources that will be available on the Sonoma Water website, and the landscape exhibit that will be setup outside the Hall of Flowers during the Sonoma County Fair.
9. Biological Opinion Status Update
David Manning, SCWA, spoke and answered questions regarding the summer fish sampling season, fish monitoring, new programs being implemented for the Biological Opinion, and dry creek maintenance and permits.
Neil Hancock asked about the California Department of Wildlife incidental take permit and the reasonings behind why and if certain projects were identified.
10. Eel Russian Project Authority and Potter Valley Project Update
David Manning, SCWA, spoke regarding the Eel Russian Project Authority (ERPA) meeting this Thursday, August 6, 2026 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Chamber and noting it will also be available via livestream. Last month Sonoma Water presented at the Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission meeting regarding the water diversion through the New Eel Russian Facility (NERF) compared to what is currently being diverted through the Potter Valley Project. ERPA received a \$8.7 million dollar grant from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife which brings the grant funding to a total of \$18 million dollars to be used for completing the NERF design and CEQA compliance. CEQA scoping meetings to be held

in December or January. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) released scoping documents for the PG&E Potter Valley Project license surrender and decommissioning project.

Neil Hancock spoke regarding the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD) and their lack of allowing public comment.

11. Business Services and External Affairs Division Update

Brad Sherwood, SCWA, spoke regarding Department of Water Resources (DWR) \$65 million dollar appropriation, Weather Act reauthorization, and the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund. On the state side the Legislature is back in recess, Prop 4 and funding opportunities, and working to keep golden mussels out of lakes. Sonoma Water currently has 266 full-time employees, with a few job openings on the website, and community engagement has lots of events planned over the end of summer through the fall.

No public comment.

12. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan(s) Update

Grant Davis, SCWA, spoke regarding the California Water Plan Update 2028, the North Coast Resource partnership briefing on climate and resilience and the C-band radar that has been placed on Mount Barnabe.

No public comment.

13. Items for Next Agenda (next combined WAC/TAC meeting is November 2, 2026)

None.

14. Check Out

Chair Foreman adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m.