



**Sonoma
Water**

**Zone 2A – Petaluma River Watershed
Flood Protection Zone Advisory Committee Meeting
December 19, 2024**

Meeting Minutes

General notes: This was a regular meeting of the Flood Protection Zone 2A Advisory Committee (Committee). The meeting was held in-person at the City of Petaluma office at 1318 Redwood Way, Suite 120, Petaluma, CA 94954. Chair John Fitzgerald facilitated the meeting and Candace Messner recorded minutes.

Attendees:

- Committee: Bob Martin, Emma Mann, John FitzGerald (Chair), Mike Healy (City of Petaluma) and Paul Efron.
- Board of Supervisors, 2nd District: Supervisor David Rabbit.
- City of Petaluma: Gina Petnic-Benedetti, Oriana Hart, and Pamela Tuft.
- Penngrove Area Plan Advisory Committee: Rick Savel.
- San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI): Scott Dusterhoff.
- Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water): Candace Messner, Carlos Diaz, Chase Takajo, Jon Niehaus, Sasha Ponomareva, and Susan Haydon.
- Sonoma Resource Conservation District: Aaron Fairbrook.
- Public: Alex and Libby.

Absent Committee Member: Craig Jacobsen.

Agenda:

1. **Opening and Introductions.** Chair FitzGerald called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Attendees self-introduced. The Committee quorum was present. Emma Mann and Supervisor Rabbitt joined the meeting after self-introductions.
2. **Public Comment on Agenda Items.** None stated.
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes.** The Committee approved the minutes of the August 29, 2024 meeting as submitted.
4. **Sediment Solutions, Lower Adobe Creek Restoration Vision.** Scott Dusterhoff presented a draft restoration vision for lower Adobe Creek and draft analysis of watershed sediment dynamics. The presentation was discussed by attendees and the slides are on file.
5. **Reports and Comments.**
 - a. Carlos Diaz reported on the completion of the Washington Creek Emergency Bank Repair Project. The report was discussed by attendees.
 - b. Sasha Ponomareva reported on the Countywide Flood Risk Management Assessment Project findings and final report. The report was briefly discussed by attendees.
 - c. Gina Petnic-Benedetti, Oriana Hart, and Pamela Tuft reported on the status of the City of Petaluma's Redwood Business Park Detention Basin plan, developing Stream

Maintenance Program, and ongoing floodplain administration and National Flood Insurance Program CRS (Community Rating System) coordination duties, including efforts towards certification as a Class 5 community. They also reported on the City's and Sonoma Water's joint effort to coordinate more closely on flood protection projects and studies moving forward. The report was discussed by attendees.

- d. Emma Mann reported on recent flooding in Penngrove, CA. The report was discussed by attendees.
 - e. Bob Martin, Gina Petnic-Benedetti, and Carlos Diaz commented on available forecasting flood information systems including the Rivercast™ application for smart devices, City of Petaluma's stream and rain gauges data website (<https://cityofpetaluma.org/flood-alert-info/>), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Water Prediction Service (<https://water.noaa.gov/>) and Sonoma Water's real-time rainfall, river-stream and reservoir data website (<https://sonoma.onerain.com>).
 - f. Mike Healy commented on his Committee re-appointment [as a community representative] and requested the specific dates for the 2025 Committee meetings.
6. **Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Flood Control Budget.** Chase Takajo and Carlos Diaz presented the recommended fiscal year 2025/2026 flood control budget and summarized the purpose and status of each budgeted item. The budget was discussed by attendees. **Action:** the Committee approved the recommended budget for fiscal year 2025/2026 as presented. The presented budget is on file.
7. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:**
- a. Supervisor Rabbitt presented Chair FitzGerald with a Gold Resolution recognizing his over 36 years of community service. A discussion followed and attendees thanked Chair FitzGerald for his community service.
 - b. Rick Savel requested a public presentation of watershed flooding dynamics and history. Committee members and attendees expressed interest in these topics.
8. **Closing.** Chase Takajo and Chair FitzGerald gave closing comments. Chair Fitzgerald adjourned the meeting at 2:59 p.m.