



**Zone 3A – Sonoma Creek Watershed
Flood Control Advisory Committee Meeting
December 9, 2021, 1:00 p.m.**

Meeting Minutes

General notes: The meeting was held virtually on Zoom. The meeting was facilitated by Chase Takajo. Meeting minutes were recorded by Candace Messner.

Public notice and the meeting agenda was posted at the following locations and dates:

- Sonoma County Clerk-Recorder on December 2, 2021;
- Sonoma Water’s website on December 2, 2021;
- Valley of the Moon Water District lobby on December 2, 2021;
- Press Democrat newspaper on December 4, 2021;
- Sonoma Index Tribune on December 7, 2021; and
- Sonoma Water’s Facebook and Instagram platforms on December 8, 2021.

Attendees:

- Zone 3A Flood Control Advisory Committee (Committee): Colleen Ferguson, John Meserve, Laurie Glover, Nicholas Babb, Nicki Arteries, and Phil Busalacchi.
- City of Sonoma: Erica Warren and Oriana Hart.
- Sonoma Ecology Center: Barry Hill and Steven Lee.
- Sonoma Water: Aaron Fulton, Candace Messner, Carlos Diaz, Chase Takajo, Dave Cook, Jon Niehaus, Kent Gylfe, and Michael Thompson (joined late).
- Members of public: Bill Wilson and Bill Montini.

Agenda:

1. **Opening/Introductions.** Meeting commenced at 1:03 p.m. Participants were self-introduced.
2. **Public Comment.** None.
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes.** Colleen Ferguson motioned to approve the November 19, 2020 Committee meeting minutes whereas the spelling of Phil Busalacchi’s name is corrected; John Meserve seconded and the motion carried.
4. **Fryer Creek Beaver Impact Analysis.** Informational presentation by Dave Cook providing an overview of beaver ecology and history in California; recent beaver activity observed along Fryer Creek in Sonoma; and the results of Sonoma Water’s evaluation of potential flood risks and designs for managing the beaver activity while maintaining designed flood capacity in the engineered sections of creek.

5. **Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) Projects Update.** Informational presentations were given by Barry Hill and Steven Lee providing an overview and updates for SEC's creek debris and trash removal work; Nathanson Creek habitat restoration and erosion control projects; and feasibility and planning studies for upper Nathanson Creek storm water management and upper Sonoma Creek gravel translocation.
6. **Sonoma Water's Sonoma Valley Hydrology & Hydraulics Modeling.** Informational presentation given by Carlos Diaz providing an overview and updates for the Sonoma Creek watershed hydrologic and hydraulic modeling project including objectives, methods, preliminary results, and next steps.
7. **Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) Update.** Informational presentation given by Chase Takajo summarizing Sonoma Water's SMP vegetation management and storm debris removal work conducted in 2021.
8. **Fiscal Year 2022/23 Recommended Budget.** Chase Takajo presented the recommended budget, providing overview and explanation of budget categories and requests. Committee members requested additional information for on-going discretionary flood protection projects/studies that facilitates budget review, provides the initial amount budgeted, project history, and clarifies when objectives and spending targets are met or missed. **Actions:** 1) Sonoma Water will prepare supplemental information to facilitate review of discretionary project budgets by the Committee, as feasible and for the next annual budget review meeting; and 2) Nicki Arteries motioned to approve the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2022/23 as submitted; John Meserve seconded and the motion carried.
9. **Public Comment.** None.
10. **Next Meeting.** Annual. To be announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.