



**Zone 2A – Petaluma River Watershed
Flood Protection Zone Advisory Committee Meeting
September 28, 2023**

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's Office at 202 North McDowell Boulevard, Petaluma, CA 94954. Chair Edwin Orrett led and Chase Takajo facilitated the meeting. Candace Messner recorded minutes.

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

- Sonoma Water's website on September 18, 2023,
- Sonoma County Clerk-Recorder on September 18, 2023,
- Press Democrat newspaper on September 19, 2023, and
- Petaluma Argus-Courier newspaper on September 22, 2023.

Attendees:

- Committee: Bob Martin, Edwin Orrett, Gina Benedetti-Petnic (City of Petaluma alternate for Councilmember Mike Healy), and John FitzGerald.
- Sonoma Water: Candace Messner, Carlos Diaz, Chase Takajo, Kent Gylfe, and Sasha Ponomareva.
- San Francisco Estuary Institute: Ellen Plane and Scott Dusterhoff.
- Friends of the Petaluma River: Stephanie Bastianon.
- 1st Supervisorial District: Hannah Whitman.
- Public: Emma Mann and Rick Savel.

Absent Committee Members: Craig Jacobsen and Paul Efron.

Agenda:

1. **Opening/Introductions.** Chair Orrett called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Attendees self-introduced. The Committee quorum was present. Chair Orrett announced his plan to resign from the Committee and the December 2023 meeting would be his last.



2. **Public Comment on Agenda Items.** Public comment was given regarding agenda item #3 (approval of meeting minutes).
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes.** The Committee approved the minutes of the December 15, 2022 meeting providing the Sonoma Water attendees list is verified and amended as needed to ensure accuracy.
4. **Sediment Solutions Project.** Informational. Scott Dusterhoff presented a project overview. The presentation materials are on file.
5. **Petaluma River Baylands Strategy Project.** Informational. Ellen Plane presented a project overview. The presentation materials are on file.
6. **Friends of the Petaluma River (FOTPR) Update.** Informational. Stephanie Bastianon presented a summary of FOTPR's 2023 activities. The presentation materials are on file.
7. **Reports and Comments.**
 - Gina Benedetti-Petnic gave an update regarding the status of the City of Petaluma's project to develop updated floodplain maps and a sea level rise scenario. Draft maps are available on the City's website.
 - Kent Gylfe gave an update regarding the status of Sonoma Water's Coyote Family Farm Detention Basin Project. A basin in this location is not looking favorable.
 - Chase Takajo summarized Sonoma Water's sediment and vegetation management activities completed and still planned along Lichau Creek for flood control from June 15 to October 31, 2023.
8. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items.** Rick Savel gave comments in regards to creek flows and flooding during winter 2022-23 storms and presented related photographs. The photographs are on file. Emma Mann gave comments regarding the flooding of businesses in downtown Penngrove during winter storms and related losses. Emma also gave comments regarding the Upper Copeland and Lichau creeks assessment and the potential stormwater capture basin at Coyote Family Farm.
9. **Next Meeting and Adjourn.** The next meeting is planned for December 2023; the date and time are to be announced. Chair Orrett adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.