

May 29, 2012

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Novato Sanitary District was held at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 29, 2012, at the District Office, 500 Davidson Street, Novato.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President William C. Long, Members Michael Di Giorgio, Jean Mariani, Jerry Peters, and Dennis Welsh.

STAFF PRESENT: Deputy Manager-Engineer Sandeep Karkal and Administrative Secretary Julie Swoboda. Manager-Engineer-Secretary Beverly B. James was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: John Bailey, Project Manager, Veolia Water  
Dee Johnson, Household Hazardous Waste Manager  
Bob Guinan, Novato resident  
Jamie Erze, Novato resident

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

AGENDA APPROVAL: The agenda was approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Consider approval of minutes of the May 14, 2012 meeting.

*On motion of Member Di Giorgio, seconded by Member Peters, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the May 14, 2012 Board meeting were approved.*

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Member Welsh requested item *b: Consider approval of a temporary discharge permit for Firemen's Fund*, be removed from the Consent Calendar for further discussion.

Member Welsh discussed the proposed temporary discharge permit and expressed his concern over the volume of water to be discharged. He stated that the 1.2 million gallons of water being discharged at a rate of 100 gallons per minute may overwhelm the treatment facility's operations. He also expressed his concern regarding the 9.7 pH level of the discharge and felt it may adversely affect the collection system sewer pipes.

The Deputy Manager-Engineer stated that the applicant had requested a pH upper limit relief. He noted that the District has previously allowed relief to other non-domestic dischargers, that it was consistent with the District's Sewer Use Ordinance, Federal pretreatment regulations, and that higher pH values are of less concern to sewer pipes than low pH values. The Deputy Manager-Engineer also stated that the volume of water

should not impact the treatment facility. He noted that the District's average flow is about 4 million gallons per day (mgd), that the nighttime low or minimum flow is about 2 mgd or about 1,400 gallons per minute (gpm), and that a flow of 100 gpm into 1,400 gpm is not a cause for concern.

*On motion of Member Welsh, seconded by Member Mariani and carried unanimously, the Board approved issuance of a one-time, temporary, Class I non-domestic discharge permit on the site of Firemen's Fund property with the following conditions:*

- 1. The total discharge shall not exceed 1.2 million gallons;*
- 2. The discharger shall not exceed a maximum discharge rate of 100 gpm;*
- 3. Setting an upper limit of 10.5 s.u. on the discharge;*
- 4. The discharger is required to have a 45 micron sediment filter on its discharge.*

The Board discussed the remaining items on the Consent Calendar.

*On motion of Member Peters, seconded by Member Di Giorgio and carried unanimously, the following Consent Calendar items were approved:*

- a. Approval of Agreement for Temporary Sanitary Sewer Connection for Novato Fire Protection District.
- c. Approval of regular disbursements in the amount of \$42,259.42, project account disbursements in the amount of \$84,610.27, and approval of May payroll and payroll related expenses in the amount of \$231,685.88.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Wastewater Operations Committee Report: The Deputy Manager-Engineer discussed the Wastewater Operations Committee meeting which was held on May 15, 2012 at the District office. He gave an overview of the April 2012 Operations Report as prepared by Veolia Water. He discussed the key events for the period and summarized the treatment facility's flow and operational graphs. He provided an overview of the Collection System Operations and the Reclamation Facilities.

Resident Bob Guinan requested the District investigate installing covers on the aeration basins to help contain the malodors which are being experienced in the Lea Drive neighborhood. He suggested the District consider the Tiburon Sanitary District as a model because they effectively use covers on their aeration basins to control odors. Mr. Guinan expressed his concern that the proposed vegetation will take three to five years to mature enough to determine effectiveness for odor control. He stated the neighbors are concerned that the odor issue may not be addressed effectively and in a timely manner.

Resident James Erze stated that the District has demonstrated dedication to relieve the neighborhood of the treatment plant odors. He discussed periods that were odor free and stated he was encouraged. However, he noted that he had detected odors on a recent occasion.

John Bailey, Veolia Water, discussed the recent odor incident referred to by Mr. Erze and noted that the odors may have been a result of prevailing air patterns at the time. He noted that in accordance with the original design of the odor control system, one fan was operating at the time of the odor complaint. He stated the facility began to operate both fans in response to Mr. Erze's concern, and to address any issues with the odor control system arising from the air patterns on that occasion.

Member Welsh requested the Lea Drive neighbors be consulted prior to the placement of any additional landscaping and stated the neighbors should have full input on the proposed vegetation. President Long stated that at every step, the neighbors should have the opportunity to review and provide input on the odor screening planting.

- Solid Waste Committee report: The Deputy Manager-Engineer noted that Board Members Mariani and Peters are Solid Waste Committee members and that they attended the May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting which was held at the District.

Member Mariani reported on her attendance at the Solid Waste Committee meeting, stating that she was pleased to learn that smaller waste receptacles were increasing in use. She noted that she was pleased with Novato Disposal's outreach efforts.

Member Peters reported on his attendance at the meeting and stated he was pleased with the effectiveness of the recent E-Waste event.

Dee Johnson, Household Hazardous Waste Manager, discussed the proposed 2012/13 AB939, Zero Waste and Hazardous Waste Programs Budget. She stated that overall expenditures were flat and noted that the permanent HHW Facility and E-Waste event costs were reduced. She discussed the AB939 and Zero Waste Programs. Ms. Johnson reviewed the Zero Waste Program calendar/timetable and discussed the completion of various objectives.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Consider approval of a letter of support for Governor Brown's pension reform proposals: The Deputy Manager-Engineer gave an overview of the draft letter prepared for Assembly Member Jared Huffman in support of Governor Brown's Twelve Point Pension Reform Plan.

*On motion of Member Di Giorgio, seconded by Member Peters and carried unanimously, the Board approved the letter of support for Governor Brown's pension reform proposal and authorized the Manager to prepare the letter for signature and mailing.*

- Presidential appointment of Ad Hoc Labor Negotiations Committee: The Deputy Manager-Engineer requested that President Long appoint an Ad Hoc Labor Negotiations Committee to participate in upcoming discussions with the District's represented employees group. President Long appointed Member Di Giorgio and Member Peters to the Ad Hoc Labor Negotiations Committee. Both members accepted.

PUMP STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT 72403:

- Consider making CEQA findings, approving plans and specifications and authorizing advertising for bids for Pump Station Rehabilitation Project Unit 4. The Deputy Manager-Engineer gave an overview of the pump station rehabilitation project noting that this is the fourth project unit in which the District is replacing existing small dry pit/wet pit underground pump stations with submersible pump stations. He noted that staff has completed California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation and determined that the project is categorically exempt. He requested the Board authorize making CEQA findings, approve the plans and specifications, and authorize the advertising for bids.

*On motion of Member Peters, seconded by Member Di Giorgio and carried unanimously, the Board authorized making CEQA findings, approved the plans and specifications, and authorized advertising for bids for the Pump Station Rehabilitation Project, Unit 4.*

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

- North Bay Water Reuse Authority (NBWRA). President Long reported on his attendance at the NBWRA meeting which was held on Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at the District office.

- Marin Conservation League Committee meeting. President Long and Deputy Manager-Engineer Sandeep Karkal discussed their attendance at the Marin Conservation League Committee meeting on May 24<sup>th</sup>. They reported that the topic of discussion was "Pipes, Pollutants, and the Peril of Ignoring Our Sewage Systems".

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, President Long adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandeep Karkal  
Deputy Manager-Engineer

Julie Swoboda, Recording