

January 12, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Novato Sanitary District was held at 4:30 p.m., Monday, January 12, 2009, at the District Office, 500 Davidson Street, Novato.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Michael Di Giorgio, Members James D. Fritz, William C. Long and George C. Quesada.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Arthur T. Knutson.

STAFF PRESENT: Manager-Engineer-Secretary Beverly B. James, Deputy Manager-Engineer Sandeep Karkal, and Administrative Services Manager June Brown.

ALSO PRESENT: John Larson, Larson Consulting
Martin Rauch, Rauch Communications
Sam Renati, former Board Member

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

AGENDA APPROVAL: *On motion of Member Quesada, seconded by Member Fritz, and unanimously carried by those Members present, the agenda was approved as mailed.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

President Di Giorgio reported he had recently attended a meeting of the Novato Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee. Whole Foods is continuing with their downtown Novato project. The condominiums will be completed by spring and by spring of the following year Whole Foods will be moving in.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Consider approval of minutes of the December 22, 2008 meeting: *On motion of Member Quesada, seconded by Member Long, and unanimously carried by those Members present, minutes of the December 22nd meeting were approved.*

CONSENT CALENDAR: *On motion of Member Quesada, seconded by Member Long, and unanimously carried by those Members present, the following consent calendar items were approved:*

- a. Approval of budget amendment of \$49,367.00 for account #66070 – Insurance.
- b. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2997** accepting Grant of Easement from BPG Development, LLC – Hamilton Landing, Hangar 8.

- c. Approval of regular disbursements in the amount of \$470,020.39, upgrade project disbursements in the amount of \$2,006,435.44, and director disbursements in the amount of \$1,969.49.

NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION:

- Report from North Bay Watershed Association Lateral Committee: The Manager reported that the District is participating with other agencies to develop a model ordinance for sewer lateral repair. Consultants on the project are John Larson, Larson Consulting, and Martin Rauch, Rauch Communications.

Mr. Larson and Mr. Rauch gave a Power Point presentation of a model lateral rehabilitation program. The presentation included:

- ◆ Definition of terms.
- ◆ Description of sewer system.
- ◆ Novato Sanitary District's sewer system. It was noted that 45% of laterals in the District were installed before 1959 and are prone to infiltration due to joint failure over time because of the nature of the pipe material used.
- ◆ Current Novato Sanitary District approach to laterals.
- ◆ What other agencies are doing.
- ◆ Novato Sanitary District lateral options.
- ◆ Private ownership – education. Estimated annual cost = \$150,000.
- ◆ Private ownership – inspection program. Estimated annual cost = \$180,000.
- ◆ Public ownership – lower lateral. Estimated annual cost = \$7,500,000.
- ◆ Public ownership – upper and lower lateral. Estimated annual cost = \$13,000,000.
- ◆ Potential elements of lateral programs.
- ◆ Inspection triggers.
- ◆ Testing and quality assurance.
- ◆ Pipe Assessment and Certification Program (PACP) – repair/rehabilitation triggers.
- ◆ Cost impact of passing criteria.
- ◆ Rating the options.
- ◆ Staff, equipment, and cost impacts.

If private lateral ownership is maintained and a lateral inspection program adopted, a grading system would be used to determine condition and rehabilitation schedule. In response to a question from the Board, Mr. Larson explained that inspections would be triggered at change of service or permit issuance for property remodels.

Board Members indicated that, although they are in favor of a grading system for repair and rehabilitation triggers, they are not in favor of initiating a financially prohibitive program at this time unless it's mandated.

Mr. Rauch explained that at this point the focus would be on public outreach to raise citizen awareness of the problem, leading to later initiation of a program to resolve the problem of failing laterals. The Board agreed that the program needs to be approached slowly.

The Manager indicated that more information will be provided about targeted outreach to particular areas and more general outreach to the community in general.

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT:

This item was taken out of order to include participation by John Larson and Martin Rauch.

- Consider approval of pilot private lateral repair incentive program: The Manager reported that, as part of the Settlement Agreement with Northern California Riverwatch, the District agreed to undertake a Supplemental Environmental Program (SEP) that would provide \$50,000 in grants or loans for private lateral inspection and repair. The District is required to submit a description of the program to Riverwatch by January 16, 2009. The Manager presented the proposed SEP which has been reviewed by legal counsel and by the District's Ad Hoc Collection System Committee. The program would provide grants up to \$1,500, or 50 percent of the cost of lateral repair, to properties along the planned District sewer repair projects in sub-basin 2 which has some of the highest infiltration/inflow in the District and has experienced sewer system overflows during past rainstorms.

On motion of Member Long, seconded by Member Quesada, and unanimously carried by those Members present, the Board approved the pilot private lateral repair incentive program as presented.

Mr. Larson and Mr. Rauch left the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

MARIN COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL:

- Consider authorization to participate in Novato Creek Watershed Program: Member Long declared a conflict of interest and recused himself from the meeting during discussion of this item.

The Manager reported that the District has been invited by the County of Marin to participate in a Novato Watershed Program as part of the Marin County Department of Public Works' Watershed Program. The goal of the program is to integrate flood protection, environmental restoration and economically sustainable practices in partnership with the Novato Sanitary District, North Marin Water District, and the City of Novato to protect and enhance Marin's watersheds. A detailed report of the program, in the form of a letter from the Marin County Public Works Director, Farhad Mansorian, was provided to the Board with the agenda package. The County recommends that the District Board of Directors accept the report regarding the implementation of a Novato Watershed Program, and authorize participation with a cost to the District not to exceed \$100,000.

If the Board approves participation in the program, the Manager proposed a funding level of \$20,000 based on the District's area of interest which is the Reclamation Facility. After some discussion, this was increased to \$30,000 because of water quality issues in the watershed area and the realization that the District has more at stake than the Reclamation area. The Manager pointed out that funding for this program is not included in the 2008-09 budget but could be included in the 2009-10 budget.

On motion of Member Fritz, seconded by Member Quesada and unanimously carried by those Members present, the Board accepted the report regarding the implementation of a Novato Watershed Program and authorized participation in the amount of \$30,000.

Board Member Long returned to the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

PRETREATMENT:

The Deputy Manager-Engineer reported on requests from the Buck Institute, The Dye Guy, and NorCal Dyeworks to renew their current discharge permits with an upper pH limit relief of pH 10.5 instead of 8.5. The District has granted a similar variance to BioMarin and Section 207 of the District's Sanitary Code provides for variances on a case-by-case basis. Staff sees no issues in granting the requested relief and recommends that the Board approve an upper pH limit of 10.5 in the discharge permits for the Buck Institute, The Dye Guy, and NorCal Dyeworks.

Resolution No. 2998 - Approve application and adopt Resolution setting the revised pH limits for the Buck Institute: On motion of Member Long, seconded by Member Fritz and unanimously carried by those Members present, Resolution No. 2998, "A Resolution Approving Relief on pH Limits, and Setting Revised pH Limits and Time Limitations for Buck Institute, 8001 Redwood Blvd., Novato" was granted.

Resolution No. 2999 - Approve application and adopt Resolution setting the revised pH limits for The Dye Guy: On motion of Member Long, seconded by Member Fritz and unanimously carried by those Members present, Resolution No. 2999, "A Resolution Approving Relief on pH Limits, and Setting Revised pH Limits and Time Limitations for The Dye Guy, 46 Digital Drive, #3, Novato" was granted.

Resolution No. 3000 - Approve application and adopt Resolution setting the revised pH limits for NorCal Dyeworks: On motion of Member Long, seconded by Member Fritz and unanimously carried by those Members present, Resolution No. 2999, "A Resolution Approving Relief on pH Limits, and Setting Revised pH Limits and Time Limitations for NorCal Dyeworks, 46 Digital Drive, #4, Novato" was granted.

STAFF REPORTS

- North Bay Watershed Association Meeting: The Manager reported on her attendance at the North Bay Watershed Association meeting on January 9th. There was an excellent

presentation on The North Bay Watershed Salmonid Monitoring Program by a member of the Center for Ecosystems Management and Restoration, and a presentation by a member of the Tomales Bay Watershed Council who are considering membership in the North Bay Watershed Association. The next meeting will be in Petaluma on February 6th and will include a presentation on the North Bay Water Reuse Authority EIR.

- Wilson Avenue gas main break: The Manager reported on a gas main break on Wilson Avenue on January 7th. Bay Pacific Pipeline was excavating for a manhole in connection with a District project, and broke a 1-1/2" gas line coming off a 4" gas main. It appears that the gas line location may not have been correctly marked. P.G. & E. and Novato Fire Protection District responded to the emergency.

MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The CASA annual report has been received.
- Some of the solar panels have been stolen from Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District facilities.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, President Di Giorgio adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly B. James
Secretary

June Brown, Recording