



Agenda Date: 2/10/2015

Agenda Placement: 9B

NAPA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Phillip Miller - District Engineer
Napa County Flood Control District

REPORT BY: Richard Thomasser, Watershed and Flood Control Operations Manager - (707)259-8657

SUBJECT: Appointment of District Board Representative to the North Bay Watershed Association

RECOMMENDATION

District Engineer requests discussion regarding ongoing membership in the North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA) and appointment of one District Board representative and one alternate to be the voting member representing the District in the NBWA.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The NBWA is an association of local public entities in the North Bay area that was created to promote stewardship of the North Bay watershed by assisting agencies to work together on water issues that cross traditional boundaries. Member agencies discuss issues of common interest, explore ways to collaborate on regional water projects and share information about projects, regulations and technical issues. The District has been a voting member of the NBWA since 2010. A new voting representative to the NBWA Board is being requested at this time because the previously appointed representative has recently been appointed to represent the Napa Sanitation District on the NBWA Board.

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Staff reports.
2. Public comments.
3. Motion, second, discussion and vote on the item.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The NBWA was created in 2000 via a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between several North Bay local government entities to facilitate partnerships and promote stewardship of the North San Pablo Bay watershed resources. The stated goals of the organization are:

- | Bring together local agencies to work cooperatively and effectively on issues of common interest;
- | Be proactive on watershed-based regulation, which increasingly affects areas beyond traditional political boundaries;
- | Work cooperatively to increase eligibility for watershed-based funding;
- | Maximize effective use of resources;
- | Enhance the NBWA's influence on local, State and federal policies and programs; and
- | Educate communities about the importance of watershed stewardship.

Prior to 2010 the only local entity that was a voting member of the NBWA was the Napa Sanitation District. At the County Board of Supervisors meeting, inquiries were made as to Napa County's possible membership in the NBWA. As a result, the County Executive Officer requested County staff investigate membership possibilities and obtain a recommendation from the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Board on the matter. Subsequently, staff has met with County management and executive staff of the NBWA. At their June 24, 2010 meeting the WICC Board heard a presentation by Harry Seraydarian, Executive Director of the NBWA, and discussed membership benefits and options with WICC and District staff. Subsequently, the WICC Board recommended to the County Board of Supervisors that the District is the best suited local representative to join the NBWA for the following reasons:

1. The District is currently engaged in IRWMP efforts at the local (county-wide) and regional (Bay Area and Sacramento River) levels.
2. The District's boundaries include the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Napa County.
3. The District's Board of Directors includes members from both the County and the Cities/Town.
4. The District's role and responsibility for flood and stormwater management and water conservation county-wide are key elements in integrated water resource planning and management.
5. Funding for the District's membership in the NBWA has been allocated annually in the District's budget from the District's Watershed Management Assessment Program.
6. Representation by the NBWA in the greater North Bay and San Francisco Bay Region provides the District improved access to grants and other funds/programs that require regional planning and project integration.
7. District membership does not preclude the County or other local entities from joining along with the District at a later date.

The Flood District Board approved the MOU to join the NBWA at the regular meeting of July 13, 2010. On April 16, 2013, the District Board appointed Director Caldwell and Director Inmann to serve as the District's voting member and alternate, respectively. Because Director Caldwell was recently appointed by the Napa Sanitation District Board to be their voting member on the NBWA, a new voting member, and possibly a new alternate, should be appointed by the Flood District Board.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

District Engineer Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Karen Collins