

**Meeting conducted in person at the Monte Rio Community Center**

**In Attendance (listed below)**

<b>Co-chair(s):</b>	Steve Trippe	<b>Regional Water Quality Control Board:</b>	Charles Reed
	Dan Fein	<b>Regional Water Quality Control Board:</b>	Mike Reese
<b>CAG members:</b>	Sarah Yardley	<b>Regional Water Quality Control Board:</b>	Kelsey Cody
	Brian Grant	<b>Sonoma County Ombudsman/CWA:</b>	Michael Makdisi
	Brenda Adelman	<b>Sonoma County CARD:</b>	Barbara Lee
	Steve Mack	<b>Sonoma County D5:</b>	Che Casul
	Rich Holmer	<b>Sonoma Water:</b>	Steve Koldis
		<b>Permit Sonoma:</b>	Nathan Quarles
<b>Absent:</b>	Kyla Brooke		
	Cynthia Strecker		
	Eric Schanz		
	Sophia Grubb (Brelje & Race)		
	Dave Coleman (Brelje & Race)		

**1. Meeting Notes for 8/22/24**

- a. Needs more jokes.
- b. Minutes otherwise approved.

**2. Status Report on Action Items**

- a. CAG Workplan update.
  - i. Keep on the agenda/check in periodically, wait for report to come out, understand what the role of the CAG will be at that point in time.

**3. Discussion Items**

- a. Michael Makdisi's Closing Report.
  - i. Status of ongoing projects and next steps.
    - 1. File storage? Where do Michael's files go?
      - a. Would be difficult to upload everything to a central location.
      - b. County folks would have access to his files.
      - c. Someone at Sonoma County has downloaded everything that was on the google drive. Can't post

things publicly unless it has been remediated for accessibility.

2. Presentation on October 8<sup>th</sup> – mapping study.
  - a. Before the board of supervisors. They may have questions. There will be community engagement after the mapping study is finished.
  - b. Everything is finished, will be published next week.
3. Pathogen Reduction Planning Study
  - a. Project/grant is on hold. Need to identify replacement at the County before this is picked back up.
  - b. Precursor to implementation grants. Can be transitioned into a implementation grant from planning for septic system upgrade funding.
4. Potential for a funding source for a low-interest loan/grant program for OWTS funding.
  - a. Marcus Smart, grants analyst, has been investigating these sources.
  - b. Waterboards does not have stated intended use for grant funds to be used on septic system upgrades.
  - c. Hoping to keep disadvantaged status so that grant eligibility is maintained.
5. IT – Barbara taking over attendance.
6. Number of FAQ sheets have been posted on the website.
7. Climate Action and Resiliency will have the files. Barbara and Che will have file access.
8. Flood Risk Management – Sonoma Water
  - a. Reviewed, gave some comments back. Might be a role for ombudsman in future
9. OWTS-RRR: Talked last January.
10. Climate Action and Resiliency website also contains some information. Hub website will be published next Tuesday.
11. TMDL-wise: there should be some kind of monitoring to determine effectiveness of TMDL implementation.
12. Homeless encampments – began to talk with both Permit Sonoma and Sonoma State.
13. Potter Valley project – Nothing recent, but ombudsman could be involved in the future.
14. Petaluma River TMDL.

15. West County feasibility study – Started communication with both contractors. Not much has happened on Michael's end.
16. Pilot Project:
  - a. Everything has been posted online for the public meeting.
  - b. No lead agency – might be helpful in the future.
    - i. Che can help move this forward in the future, or at least keep the discussions moving along.
  - c. RRCSD fact sheet – put it on the backburner, not got around to it.
  - d. Next step – which alternative is preferred? How do we pick? – idea was to bring it in front of the board for them to weigh in on it. Board presentation is scheduled for January. Use public input to inform presentation to the board.
  - e. CAG comment – information in the report is incomplete and should not be used as a basis for making a decision. Community input can be given, but difficult to get the right perspectives if inadequate information is provided in the study.
  - f. Thought about ways to make the B&R reports available, but currently there is nobody that is available to field the questions/input that would be provided by members of the public.
  - g. The presentation in January – will encompass the alternatives analysis **and** the viewpoints that have been received from the Monte Rio/Villa Grande community. The request to the board is for them to give guidance towards what B&R should do in terms of providing 10% design towards the proposed solution.
- ii. Questions/resolutions from contact with members of the public.
  1. Since May – 1 attendee at office hours. Concerned about cesspool and wanted to connect to sewer.
  2. Also had a phone call about sewer connection.
  3. A few people followed up after the public meeting for links, documents, information.
  4. Will send out one more email to listserv/email list before leaving.

5. Gave Fitch Mountain some information at June meeting.
6. Log of questions available in previous CAG minutes.
7. Common questions – consequences of building permit? Cost? Project in Monte Rio/Villa Grande.
8. Been maintaining CAG website. She will ask appropriate contacts to update website as needed. She is being updated as contact on the website. Also added a blurb about the public meeting. Everything has also been translated into Spanish.

b. Climate Action & Resiliency/Ombudsman Position Update (Barbara).

- i. To provide any available update on ombudsman position-filling, changes to the job, or future presentations before the Board of Supervisors to consider such changes (& how CAG can be involved).
- ii. Deputy County Administrator, Christel Querijero – under who the ombudsman position will report to in the future. Will review Barbara’s thoughts for the position. Generally, takes 2 months to get to a position posting. Hope to post by the end of the calendar year. 6 months would be fast to fill the position. 8-10 is more typical. Deputy County Admin or another analyst will fill CAG/IT representative position after Barbara departs her position in January.
- iii. Barbara also working on a record of where things have left off so that the next ombudsman can have an expeditious start.
- iv. Board will not meet to discuss the future of the ombudsman (as was previously thought). Position will report to Christel.
- v. There are various permanent positions that have been established or reorganized under BOS approval. Climate Action & Resiliency is being restructured.
- vi. CAG should reach out to Christel, introduce, and offer to assist. Barbara has already conveyed the CAG’s willingness to assist with the process, CAG still welcome to reach out.  
Christel.Querijero@sonoma-county.org

c. Communications.

- i. IT sees value in communication strategy.
- ii. How does the IT play into a communication strategy?
  1. MOU needs update, Charles has started on the update.

- iii. Without public support, project won't be successful.
    - 1. Public not only needs to provide input, but needs to be adequately informed so that they can give meaningful feedback
  - iv. Studies are being put on CAG website, Steve K is working on ADA remediation.
  - v. Mike R will update November meeting invite on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday November. Michael Makdisi will update CAG website to reflect this. No meeting in December.
- d. Advocacy and Influence.
- i. Update - contact with Chris Coursey [Correction – should be Chris Rogers] (Steve T., Rich).
    - 1. Wait until the report comes out so that we can talk with some confidence what the probable costs may be.
- e. Consultant's Update.
- i. Alternative's analysis is out for review. Comments due by 10/1. CAG members, see Steve Mack email for comments.
    - 1. Steve Mack sent out an email. Some larger files had to be put in a folder.
    - 2. Give raw comments to Steve.
    - 3. Do we want attributions to specific comments? We did this last time. Will do it this way unless someone wishes to be anonymous.
    - 4. Get them to Steve Mack on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> if possible by close of business.
    - 5. Do we use November CAG meeting for public input? Mike will update invitation. **Or October. October selected as public input meeting.**
  - ii. Public meeting in June did not comprehensively include costs. More outreach would be required to receive informed feedback from the community.

#### 4. Inter-Agency Team Updates

- a. Regional Water Board –
- b. Sonoma Water – Steve Koldis will confirm with B&R that they can be at the October meeting. They may attend virtual.

- c. Permit Sonoma – Permit Sonoma submitted OWTS manual/LAMP to Regional Board for approval.
  - i. Working on establishing OWTS manual technical advisory committee. Need additional input and time to get to certain topics.
  - ii. Sued on current version of well ordinance. Closed session with BoS. PRMD has not received direction on how to respond to court order. Moving forward with status quo. Litigation involves evaluating impacts to public trust resource.
  - iii. FEMA floodway study – have been working with FEMA to resolve outstanding issues. Some people received letters based on the study that FEMA had redone. Floodway/plain boundaries had been adjusted and homeowners were notified.
- d. Sonoma County –
- e. CAG IT Representative –

## **5. Question from the public**

## **6. CAG Member Updates, Announcements**

**Review of Actions** – See Highlights in Minutes (**ACTION**)