

Mendocino County

Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District

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A G E N D A

Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting of Monday, February 7, 2022

Closed Session: 4:45 pm Public Session: 5:45 pm

IN COMPLIANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL 361, THIS MEETING CAN BE VIEWED LIVE VIA ON ZOOM.

Call in: (669) 900-9128

Meeting ID: 811 2748 9402

Passcode: 95482

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81127489402?pwd=aExuS2YwcklQMTljYTVPpRFFjaWdEQOT09>

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Public Expression- See End of Agenda for Information on Public Expression
3. Approval of Agenda *Urgent items added may be discussed immediately as Item 4. Time suggestions to the right of item title.*

CLOSED SESSION (4:50 pm)

4. Information received from participation in Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) joint powers agency closed session that has direct financial or liability implications for RRFC (Gov. Code §54956.96)
Property: PG&E Potter Valley Project. Agency Negotiators: Janet Pauli & Scott Shapiro
Negotiating Parties: IWPC and FERC. Under Negotiation: Price and Terms
5. Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Gov. Code § 54956.9(d) *Significant exposure to litigation: (1 potential case)*
6. (1) Government Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Gov. Code §54957 (General Manager).
(2) Conference with Labor Negotiators: board representative – Board President or HR Consultant, Unrepresented Employee: General Manager

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

7. Oral Recommendation Regarding Proposed Changes to Contract, Salary, and/or Fringe Benefits of General Manager (5:45 pm)
Board will consider approval of General Manager Amended & Restated Employment Agreement including salary and/or fringe benefit changes.
8. Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) Update & Funding Request (5:50 pm)
Board will receive a report and consider financial contribution request relating to Potter Valley Project relicensing.
9. Water Supply Conditions Update and District Response (6:00 PM)
Board will receive report on the developing regional Volunteer Water Conservation Agreement and provide feedback and/or direction to General Manager.
10. Water Resiliency Planning (6:40 PM)
Board will receive report and provide feedback and/or direction to General Manager.

(Continued...)

President
Christopher Watt

Vice President
Alfred White

Treasurer
Matthew Froneberger

Trustee
Tyler Rodrigue

Trustee
John Reardan

REGULAR BUSINESS, INFORMATION AND REPORT ITEMS (6:50 PM)

11. Consent Calendar

- a) Acceptance of the January 2022 Financial Report
- b) Approval of Minutes for the January 10, 2022 Regular Meeting
- c) State of Emergency

Board to reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency and determine by majority vote that (i) The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; and/or (ii) State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing as previously passed in Board Resolution #21-04.

12. Board Member & Committee Reports

13. General Manager Report & Correspondence

14. Direction on Future Agenda Items

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION ITEMS – All agenda items are potential action items unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION – The Board welcomes public participation in its Board meetings. Comments shall include any item not on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction and authority of the District. No action may be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda; however, the Board may direct such items to be placed on the agenda of a future meeting or may request additional information on any such item. The Board may limit testimony to three (3) minutes per person and not more than ten (10) minutes for a particular subject. All items on the agenda are considered action items unless otherwise noted. All times and the order of business are approximate and subject to change.

Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
☞ Water Conservation Improvement District

STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Trustees
From: E. Salomone, General Manager
Meeting: Monday, February 7, 2022
RE: Agenda Item 8: Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC)
Update & Funding Request

The Strategic Plan relevant priorities are to (a) **Secure** by ensuring reliable and available sources of water by continued participation and support in the operations and development of the Potter Valley Project; and (b) **Administer** by ensuring agency financials support plans and goals.

Background

IWPC, a Joint Powers Authority in which MC RRFC & WCID is a member agency, has been in partnership with Sonoma Water Agency, the County of Humboldt, California Trout, Inc. and the Round Valley Indian Tribes in efforts to relicense of the Potter Valley Project since PG&E withdrew from the relicensing process.

IWPC engages consultants and legal counsel to represent Mendocino County interests in the partnership. Historically the five IWPC members contribute \$2,000 per year however, the costs incurred during this unexpected opportunity to relicense the project under local direction led to the agreement of additional member contributions. RRFC has made the following financial contributions:

November 2018:	\$20,000
May 2019:	\$50,000
February 2020:	\$25,000
July 2020:	\$50,000
March 2021:	<u>\$50,000</u>
	\$195,000 Total so far

Discussion

IWPC liaisons, Trustee Reardan and Treasurer Froneberger, will provide an update during the meeting.

At the January 2022 IWPC meeting, members were asked to return to their Boards to discuss an additional \$50,000 contribution each to cover consultant and legal fees through the end of the 2021-22 Fiscal Year.

Action

The Board will discuss the request for funding and provide direction to GM.

***Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
& Water Conservation Improvement District***

STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Trustees
From: E. Salomone, General Manager
Meeting: Monday, February 7, 2022
RE: Agenda Item 9: Water Supply Conditions Update & District Response

The Strategic Plan relevant priorities are: (a) **Secure** (b) **Use** (c) **Advocate** & (d) **Administer** water resources in alignment with the District's Mission Statement to proactively manage the water resources of the upper Russian River for the benefit of the people and environment of Mendocino County.

Overview

Lake Mendocino storage level was on the increase in December but despite some continued inflows, has remained about the same at the end of January at around 42,000 af. This is due both to the lack of precipitation and increased reservoir releases to meet required instream flows. Sonoma Water Agency provided the following:

“Sonoma Water filed a temporary urgency change petition in mid-November to change the hydrologic index from cumulative inflow into Lake Pillsbury to storage thresholds at Lake Mendocino. The State Board issued an order approving our petitions on December 10, 2021. On January 1, 2022 storage in Lake Mendocino was approximately 41,400 acre-feet; this exceeded the storage threshold of 40,000 acre-feet for a *Normal* water supply condition. The corresponding minimum instream flow for a *Normal* water supply condition on the Upper Russian River is 150 cfs. Currently, the controlling compliance point in SW's permits is the confluence of the West and East Forks of the Russian River. With the recession of flows on the West Fork we have had to make several increases in releases from Lake Mendocino to meet the minimum instream flow requirement. On February 1, the water supply condition will be reassessed based on storage in Lake Mendocino. The storage threshold to remain in a *Normal* water supply condition is 59,000 acre feet. So unless we experience a very large storm event prior to February 1, the water supply condition will change to *Dry*. The corresponding minimum instream flow requirement for a *Dry* water supply condition is 75 cfs.”

Reservoir releases began ramping down on February 1st. There may be an opportunity to refine future Temporary Urgency Change Petitions (TUCPs) to request moving the compliance point to at least the Talmage river gage, which would allow for the measuring of additional tributary contributions to the main stem, rather than only the West Fork flows.

No additional flows above the minimum requirements have been transferred from the Eel River through the Potter Valley Project. This contributes to the Russian River watershed's incredibly vulnerable position for 2022.

While Lake Mendocino currently holds more water than it did at its height in 2021, the lowest level was around 12,000 af. Water quality at that level is poor and it does not provide adequate carryover storage for a dry winter, as we are experiencing now. It is not a desirable storage target.

The State Water Board has continued the suspension of the current emergency regulations, allowing for water diversions through March 1st, 2022. This is due to both historically low demand for water and the excess to minimum requirement of flows lower in the mainstem. Theoretically, this would be an opportunity to implement the proposed on-farm groundwater recharge project the District is developing. There are reported benefits to this practice such as maintaining soil moisture levels, natural filtration of return flows improving water quality, extending return/base flows further into the season, and delaying the need to irrigate by 1-2 months. All of these benefits could lead to reducing the release of stored water from the reservoir.

District Response

In addition to continued participation in the Russian River Drought Response Group and Steering Committee described below, the District and Sonoma Water Agency have nearly completed an agreement between the two agencies that will be submitted to the Deputy Director of the State Water Resources Control Board. The 2021 Emergency Regulations required this agreement to specify the amount of water stored in Lake Mendocino pursuant to License 13898, the amount of water that will remain stored in Lake Mendocino for use in 2022, and a methodology acceptable to the Deputy Director for determining how inflows to Lake Mendocino are attributed to the Flood Control District and SCWA's respective water rights.

Discussion: Voluntary Conservation Program

As previously reported, the State Water Board is supporting a facilitated process to develop a voluntary conservation program in the Russian River watershed. RRFC has been participating since the inception of this effort, along with other stakeholders and water user representatives. The intent is to develop one consensus-based program to implement as soon as the 2022 summer season.

There are currently three options that are being presented to Boards, Councils, and focus groups. The **attached** Options Fact Sheet gives a high level overview of the three options and other information. The **attached** Talking Points document provides further information on the options and presents questions to provide feedback in the refining of one program to implement.

The Board is being asked to provide feedback to the General Manager on the three options and program in general. The presented questions are:

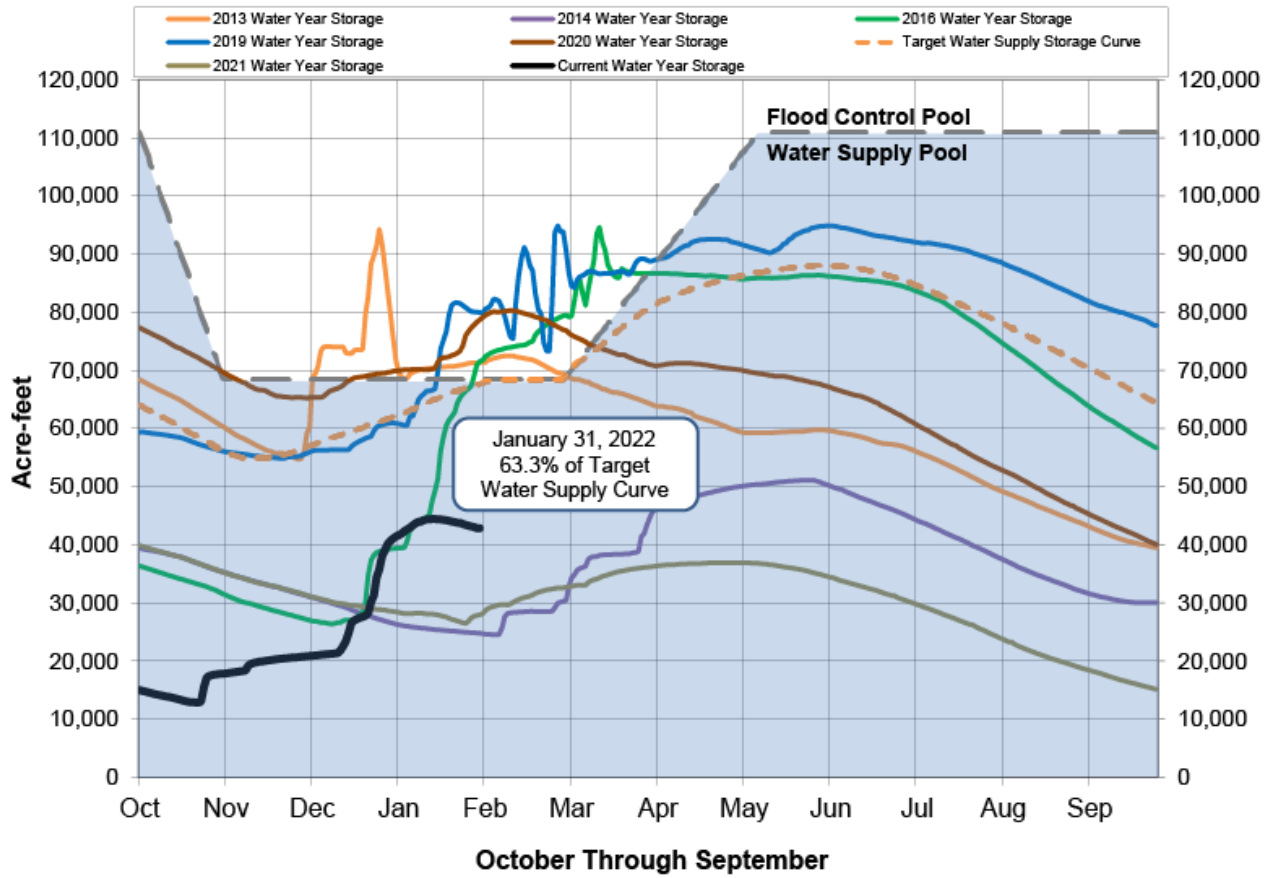
- ◆ Would you sign up for any of these agreements? Why? What specific features would make you join/not join a particular option? What would be needed in order for you to join a particular option or agreement?
- ◆ Baseline would be used to calculate how much conservation would be expected. What are the pros/cons of the baseline being your historic use between 2017-2019, the face value of your water right(s), or your anticipated 2022 demand?
- ◆ How viable are these conservation percentages?

The State Water Resources Control Board and facilitation consultant are setting up a meeting with representative attorneys, including RRFC's legal counsel, to help further refine the options and program. Feedback from all groups will be used to select one option and refine it further with results presented at the May 1, 2022 State Water Board meeting.

Attachments:

- 1) Lake Mendocino Storage graph
- 2) Options Fact Sheet
- 3) Talking Points

Lake Mendocino Storage



Graph taken from Sonoma Water's website: <https://www.sonomawater.org/current-water-supply-levels>

Voluntary Conservation Agreement Options

[JAN 2022]

Preferred Option A – Conservation Stages

All water users in the Russian River Watershed (municipal, agriculture, domestic) commit to conserve water throughout the dry season: diverters on the main stem, East Fork and West Fork as well as tributary creeks below Lake Mendocino.

On May 1, the State Water Resources Control Board announces which conservation stage (and corresponding %) is necessary for the dry season to allow diversions to continue and avoid curtailments (requirement to stop drawing water).

The amount of conservation in the stages range between 15%-70% depending on water rights priority and water supply conditions in the Russian River.

Predictability: Water users know their supply for the dry season on May 1 in percentage stages for each month of the dry season (e.g. 15% in May; 25% in June, 45% in July).

Transfers and exchanges among water users would be permissible. Water users can shift supply among their water rights and must document their water use.

Curtailment: The State Water Board would curtail non-participating water users in order of water right priority.

Goal of All Options

The goal is for water users to have access to a water supply as long as possible in the dry season.

Applicable to Each Option

Conservation is based on the user's historical water use (2017-2019), water right priority, and source of water.

The State Water Board would serve as the backstop and curtail water use should conservation not be sufficient to protect Lake Mendocino storage levels for human health & safety and instream flows.

Option B – Exchange

Water users along the main stem of the Russian River (municipal, agriculture, domestic) agree to conserve based on water right early in the dry season.

Users receive "credit" for water conserved that the user may opt to use later in the season.

Curtailment: The State Water Board curtails the watershed in order of water right priority if conservation insufficient and Lake Mendocino levels drop too low. Participants may opt to use their conserved water or transfer (sell) the water to others in need via an administrator.

The amount of water conserved may not equal the water available to the user later in the dry season due to evaporation at Lake Mendocino and minimum in-stream flows required in the Russian River.

Option C – Flat Rate

All water users connected to the main stem of the Russian River (municipal, agriculture, domestic) agree to conserve a flat percentage on a voluntary basis.

A flat percentage would be based on flow in the watershed and the amount of storage at Lake Mendocino.

The goal is for all water users to be able to continue having access to some water supply.

Priority of water right is not considered in this option.

Curtailment: The State Water Board curtails if conservation is insufficient and Lake Mendocino levels drop too low. The SWB would curtail water users in order of water right priority.

Evaluating the Options		Option A Stages	Option B Exchange	Option C Flat Rate
1	Predictability for planning water supply Early in the season Certainty throughout the season	X	X	
2	Addresses priority of rights Nests within water rights system	X	X	
3	Data and Information Baseline demand, data available: Do we have the information we need to support and implement this program?	X		X
4	Level of participation is expansive / inclusive Able to sign on water rights holders; Broad appeal to water users	X	X	X
5	Able to achieve end-goal Quantity of water conserved is adequate to realize goals of agreement and avoid or delay curtailments	X	X	X
6	Complexity of implementation Able to implement in 2022	?	?	X
7	Ease of Enrolling Participants Can the agreement get in front and ease of signing on?	X	X	X
8	Quality Assurance To what extent can administrators track conservation to assess ability to achieve end-goal? How durable is the agreement? How does the agreement need to adapt as new information becomes available?	X	X	X

Steering Committee developed Options

Russian River stakeholders have been meeting for more than 1 year to develop a voluntary, locally driven option for conservation to manage water shortages and increased drought frequency. Participants include:

Cities of Cloverdale, Healdsburg, & Ukiah; Cal Am Water; Cal Indian Environmental Alliance; Coyote Valley; Dry Creek Rancheria; Fish Friendly Farming; Gallo; Graton Rancheria; Hopland Band of Pomo Indians; Jackson Family Wines; Lytton; Mendocino County & Sonoma County Farm Bureaus; Middletown Rancheria; Pinoleville Pomo Nation; Russian River Confluence; RR Flood Control District; RVR Pomo; Sonoma Water; Sonoma RCD; State Water Board; Willow County Water District

CONTACT a Participant or Email
russianriverdrought@waterboards.ca.gov

Russian River Water Sources

Water users depend on the following water sources; each source has a water right priority.

1. *Natural flows*—water that is primarily surface and subterranean flows originating within the watershed.
2. *Imported flows*—water that is diverted from the Eel River through the Potter Valley Project to the East Fork Russian River.
3. *Stored water*—water held in Lake Mendocino that is surplus to meeting the mainstem Russian River minimum instream flow requirements, including water right demand.
4. *Interconnected groundwater*—water from an aquifer that has been legally defined as being directly connected to surface-water.
5. *Alternative sources*—access to recycled water, groundwater, off-stream ponds, etc.

Talking Points

Russian River Voluntary Water Conservation Agreement

January 2022

Purpose

- Drought periods in 2014-2015 and then 2020-2021 (and potentially 2022) have resulted in rulemaking actions and related water right curtailments by the State Water Resources Control Board.
- The purpose of the voluntary agreement is to provide a locally controlled alternative to a State Water Board drought-driven curtailment action that supports water conservation goals for multiple beneficial uses of water.

Goals

- The voluntary conservation agreement framework works to recognize existing water conservation efforts and continues to support the increase of conservation practices while concurrently supporting the existing water rights priority system in California.
- The goal is to implement an option in 2022 that is approved by the State Water Board, receives significant buy-in from local water rights holders to achieve water conservation targets, and provides access to water supply as long as possible in the dry season.

Options

- A “Steering Committee” made up of water users in both Mendocino and Sonoma Counties considered a number of option-proposals over the past several months and narrowed to these three options for feedback.
- **Option A, Conservation Stages** (Preferred Option): All water users (municipal, agriculture, domestic) in the Russian River Watershed commit to monthly amounts of conservation between 15%-70% depending on water rights priority and water supply conditions in the Russian River. Conservation is based on the users’ historical water use (2017-2019), water right priority, and source of water. Transfers and exchanges among water users would be permissible. (Water uses would include diverters on the main stem, East Fork, and West Fork as well as tributary creeks below Lake Mendocino.)
- **Option B, Exchange:** Water users (municipal, agriculture, domestic) with water rights connected to the main stem of the Russian River Watershed agree to conserve based on water right early in the dry season. Users receive a “credit” for water conserved those users may opt to use later in the season. Users may opt to use the water or transfer the water to others in need. The availability of water is dependent on the number of participants. Conservation is also based on the users’ historical water use (2017-2019).
- **Option C, Flat Rate of Conservation:** All water users (municipal, agriculture, domestic) with water rights connected to the main stem of the Russian River Watershed agree to conserve a flat percentage on a voluntary basis. The goal is for all water users to be able to continue having access to some water supply. Priority of right is not considered under this option.

- The goal is to narrow the application of a conservation program to a single option that is determined to provide the best outcomes for applying in 2022.

Triggers & Curtailments

- Option A, Stages: On May 1, the State Water Board announces how much conservation is necessary for the dry season to avoid curtailments. Water users know their supply for the dry season on May 1. There would be percentage stages for each month of the dry season (e.g., 15% in May; 25% in June, 45% in July).
- Option B, Exchange: Depending on rainfall, instream flows, and Lake Mendocino storage, the State Water Board announces the opening of the exchange. The amount of water conserved may not equal the water available to the user later in the dry season due to evaporation at Lake Mendocino and minimum in-stream flows required in the Russian River.
- Option C: Local stakeholders confer with the State Water Board to identify conservation levels and potential regulations based on rainfall, instream flows, and Lake Mendocino storage.
- All options: The SWRCB serves as the backstop and curtails water use when conditions are determined to reach a critical point to protect Lake Mendocino storage for human health & safety needs and instream flows for fisheries.

Participation

- The success of any of the options described will depend on the willingness of water rights holders, of all types, to volunteer to participate in the program.
- The participation goal is to have as close to 100% participation as possible.

Next Steps

- The voluntary water conservation agreement approach has not been attempted in the Russian River Watershed before so modifications will be made based on trial and error.
- For 2022, the determination of drought status will evolve over the next few months. This status will need to be known to trigger and implement the option.

Questions to be Answered for Feedback

- Would you sign up for any of these agreements? Why?
 - What specific features would make you join/not join a particular option?
 - What would be needed in order for you to join a particular option or agreement?
- Baseline would be used to calculate how much conservation would be expected. What are the pros / cons of the baseline being your historic average use between 2017-2019, the face value of your water right(s), or your anticipated 2022 demand?
- How viable are these conservation percentages?

***Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
& Water Conservation Improvement District***

STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Trustees
From: E. Salomone, General Manager
Meeting: Monday, February 7, 2022
RE: Agenda Item 10: Water Resiliency Planning

The Strategic Plan relevant priorities are to (a) **Secure** reliable and available sources of water; (b) **Use** water to its highest and best use as a public resource through management; (c) **Advocate** in the security and use of water beyond our direct authority; and (d) **Administer** District resources in alignment with the District's Mission Statement to proactively manage the water resources of the upper Russian River for the benefit of the people and environment of Mendocino County.

Grant Funding Application

In December 2021, the Board approved a Service Agreement with LACO Associates for Funding Analysis and Grant Writing. It also authorized the Grant Application, Acceptance, and Execution for the On-Farm Groundwater Recharge Multi-Benefit Demonstration Project and directed GM Salomone to finalize and submit the grant application, which was done on January 14, 2022. Announcements are expected by mid March 2022.

Water Storage Project

In December 2021, the Board approved an updated project description and heard a report out from the ad hoc committee on its meeting with CA Fish and Wildlife representatives. A fisheries habitat field inspection has been done and the written evaluation is expected within a week. A meeting with the State Water Resources Control Board Deputy Director and Permitting Team staff is being scheduled to discuss an exception to the requirements of Section 2.4 of the State Water Resources Control Board's *Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows in Northern California*.

Water Right Applications 12919C and 12920B

On August 20, 2021, the Administrative Hearings Office (AHO) of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued a Notice of Status Conference regarding the petitions for partial assignment of State-Filed Applications 12919 and 12920 and water-right Applications 12919C and 12920B of the District. The AHO held a status conference on November 2, 2021 and on November 9, 2021 issued a ruling and notice of a further status conference. In addition to meeting with identified protestants, the District is directed to develop a draft initial schedule with interim deadlines to include actions toward amendment and/or completion of the project. The next scheduled Status Conference is February 15, 2022 with additional conferences to be scheduled at regular intervals to monitor progress. GM Salomone and President Watt have worked closely with Legal Counsel to move forward on the projects and prepare for the upcoming status conference.

***Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control &
Water Conservation Improvement District***

STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Trustees
From: E. Salomone, General Manager
Meeting: Monday, February 7, 2022
RE: Agenda Item 11a: January 2022 Financial Reports Summary

Revenue

December 2021: Additional revenue not shown on previous report: None

January 2022: \$27,341.58

- \$27,341.58 in Property Taxes
- Note: Annual invoices for water sales were issued in January 2022 and majority of property tax revenue received in June.

Ordinary Expenses

December 2021: Additional expenses not shown on previous report: None

January 2022: \$17,174.71 in ordinary expenses at time of writing this report, notably:

- \$11,706 to LACO for funding analysis and grant writing support.
- \$7,237 for USGS maintenance of river gage, some of which is reimbursed by North Gualala Water Company
- \$6,514 for drought monitoring, to be reimbursed by Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- \$5,031 for legal counsel

Reserves

A transfer from the checking account to LAIF reserves account is planned for February 2022.

Other

- Reconciliations are up to date from last statements. (January 2021)
- Additional reports or information available upon request.

Recommendation:

Move to accept and file the financial reports for January 2021.

Attachments:

1. Income & Expense / Budget Vs Actual Report – January only
2. Income & Expense / Budget Vs Actual Report – Fiscal Year to date
3. Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison Report
4. Balance Sheet Previous Year Comparison Report
5. Monthly Payment Detail Report

Russian River Flood Control District
Income & Expense / Budget vs. Actual
January 2022

Cash Basis

	<u>Jan 22</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Property Taxes	27,341.58			
Total Income	27,341.58			
Expense				
Consulting	11,706.25			
Gage	7,237.50			
Groundwater Sustainability	6,513.64			
Insurance, Workers Comp	429.91			
Legal	5,030.64			
Office Operating Expenses	126.82			
Payroll Expenses	12,969.37			
Payroll Taxes- old	0.00			
Rent, Utilities	652.16			
Training Costs	-150.00			
Total Expense	44,516.29			
Net Ordinary Income	-17,174.71			
Net Income	-17,174.71	0.00	-17,174.71	100.0%

Russian River Flood Control District
Income & Expense / Budget vs. Actual
July 2021 through January 2022

Cash Basis

	Jul '21 - Jan 22	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Interest-LAIF	698.29	4,800.00	-4,101.71	14.5%
Interest-SBMC	64.06	200.00	-135.94	32.0%
Property Taxes	31,296.99	45,000.00	-13,703.01	69.5%
Water Application Fee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Water Sales	0.00	325,000.00	-325,000.00	0.0%
Total Income	32,059.34	375,000.00	-342,940.66	8.5%
Expense				
Consulting	16,656.25	20,000.00	-3,343.75	83.3%
Election	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Fees, Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Fees, County & LAFCo	1,396.13	1,700.00	-303.87	82.1%
Gage	27,138.75	15,000.00	12,138.75	180.9%
Groundwater Sustainability	10,513.64	0.00	10,513.64	100.0%
Insurance, Liability	6,144.80	7,000.00	-855.20	87.8%
Insurance, Workers Comp	53.00	5,000.00	-4,947.00	1.1%
Legal	20,924.28	25,000.00	-4,075.72	83.7%
Memberships	5,670.00	11,500.00	-5,830.00	49.3%
Meters Expense	54.15	2,000.00	-1,945.85	2.7%
Office Operating Expenses	1,774.58	5,000.00	-3,225.42	35.5%
Payroll Expenses	86,432.08	160,250.00	-73,817.92	53.9%
Payroll Taxes- old	0.00			
Rent, Utilities	4,379.50	20,000.00	-15,620.50	21.9%
Stipends, Meetings	1,800.00	6,000.00	-4,200.00	30.0%
SWRCB Permits	15,930.05	15,000.00	930.05	106.2%
Training Costs	725.00	5,000.00	-4,275.00	14.5%
Unfunded Pension Liability	8,419.00	6,000.00	2,419.00	140.3%
Vehicle	103.52	2,000.00	-1,896.48	5.2%
Water Resiliency	7,397.32	40,000.00	-32,602.68	18.5%
Total Expense	215,512.05	346,450.00	-130,937.95	62.2%
Net Ordinary Income	-183,452.71	28,550.00	-212,002.71	-642.6%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Expense				
Meter Purchase	1,884.53	25,000.00	-23,115.47	7.5%
Reserves	68,750.00	0.00	68,750.00	100.0%
Total Other Expense	70,634.53	25,000.00	45,634.53	282.5%
Net Other Income	-70,634.53	-25,000.00	-45,634.53	282.5%
Net Income	-254,087.24	3,550.00	-257,637.24	-7,157.4%

Russian River Flood Control District Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

July 2021 through January 2022

Cash Basis

	Jul '21 - Jan 22	Jul '20 - Jan 21	\$ Change	% Change
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Interest-LAIF	698.29	3,579.04	-2,880.75	-80.5%
Interest-SBMC	64.06	67.29	-3.23	-4.8%
Property Taxes	31,296.99	34,925.15	-3,628.16	-10.4%
Reimbursed Expenses	0.00	19,570.10	-19,570.10	-100.0%
Total Income	32,059.34	58,141.58	-26,082.24	-44.9%
Expense				
Consulting	16,656.25	10,616.25	6,040.00	56.9%
Fees, County & LAFCo	1,396.13	594.09	802.04	135.0%
Gage	27,138.75	7,237.50	19,901.25	275.0%
Groundwater Sustainability	10,513.64	3,000.00	7,513.64	250.5%
Insurance, Liability	6,144.80	5,687.19	457.61	8.1%
Insurance, Workers Comp	53.00	1,100.83	-1,047.83	-95.2%
Legal	20,924.28	14,878.80	6,045.48	40.6%
Memberships	5,670.00	5,597.00	73.00	1.3%
Meters Expense	54.15	1,107.28	-1,053.13	-95.1%
Office Operating Expenses	1,774.58	1,867.58	-93.00	-5.0%
Payroll Expenses				
CalPERS 1959 Survivor Billing	76.40	13.00	63.40	487.7%
CalPERS 457 Employee Def Comp	2,012.50	1,837.50	175.00	9.5%
CalPERS Company Match	5,091.94	4,735.92	356.02	7.5%
CALPERS GASB-68 Fees	0.00	700.00	-700.00	-100.0%
Employee Health Insurance	6,600.00	8,400.00	-1,800.00	-21.4%
Gross Wages	67,488.38	60,846.16	6,642.22	10.9%
Medicare	978.58	899.84	78.74	8.8%
Payroll Taxes- FICA, etc	4,184.28	3,847.58	336.70	8.8%
Vacation/Sick	0.00	1,211.52	-1,211.52	-100.0%
Total Payroll Expenses	86,432.08	82,491.52	3,940.56	4.8%
Payroll Taxes- old	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Rent, Utilities	4,379.50	3,715.55	663.95	17.9%
Stipends, Meetings	1,800.00	3,450.00	-1,650.00	-47.8%
SWRCB Permits	15,930.05	12,661.84	3,268.21	25.8%
Training Costs	725.00	594.53	130.47	22.0%
Unfunded Pension Liability	8,419.00	6,777.00	1,642.00	24.2%
Vehicle	103.52	63.49	40.03	63.1%
Water Resiliency				
Outreach	7,397.32	0.00	7,397.32	100.0%
Total Water Resiliency	7,397.32	0.00	7,397.32	100.0%
Total Expense	215,512.05	161,440.45	54,071.60	33.5%
Net Ordinary Income	-183,452.71	-103,298.87	-80,153.84	-77.6%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Expense				
Meter Purchase	1,884.53	4,968.00	-3,083.47	-62.1%
Reserves	68,750.00	50,000.00	18,750.00	37.5%
Total Other Expense	70,634.53	54,968.00	15,666.53	28.5%
Net Other Income	-70,634.53	-54,968.00	-15,666.53	-28.5%
Net Income	-254,087.24	-158,266.87	-95,820.37	-60.5%

Russian River Flood Control District Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison

Accrual Basis

As of January 31, 2022

	Jan 31, 22	Jan 31, 21	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
LAIF				
Capital Reserve	48,000.00	53,000.00	-5,000.00	-9.4%
Emergency Reserve	28,000.00	32,000.00	-4,000.00	-12.5%
Operating Reserve	153,000.00	156,000.00	-3,000.00	-1.9%
WaterSupplyReliability Reserve	259,411.40	247,411.40	12,000.00	4.9%
LAIF - Other	2,004.96	772.24	1,232.72	159.6%
Total LAIF	490,416.36	489,183.64	1,232.72	0.3%
SBMC Checking	221,799.19	94,866.24	126,932.95	133.8%
SBMC Savings	100,063.69	267,716.69	-167,653.00	-62.6%
Total Checking/Savings	812,279.24	851,766.57	-39,487.33	-4.6%
Accounts Receivable				
Accounts Receivable	220,854.48	0.00	220,854.48	100.0%
Total Accounts Receivable	220,854.48	0.00	220,854.48	100.0%
Other Current Assets	3,984.00	3,984.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Current Assets	1,037,117.72	855,750.57	181,367.15	21.2%
Fixed Assets				
Accumulated Depreciation	-24,542.00	-24,542.00	0.00	0.0%
Meters & Vehicles	134,111.25	130,935.89	3,175.36	2.4%
Total Fixed Assets	109,569.25	106,393.89	3,175.36	3.0%
Other Assets	64,366.00	64,366.00	0.00	0.0%
TOTAL ASSETS	1,211,052.97	1,026,510.46	184,542.51	18.0%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities	13,223.63	14,724.24	-1,500.61	-10.2%
Total Current Liabilities	13,223.63	14,724.24	-1,500.61	-10.2%
Long Term Liabilities				
Net Pension Liability	36,024.00	36,024.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Long Term Liabilities	36,024.00	36,024.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Liabilities	49,247.63	50,748.24	-1,500.61	-3.0%
Equity				
Opening Bal Equity	541,116.95	541,116.95	0.00	0.0%
Retained Earnings	658,433.15	612,482.24	45,950.91	7.5%
Net Income	-37,744.76	-177,836.97	140,092.21	78.8%
Total Equity	1,161,805.34	975,762.22	186,043.12	19.1%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,211,052.97	1,026,510.46	184,542.51	18.0%

Russian River Flood Control District Monthly Payment Detail

Cash Basis

As of January 31, 2022

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Original Amount	Paid Amount
SBMC Checking					
Bill Pmt -Check	01/02/2022	State Compensation Insurance Fund	2021-22 FY Policy charges for 11/9/21-12/9/22	-429.91	-429.91
Bill Pmt -Check	01/04/2022	Herum/Crabtree/Suntag	Legal Counsel service dates Oct 2021	-2,056.32	-2,056.32
Bill Pmt -Check	01/04/2022	LACO	Consulting Service dates for November 2021	-6,687.50	-6,687.50
Bill Pmt -Check	01/08/2022	Intuit	Monthly Payroll Subscription	-2.00	-2.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/08/2022	Comcast Business	Internet services for 12/13-01/12/22	-74.86	-74.86
Bill Pmt -Check	01/12/2022	Herum/Crabtree/Suntag	Legal Services December dates	-1,028.16	-1,028.16
Bill Pmt -Check	01/13/2022	Herum/Crabtree/Suntag	Legal services dates for November 2021	-1,946.16	-1,946.16
Bill Pmt -Check	01/13/2022	LACO	Consulting Service dates for December 2021	-5,018.75	-5,018.75
Bill Pmt -Check	01/18/2022	Mendocino County Resource Conservatio...	Groundwater elevation monitoring - GSA passthrough	-3,660.10	-3,660.10
Bill Pmt -Check	01/18/2022	US Cellular	Cell service 12-14-21 to 1-13-22	-49.96	-49.96
Bill Pmt -Check	01/21/2022	Mendocino County Resource Conservatio...	Groundwater elevation monitoring - GSA passthrough	-2,853.54	-2,853.54
Bill Pmt -Check	01/21/2022	Willow County Water District	Rent and Utilities Jan 2022	-652.16	-652.16
Bill Pmt -Check	01/24/2022	USGS	Gages, Bill #90955398 1st pymt FY 22	-7,237.50	-7,237.50
Total SBMC Checking					-31,696.92
TOTAL					-31,696.92

5 **DRAFT MINUTES**
6 **Regular Meeting**
7 **January 10, 2022**
8

9 IN COMPLIANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL 361, THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM.

10
11 **1. Roll Call**

12 President Watt called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

- 13
14 Trustees Present: Christopher Watt, President
15 Alfred White, Vice President
16 Matthew Froneberger, Treasurer
17 Tyler Rodrigue, Trustee
18 John Reardan, Trustee
19
20 Staff: Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager
21

22 **2. Action Item: State of Emergency**

23 Vice President White moved to reaffirm previously adopted Resolution #21-04 Making Findings and
24 Determinations under Assembly Bill 361 for Continued Virtual Meetings, determining that (i) The state of
25 emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; and/or (ii) State or
26 local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing. Trustee Rodrigue
27 seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote:

- 28 Ayes: 4 (Reardan, Rodrigue, White, Watt)
29 Absent: 1 (Froneberger)
30

31 **3. Public Expression – No one from the public indicated interest in public expression**
32

33 **4. Approval of Agenda**

34 Vice President White moved to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Rodrigue seconded the motion.
35 The motion was approved by the following vote:

- 36 Ayes: 4 (Reardan, Rodrigue, White, Watt)
37 Absent: 1 (Froneberger)
38

39 **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

40 **5. Water Supply Conditions Update and District Response**

41 GM Salomone presented the item. An update was requested on the status of Eel River water transfers
42 through the Potter Valley Project now that PG&E's power generation is offline. GM Salomone noted
43 there was not an official update from PG&E, though representatives from the relicensing Partnership,
44 which includes Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) and Sonoma Water Agency and others, were
45 coordinating efforts to gain support from Eel River stakeholders to divert high winter flows from the Eel
46 River to the Russian River watershed.
47
48

(Continued...)

50 Bree Klotter, Board member of Redwood Valley County Water District, asked if support had been
51 requested from Legislative representatives.

52
53 **6. Water Resiliency Planning**

54 GM Salomone presented the item, reviewing the staff report.

55
56 *Grant Funding Application:* Vice President White voiced concerns regarding the District rather than the
57 Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) applying for and implementing this project. Discussion was
58 held in which the governance and workload of the GSA was considered. It was noted this proposed
59 project specifically concerns RRFC by using District customers and water available under the District
60 license to determine how the system behaves under various conditions. Additionally, the funding is
61 available now; the District is in a position to meet the application deadline whereas the GSA is not.

62
63 Trustee Reardan moved to approve

- 64 (1) the Service Agreement with LACO Associates for Funding Analysis and Grant Writing, including the
65 ratification of Exhibit A to develop funding opportunity recommendations and the approval of
66 Amendment No. 1 to include services in development of the application;
67 (2) the Resolution #21-05 Authorizing the Grant Application, Acceptance, and Execution for the On-
68 Farm Groundwater Recharge Multi-Benefit Demonstration Project and direct GM Salomone to finalize
69 and submit the grant application; and
70 (3) direction to GM Salomone, in consultation with Legal Counsel, to file for a temporary water recharge
71 permit from the State Water Board for the proposed On-Farm Groundwater Recharge Multi-Benefit
72 Demonstration Project.

73 Trustee Rodrigue seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote:

74 Ayes: 4 (Reardan, Rodrigue, White, Watt)
75 Absent: 1 (Froneberger)

76
77 *Water Storage Project:* GM Salomone, President Watt, and Trustee Reardan presented the item, providing an
78 update on the ad hoc committee work, including a meeting with CA Fish and Wildlife representatives on the
79 impacts to fisheries, the environment, and Tribal interests. Comments and questions were offered. There was
80 Board consensus to proceed with the fisheries habitat evaluation and to develop a plan for water availability
81 analysis that will also benefit the water right applications. A revised project description was presented that
82 expands on the fisheries habitat enhancement (changes shown in grey highlight below.)

83
84 Trustee Reardan moved to approve the revised Preliminary Feasibility Study for Water Storage Project:

85
86 In the 1990's the RRFC commissioned a feasibility study for developing an approximately 5,000 – 12,000
87 acre foot reservoir within the larger of two forks of Hensley Creek, a tributary of the Upper Russian
88 River. Water to be stored in the reservoir would originate as run-off within its watershed and wet-season
89 releases from Lake Mendocino. The value of this project is to create a strategic reserve during wet periods
90 to release during dry periods and enhance fisheries within the lower reach of Hensley Creek. RRFC is
91 reviewing this potential project and considering the retention of a Special Projects Manager to oversee a
92 consulting team charged with preparing an updated Preliminary Feasibility Study for the project. Initial
93 focus will be on regulatory limitations/requirements, fisheries habitat evaluation, water availability,
94 funding, water rights, and property acquisition.

95
96 Trustee Rodrigue seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote:

97 Ayes: 4 (Reardan, Rodrigue, White, Watt)
98 Absent: 1 (Froneberger)

99 (Continued...)

101 **7. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Adjustment**

102 Vice President White moved to approve Resolution #21-07 Adopting the Adjusted Final Budget for
103 Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Trustee Reardan seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following
104 unanimous vote:

105 Ayes: 4 (Reardan, Rodrigue, White, Watt)
106 Absent: 1 (Froneberger)

107
108 **REGULAR BUSINESS, INFORMATION, AND REPORT ITEMS**

109 **8. Consent Calendar**

- 110 a) Acceptance of the November 2021 Financial Report
111 b) Approval of Minutes for the November 1, 2021 Regular Meeting
112 c) Acceptance of the fiscal year-end reports for FY 2020-2021
113 d) Approval of the Regular Meeting Calendar for 2022

114
115 Vice President White moved to approve Consent Calendar Items a-d. Trustee Reardan seconded the motion.
116 The motion was approved by the following unanimous vote:

117 Ayes: 4 (Reardan, Rodrigue, White, Watt)
118 Absent: 1 (Froneberger)

119
120 **9. Board Member & Committee Reports**

121 *President Watt* reported an anomaly in the West Fork stream flow gage that was reported to the US
122 Geological Survey staff, who addressed it.

123 *President Watt* also noted that Willow County Water District held a Special Meeting to approve their
124 contribution to the Upper Russian River Water Agency for the Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

125 *Trustee Reardan* noted he filed a request for Sonoma Water Agency to provide more information on Lake
126 Pillsbury storage levels.

127 **10. General Manager Report & Correspondence**

128 GM Salomone presented the written report and asked the Board for direction on Board Officers for
129 2022. Consensus was to keep the slate as is and approval will be on the January consent calendar.

130 **11. Direction on Future Agenda Items**

131 General Manager evaluation, Board Officers for 2022, Mid Year Budget Review & rate review.

132
133 **ADJOURNMENT**

134
135 Vice President White moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM. Trustee Reardan seconded the motion. The
136 motion was approved by the following unanimous vote:

137 Ayes: 4 (Reardan, Rodrigue, White, Watt)
138 Absent: 1 (Froneberger)

139
140
141
142
143
144
145

<i>President</i>	<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Trustee</i>	<i>Trustee</i>
<i>Christopher Watt</i>	<i>Alfred White</i>	<i>Matthew Froneberger</i>	<i>Tyler Rodrigue</i>	<i>John Reardan</i>

***Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
& Water Conservation Improvement District***

STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Trustees
From: E. Salomone, General Manager
Meeting: Monday, February 7, 2022
RE: Agenda Item 11c: State of Emergency

The Strategic Plan relevant priority is to **Administer** District resources in alignment with the District's Mission Statement to proactively manage the water resources of the upper Russian River for the benefit of the people and environment of Mendocino County.

Background

The Ralph M. Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54950 et seq.) generally requires local agencies meeting via teleconference, including through other virtual or electronic means, to provide public access at each location in which members of the legislative body are teleconferencing. Legislature recently enacted Assembly Bill 361, Chapter 165, Statutes of 2021 ("AB 361"), which amended Government Code section 54953 to allow local agencies to meet fully virtually during a proclaimed state of emergency if state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing. The Governor of California issued a proclamation declaring a state of emergency on March 4, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, pursuant to section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act, and this proclaimed state of emergency currently remains in effect. Additionally, on September 29, 2021, the Mendocino County Health Officer issued a Health Recommendation urging public bodies in Mendocino County to continue meeting remotely through online meetings to lower the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

On November 1, 2021, the Board of Trustees of the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District adopted Resolution #21-04 Making Findings and Determinations Under Assembly Bill 361 For Continued Virtual Meetings. Consistent with the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e), the Board found and determined that (1) a state of emergency related to COVID-19 is currently in effect; and (2) state and local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing in connection with COVID-19. Based on such facts, findings and determinations, the Board authorized staff to conduct remote teleconference meetings of the Board under the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e). 3. This Resolution took effect immediately.

Recommended Action:

- Move to reaffirm the previously adopted Resolution #21-04 Making Findings and Determinations under Assembly Bill 361 for Continued Virtual Meetings, determining that (i) The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; and/or (ii) State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Attachments:

- Resolution #21-04 Making Findings and Determinations under Assembly Bill 361 for Continued Virtual Meetings, dated November 1, 2021

Resolution #21-04

of the

Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District

Making Findings and Determinations Under Assembly Bill 361 For Continued Virtual Meetings

WHEREAS, the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the “Board of Trustees,” is committed to preserving and nurturing public access to and participation in meetings of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Ralph M. Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54950 et seq.) generally requires local agencies meeting via teleconference, including through other virtual or electronic means, to provide public access at each location in which members of the legislative body are teleconferencing; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recently enacted Assembly Bill 361, Chapter 165, Statutes of 2021 (“AB 361”), which amended Government Code section 54953 to allow local agencies to meet fully virtually during a proclaimed state of emergency if state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, the Governor issued a proclamation declaring a state of emergency on March 4, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, pursuant to section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act, and this proclaimed state of emergency currently remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, starting in March 2020, in response to the spread of COVID-19 in the State of California, the Governor issued a number of executive orders aimed at containing the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, among other things, these orders waived certain requirements of the Brown Act to allow legislative bodies to meet virtually; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Governor’s executive orders, the Board has been holding virtual meetings during the pandemic in the interest of protecting the health and safety of the public, staff, and Board members; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 related to the suspension of certain provisions of the Brown Act expired on September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, AB 361, effective as of October 1, 2021 allows legislative bodies to meet virtually provided there is a state of emergency, and either (1) state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or (2) the legislative body determines by majority vote that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the circumstances of the state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, state or local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2021, the Mendocino County Health Officer issued a Health Recommendation urging public bodies in Mendocino County to continue meeting remotely through online meetings to lower the risk of COVID-19 transmission; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of virtual meetings will allow for full participation by members of the public until the present state of emergency has ended; and **WHEREAS**, the Board desires to continue to hold virtual meetings pursuant to AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, the District Board hereby resolves as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.
2. Consistent with the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e), the Board finds and determines that (1) a state of emergency related to COVID- 19 is currently in effect; and (2) state and local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing in connection with COVID-19. Based on such facts, findings and determinations, the Board authorizes staff to conduct remote teleconference meetings of the Board under the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e). 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ADOPTED 1st of November, 2021 by the Board of Trustees of the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District, by the following vote:

Christopher Watt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / No / Abstain / Absent
Alfred White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / No / Abstain / Absent
Matthew Froneberger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / No / Abstain / Absent
Tyler Rodrigue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / No / Abstain / Absent
John Reardan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / No / Abstain / Absent



Signed: _____
Christopher Watt, Board of Trustees President

1/11/21
Date



Attest: _____
Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager

1/11/21
Date

*Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
& Water Conservation Improvement District*

General Manager's Report for January 2022

Presented at Regular Meeting of Monday, February 7, 2022

Priority 1, Secure: Ensure reliable and available sources of water. (Water rights license, Reservoirs, PVP)

See also:

Agenda Item 8: Inland Water & Power Commission Update & Funding Request

Agenda Item 9: Water Supply Condition Update & District Response.

Agenda Item 10: Water Resiliency Planning

Priority 2, Use: Ensure water is managed to its highest and best use as a public resource.

(Contracts & water sales, monitor & respond to regional water issues)

(See last page of this report for updates on all community partner meetings attended this month.)

Water Sales: Meter data downloads have been conducted and customer verification underway. Annual water right reporting is due April 1, 2022 and is scheduled to be submitted on time. Annual customer invoices have also been issued, with payments coming in throughout February and March. The District remains under Declaration #21-03: Water Shortage Emergency which established a moratorium on increased contract quantities to existing Agreements and no surplus water availability.

Groundwater Sustainability: The Ukiah Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) submitted the Groundwater Sustainability Plan on time and the GSA Board will consider contracting with an administrator at their February meeting.

Priority 3, Advocate: Participate as an active stakeholder in the security and use of water beyond our direct authority. (Stakeholder positions, participation with community partners, website, legislation)

Nothing to note.

Priority 4: Administer: Foster sustainable leadership and management of agency resources.

(GM, Trustees, systems, financial)

General Manager Professional Development: A number of the conferences, webinars, and workshops were attended this month: (1) GM Salomone was the guest speaker for the UC Davis Extension Climate Stewards class at Lake Mendocino on January 22nd. (2) Completed the County Counsel hosted Brown Act & Ethics Training. (3) Attended the California Resource Conservation District virtual conference. (4) Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) Webinar 4 – 'FIRO as a Climate Resiliency Strategy: Climate Change Impacts on the Viability, Safety, Risks, and Benefits of FIRO Implementation.' (5) State Water Board meetings, including offering of public comment. (6) ACWA and the California Urban Water Association (CUWA) hosted a webinar with California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot and California Environmental Protection Agency Secretary Jared Blumenfeld and member agency general managers. Over the past several months, CUWA, in partnership with ACWA, has conducted research and developed an issue brief to inform how the state can help strengthen drought preparation and response. The webinar presented key research findings and provided the Secretaries an opportunity to share drought related updates.

Operations: The District Office continues to be closed to the public. The District was closed December 23-29 and December 31 through January 3. The District will be closed Monday, February 21, 2022 in recognition of President's Day.

Community Meetings Attended This Month

Upper Russian River Water Agency (1/5/22): * Cancelled due to lack of quorum.

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) (1/3/22): * Cancelled

Willow County Water District (1/10/22) (Notes from President Watt): The Board voted to increase the office space rent by 9% each year for the next 4 years (RRFC rents office space from Willow.)

Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) (1/13/22): *Request of additional funds from members - \$50,000. (Item will be on our next agenda.) *Report out on Sonoma Water's grant award that includes hydrology studies for PVP.

Millview County Water District (1/18/22): *Developer for Lovers Lane subdivision is requesting a water supply commitment but Millview is reluctant under water supply uncertainty. Property owner may plant vineyard if subdivision is not forthcoming. *Staff reported the City of Ukiah and the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District are in discussions regarding the potential forming of a Joint Powers Authority (JPA.) City and Millview staff is meeting to discuss broader issues of a regional water and wastewater entity. *Well 35 is waiting for final water quality reports before beginning the final plumbing and initiation of production.

Calpella County Water District (1/19/22): No one from RRFC attended.

Redwood Valley County Water District (1/20/22): Informal discussions between Sanitation District, Water District, and City of Ukiah representatives regarding the potential of a regional water and wastewater entity. *Discussion regarding the likelihood of surplus water from RRFC in 2022.

* * * *

Prepared and submitted to the Board of Trustees by: *Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager*