



101 Lucas Valley Road, Suite 300  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
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www.LGVSD.org

**MANAGEMENT TEAM**  
General Manager, Curtis Paxton  
Plant Operations, Mel Liebmann  
Collections/Safety/Maintenance, Greg Pease  
Engineering, Michael P. Cortez  
Administrative Services, Dale McDonald

**DISTRICT BOARD**  
Megan Clark  
Ronald Ford  
Craig K. Murray  
Gary E. Robards  
Crystal J. Yezman

The Mission of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District is to protect public health and our environment, providing effective wastewater collection, treatment, and resource recovery.

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA

April 4, 2024

**MATERIALS RELATED TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 101 LUCAS VALLEY ROAD, SUITE 300, SAN RAFAEL, OR ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE [WWW.LGVSD.ORG](http://WWW.LGVSD.ORG)**

Estimated Time

4:00 PM

**OPEN SESSION:**

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for people desiring to address the Board on matters not on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District. Presentations are generally limited to three minutes. All matters requiring a response will be referred to staff for reply in writing and/or placed on a future meeting agenda. Please contact the General Manager before the meeting.

4:05 PM

**2. APPOINT DISTRICT NEGOTIATOR**

Board to discuss and appoint a District Negotiator for the Closed Session item listed below.

4:10 PM

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**3. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR –** Property: McPhail Site (APNs 180-151-18, 180-161-10, and 180-161-09) McPhail: Approximately 9.76 acres of land (APNs 180-151-18, 180-161-10, & 180-161-09), located at 1565 Vendola Drive, San Rafael, in the County of Marin (unincorporated), that served as the location of the former McPhail Elementary School, which consists of vacant land and secured structures ("McPhail Site"). Agency negotiator: To Be Designated at An Open Session Before This Closed Session. Negotiating parties: San Rafael City Elementary School District. Under negotiation: Instruction to negotiator will concern both price and terms of payment.

4:30 PM

**OPEN SESSION:**

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

These items are considered routine and will be enacted, approved or adopted by one motion unless a request for removal for discussion or explanation is received from the staff or the Board.

- A. Approve the Board Minutes for March 21, 2024
- B. Approve the Warrant List for April 4, 2024
- C. Approve Murray attending IRWA Webinar Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage for Land Professionals March 27, 2024
- D. Approve Award of Contract for Reclamation Pastureland Irrigation Operations and Maintenance Services
- E. Approve Resolution 2024-2325 Updating Signers on the Bank of Marin Bank Accounts

Possible expenditure of funds: Yes, Item B through D.

Staff recommendation: Adopt Consent Calendar – Items A through E.

4:40 PM

**5. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

STAFF/CONSULTANT REPORTS:

- 1. Solar Photovoltaic System Upgrade Project Update from Tim Holmes  
Kenwood Energy - verbal
- 2. General Manager's Report – verbal
- 3. Board Policy F-90-70 Disbursements – written
- 4. Topics for the 2024 Summer Newsletter - written

5:30 PM

**6. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

1. CLARK

- a. NBWA Board Committee, Operations Control Centers Ad Hoc Committee, Fleet Management Ad Hoc Committee, FutureSense Ad Hoc Committee, CASA Workforce Committee, Other Reports

2. MURRAY

- a. Marin LAFCo, Flood Zone 6, Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee, CASA Energy Committee, Development Ad Hoc Committee, San Francisco Bay Trail Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports

3. ROBARDS

- a. Gallinas Watershed Council/Miller Creek, Engineering Ad Hoc Committee re: STPURWE, McInnis Marsh Ad Hoc Committee, Development Ad Hoc Committee, FutureSense Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports

4. YEZMAN

- a. Flood Zone 7, CSRMA, Ad Hoc Engineering Committee re: STPURWE, Marin Special Districts, Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports

5:45 PM

**7. BOARD REQUESTS:**

- A. Board Meeting Attendance Requests – Verbal
- B. Board Agenda Item Requests – Verbal

5:50 PM 8. VARIOUS INDUSTRY RELATED ARTICLES

6:00 PM 9. ADJOURNMENT

**FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES: APRIL 17, APRIL 18 AND MAY 2, 2024**

AGENDA APPROVED:	Craig K. Murray, President	Patrick Richardson, Legal Counsel
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**CERTIFICATION:** I, Teresa Lerch, Board Secretary of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District, hereby declare under penalty of perjury that on or before April 1, 2024 4:00 pm I posted the Agenda for the Board Meeting of said Board to be held on April 4, 2024, at the District Office, located at 101 Lucas Valley Road, Suite 300, San Rafael, CA.

DATED: March 28, 2024



Teresa Lerch  
Board Secretary

The Board of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District meets regularly on the first and third Thursday of each month. The District may also schedule additional special meetings for the purpose of completing unfinished business and/or study sessions. Regular meetings are held at the District Office, 101 Lucas Valley Road, Suite 300, San Rafael, CA.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District at (415) 472-1734 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Notification prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable accommodation to help ensure accessibility to this meeting.

## AGENDA ITEM 1

**4/4/2024**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Board on matters not on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District. Presentations are generally limited to three minutes. All matters requiring a response will be referred to staff for reply in writing and/or placed on a future meeting agenda. Please contact the General Manager before the meeting.**

**4/4/2024**

**APPOINT DISTRICT NEGOTIATOR FOR CLOSED SESSION**

- Separate Item to be distributed at Board Meeting
- Separate Item to be distributed prior to Board Meeting
- Verbal Report
- Presentation

**4/4/2024**

**CLOSED SESSION**

- Separate Item to be distributed at Board Meeting
- Separate Item to be distributed prior to Board Meeting
- Verbal Report
- Presentation

## MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2024

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF THE LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT MET IN OPEN SESSION AT 4:00 P.M. AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 101 LUCAS VALLEY ROAD, SUITE 300 CONFERENCE ROOM, SAN RAFAEL, CA. 94903

- BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Megan Clark, Craig Murray, and Gary Robards.
- BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Crystal Yezman
- STAFF PRESENT:** Curtis Paxton, General Manager; Dale McDonald, District Treasurer.
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Patrick Richardson, District Counsel; Justin Wilcock, Jason Raleigh, and Patty Garbarino with Marin Sanitary Service; Jim Howison with R3 Consulting Group; and Dimitry Semenov with Ridgeline Municipal Services.
- ANNOUNCEMENT:** President Murray announced that the agenda had been posted as evidenced by the certification on file in accordance with the law.

Due to illness, Director Yezman requested in writing to participate in the Board meeting by teleconference for "just cause" pursuant to Gov. Code Sec. 54953(f)(2)(A)(i).

**ACTION:**

Board approved (M/S Clark/Robards (3-0-1-0)) Yezman to attend the Board meeting by teleconference (Zoom) pursuant to Gov. Code Sec. 54953(f)(2)(A)(i).

- AYES: Clark, Murray and Robards.  
NOES: None.  
ABSENT: Yezman.  
ABSTAIN: None.

Yezman joined the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

2. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

These items are considered routine and will be enacted, approved, or adopted by one motion unless a request for removal for discussion or explanation is received from the staff or the Board.

- A. Approve the Board Minutes for March 7, 2024
- B. Approve the Warrant List for March 21, 2024
- C. Approve Board Compensation for February 2023
- D. Approve Murray attending IRA and IJA Progress Report Webinar on March 14
- E. Approve Side Letter between Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District and Operating Engineers Union Local No. 3 Amending Life Insurance Benefit

**ACTION:**

Board approved (M/S Clark/Robards (4-0-0-0)) the Consent Calendar items A through E.

- AYES: Clark, Murray Robards and Yezman  
NOES: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE NO. 194 AMENDING TITLE 4, CHAPTER 1 – REGULATING SOLID WASTE, RECYCLABLE AND ORGANIC MATERIALS, AND THE COLLECITON, REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL THEREOF INCLUDING THE GARBAGE AND REFUSE RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR 2024**

Jim Howison from R3 Consulting, Patty Garbarino, Justin Wilcock, and Jason Rawley from Marin Sanitary Service were available to answer questions from the Board or the public.

**OPENED PUBLIC HEARING** – President Murray opened the public hearing at 4:03 p.m. No members of the public were in attendance. Mr. McDonald provided a summary of the proposed rate adjustment along with an alternative rate sheet that would be effective May 1, 2024 if the Board wished to avoid retroactive billing for services back to January 1, 2024.

**CLOSED PUBLIC HEARING** – President Murray closed the public hearing at 4:18 p.m.

**ACTION:**

Board approved (M/S Robards/Clark (4-0-0-0)) the adoption of Ordinance No 194, An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Chapter 1 of the District Ordinance Code as presented, adjusting the garbage and refuse rate by 6.45% to be effective January 1, 2024, and directing its publication.

AYES: Clark, Murray, Robards and Yezman.  
NOES: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT CONTINUED:** President Murray noticed that a member of the public arrived after the Public Comment period had passed. He reopened the public comment period and asked if the person would like to comment on anything not on the agenda. Fani Hanson of Danadjieva Hansen Architects Inc. introduced herself and said that we all serve the community's interest and that she raised questions on the award of the laboratory design contract, and that she is still waiting for a reply.

**4. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**STAFF / CONSULTANT REPORTS:**

1. CalPERS Unfunded Liability Report – Dmitry Semenov of Ridgeline Municipal Services presented a report on the District's pension liability along with pension cost strategies to lower its future Unfunded Accrued Liability at CalPERS. Staff reported that Strategy B will be considered during the upcoming budget discussions. The Board asked questions and provided direction to staff.
2. General Manager's Report – Paxton reported.

**5. BOARD MEMBER VACANCY PROCESS**

The Board discussed the Board member vacancy process. There was discussion on whether the vacancy should be filled by appointment or left vacant until the November election. A majority of the Board supported seeking applicants and asked that the interviews to be held as soon as possible after the 15-day posting requirement of Gov Code § 1780, with a Special Board Meeting to conduct interviews to be scheduled on April 17, 2024.

**ACTION:**

Board approved (M/S Murray/Clark (4-0-0-0)) filling the vacancy by appointment and receiving candidate applications from March 27 to April 15, 2024.

AYES: Clark, Murray, Robards and Yezman.  
NOES: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.

**6. BOARD ELECTIONS – VICE PRESIDENT**

Board discussed the appointment of a Vice-President.



**ACTION:**

Board approved (M/S Clark/Murray (4-0-0-0)) appointing Gary Robards as Vice-President.

AYES: Clark, Murray, Robards and Yezman

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

**7. NBWA CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP**

The Board discussed becoming a sponsor of the North Bay Watershed Association's 2024 In-Person Conference, Imagine Our Future North Bay: Reinvesting in our Communities and Watershed on April 19, 2024. The Board supported offering our sponsorship booth to a non-profit that aligns with our mission.

**ACTION:**

Board approved (M/S Clark/Robards (4-0-0-0)) sponsoring the North Bay Watershed Association's 2024 In-Person Conference, Imagine Our Future North Bay: Reinvesting in our Communities and Watershed on April 19, 2024, as a Water Collaborator sponsor for \$5,000.

AYES: Clark, Murray, Robards and Yezman

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

**8. BOARD REPORTS**

1. CLARK

- a. NBWA Board Committee – verbal report
- b. 2024 Operation Control Centers Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- c. 2024 Fleet Management Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- d. 2023 FutureSense Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- e. CASA Workforce Committee – verbal report
- f. Other Reports – no report

2. MURRAY

- a. Marin LAFCO –verbal report
- b. Flood Zone 6 – verbal report
- c. CASA Energy Committee – no report
- d. 2024 Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- e. 2024 Development Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- f. 2024 SF Bay Trail Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- g. Other Reports–verbal report

3. ROBARDS

- a. Gallinas Watershed Council/Miller Creek – verbal report Gallinas Creek (CSA#6) met March 13
- b. 2024 STPURWE Engineering Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- c. 2024 McInnis Marsh Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- d. 2024 Development Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- e. 2024 FutureSense Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- f. Other Reports – verbal report on meeting of Northgate Alternative Plan Committee

4. YEZMAN

- a. Flood Zone 7– verbal report that meeting will be held next week
- b. CSRMA – no report
- c. Marin Special District Association – no report
- d. 2024 STPURWE Engineering Ad Hoc Committee – no report
- e. 2024 Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee – no report

- f. Other Reports– verbal report that Santa Venicia Neighborhood Association received notice of the McPhail School property being declared surplus and announcing to public entities and nonprofits of May 31 deadline to declare interest for public use.

**9. BOARD REQUESTS:**

- A. Board Meeting Attendance Requests – Directory Murray requested verbal approval for attending Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage for Land online webinar meeting of the International Right of Way Association on March 27, 2024. It was the consensus of the Board to approve attendance. Formal attendance request will be presented on the consent calendar of April 4, 2024.
- B. Board Agenda Item Requests – Director Yezman requested an agenda item to discuss the McPhail School property be placed on the April 4, 2024 agenda.

**10. MISCELLANEOUS DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE**

Discussion ensued.

**11. ADJOURNMENT:**

**ACTION:**

The board approved (Robards/Clark 4-0-0-0) the adjournment of the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

- AYES: Clark, Murray, Robards and Yezman.
- NOES: None.
- ABSENT: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2024 at 4:00 pm at the District office.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dale McDonald, Acting Board Secretary

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary E. Robards, Vice-President

*Agenda Item* 4B

*Date April 4, 2024*

Vendor	Vendor Name	Invoice Number	Description	Invoice Date	Net Invoice Amount	Amount Paid	Date Paid	Voided
<b>Aqua Engineering Inc</b>								
240	Aqua Engineering Inc	27303	STPURWE- Amendment 10- Bidding & construc	03/24/24	11,600.00	.00		
Total Aqua Engineering Inc:					11,600.00	.00		
<b>Aramark Uniform Service</b>								
250	Aramark Uniform Service	5080401173	Laundry Service - Final Invoice	03/19/24	357.24	.00		
250	Aramark Uniform Service	5080401173	Laundry Service Final Invoice	03/19/24	357.24	.00		
Total Aramark Uniform Service:					714.48	.00		
<b>ArcSine Engineering</b>								
255	ArcSine Engineering	15644	SCADA small pump station improvements	03/14/24	13,712.50	.00		
Total ArcSine Engineering:					13,712.50	.00		
<b>Aries Industries Inc</b>								
260	Aries Industries Inc	427992	Pathfinder Kit	03/15/24	819.04	.00		
Total Aries Industries Inc:					819.04	.00		
<b>AT&amp;T</b>								
270	AT&T	3/7/24 TO 4/6/2	Phone Lines at Pump Station	03/07/24	690.08	.00		
Total AT&T:					690.08	.00		
<b>Banner Bank Escrow 1559</b>								
305	Banner Bank Escrow 1559	0214-53	Retention #53	02/21/24	5,063.30	.00		
Total Banner Bank Escrow 1559:					5,063.30	.00		
<b>Buck's Saw Service Inc</b>								
450	Buck's Saw Service Inc	101819	Auto parts	03/14/24	166.61	.00		
Total Buck's Saw Service Inc:					166.61	.00		
<b>CalNet</b>								
2935	CalNet	21445605	Phone Lines at Pump Station	03/20/24	330.27	.00		
Total CalNet:					330.27	.00		
<b>CalPERS 457 Plan Deferred Comp</b>								
555	CalPERS 457 Plan Deferr	457 3_8	457 Deferred Comp Paydate 3/8	03/15/24	11,270.14	.00		
Total CalPERS 457 Plan Deferred Comp:					11,270.14	.00		
<b>CALPERS Health</b>								
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Active Admin Fee	03/14/24	165.34	.00		
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Retiree Admin Fee	03/14/24	34.50	.00		
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Employer Share- Retired Premium APR	03/14/24	1,413.00	.00		
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Employer Share- Retired Premium APR	03/14/24	157.00	.00		
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Employer Share- Retired Premium APR	03/14/24	1,256.00	.00		
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Health Premium- APR	03/14/24	16,608.31	.00		
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Health Premium- APR	03/14/24	2,335.68	.00		
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Health Premium- APR	03/14/24	4,971.55	.00		
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Health Premium- APR	03/14/24	12,052.65	.00		
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Health Premium- APR	03/14/24	5,107.05	.00		

Vendor	Vendor Name	Invoice Number	Description	Invoice Date	Net Invoice Amount	Amount Paid	Date Paid	Voided
565	CALPERS Health	17487339	Health Premium- APR	03/14/24	10,593.85	.00		
Total CALPERS Health:					54,694.93	.00		
<b>CALPERS Retirement</b>								
575	CALPERS Retirement	3.9.24	EE & ER Retirement- Paydate 3/8	03/27/24	10,055.39	.00		
575	CALPERS Retirement	3.9.24	EE & ER Retirement- Paydate 3/8	03/27/24	2,577.76	.00		
575	CALPERS Retirement	3.9.24	EE & ER Retirement- Paydate 3/8	03/27/24	1,596.25	.00		
575	CALPERS Retirement	3.9.24	EE & ER Retirement- Paydate 3/8	03/27/24	7,085.63	.00		
575	CALPERS Retirement	3.9.24	EE & ER Retirement- Paydate 3/9	03/27/24	4,119.14	.00		
575	CALPERS Retirement	3.9.24	EE & ER Retirement- Paydate 3/9	03/27/24	5,950.70	.00		
Total CALPERS Retirement:					31,384.87	.00		
<b>Caselle Inc</b>								
620	Caselle Inc	131658	Integrated Financial Software-ASM	03/01/24	1,818.00	.00		
Total Caselle Inc:					1,818.00	.00		
<b>CATS4U</b>								
625	CATS4U	7055	Grit Screw Conveyor System Replacement	03/14/24	13,220.54	.00		
625	CATS4U	7055	Grit Screw Conveyor System Replacement - Ch	03/14/24	5,696.24	.00		
625	CATS4U	7055	Grit Screw Conveyor System Replacement - Ch	03/14/24	1,664.43	.00		
625	CATS4U	7056	Secondary Effluent Line Modifications	03/14/24	156,804.15	.00		
Total CATS4U:					177,385.36	.00		
<b>Cintas Corporation</b>								
675	Cintas Corporation	4186617659	Safewasher Filter Service	03/18/24	223.63	.00		
675	Cintas Corporation	4186617659	Laundry Service for week of 03/24/2024	03/18/24	343.14	.00		
675	Cintas Corporation	4186617659	Laundry Service for week of 03/24/2024	03/18/24	343.15	.00		
Total Cintas Corporation:					909.92	.00		
<b>Comet Building Maintenance</b>								
715	Comet Building Maintenanc	172178	Janitorial Services - March	03/21/24	2,152.24	.00		
Total Comet Building Maintenance:					2,152.24	.00		
<b>Direct Dental Administrators LLC</b>								
925	Direct Dental Administrator	D20240322-28	Dental Mar 2024	03/18/24	3,047.06	.00		
925	Direct Dental Administrator	D20240322-28	Dental Mar 2024	03/18/24	489.29	.00		
925	Direct Dental Administrator	D20240322-28	Dental Mar 2024	03/18/24	346.30	.00		
Total Direct Dental Administrators LLC:					3,882.65	.00		
<b>Downing Heating Inc</b>								
950	Downing Heating Inc	A-10010	Perventative Maintenance	03/14/24	2,058.00	.00		
Total Downing Heating Inc:					2,058.00	.00		
<b>G.D. Nielson Construction Inc</b>								
1165	G.D. Nielson Construction I	081-1	McInnis Corp. Yard Paving	03/18/24	1,627.25	.00		
Total G.D. Nielson Construction Inc:					1,627.25	.00		

Vendor	Vendor Name	Invoice Number	Description	Invoice Date	Net Invoice Amount	Amount Paid	Date Paid	Voided
<b>Gardeners Guild</b>								
1180	Gardeners Guild	116242	Landscape Maintenance	03/14/24	2,394.00	.00		
Total Gardeners Guild:					2,394.00	.00		
<b>Grainger</b>								
1235	Grainger	9052353092	Electrical Supplies	03/14/24	8.08	.00		
1235	Grainger	9053270188	Misc. Supplies	03/14/24	44.68	.00		
1235	Grainger	9056059638	Small tools	03/18/24	252.48	.00		
1235	Grainger	9056406102	Misc. Supplies	03/18/24	292.69	.00		
1235	Grainger	9062164596	Misc. Supplies	03/22/24	15.30	.00		
1235	Grainger	9066029910	Misc. Supplies	03/26/24	239.90	.00		
Total Grainger:					853.13	.00		
<b>HASA Inc.</b>								
3055	HASA Inc.	947292	Chemicals	03/14/24	14,966.49	.00		
3055	HASA Inc.	949098	Chemicals	03/21/24	15,019.34	.00		
Total HASA Inc.:					29,985.83	.00		
<b>Huang, Yi Ying</b>								
1330	Huang, Yi Ying	WELLNESS R	Wellness reimbursement	03/26/24	273.54	.00		
Total Huang, Yi Ying:					273.54	.00		
<b>Jackson's Hardware Inc</b>								
1385	Jackson's Hardware Inc	150439	Misc Supplies	03/14/24	19.05	.00		
1385	Jackson's Hardware Inc	150520	Misc. Supplies	03/15/24	6.50	.00		
Total Jackson's Hardware Inc:					25.55	.00		
<b>Jaycox Construction CNG</b>								
1390	Jaycox Construction CNG	LGSD240	FuelMaker Preventative Maintenance Service a	01/29/24	5,834.41	.00		
Total Jaycox Construction CNG:					5,834.41	.00		
<b>Kennedy Jenks Consulting Inc</b>								
1440	Kennedy Jenks Consulting	170388	STPURWE: Amendment 2 - Construction Mana	03/18/24	735.00	.00		
Total Kennedy Jenks Consulting Inc:					735.00	.00		
<b>Leak Detection Pros Inc</b>								
3590	Leak Detection Pros Inc	14156	Leak detection service	03/14/24	500.00	.00		
Total Leak Detection Pros Inc:					500.00	.00		
<b>Liebert Cassidy Whitmore</b>								
1500	Liebert Cassidy Whitmore	254033	Professional rules review - October 2023 misse	10/31/23	793.00	.00		
1500	Liebert Cassidy Whitmore	262382	Professional rules review - additional cost for Ja	02/29/24	1,344.50	.00		
1500	Liebert Cassidy Whitmore	263705	Harrasement Training	02/29/24	2,250.00	.00		
Total Liebert Cassidy Whitmore:					4,387.50	.00		
<b>Murray, Craig</b>								
1710	Murray, Craig	DENTAL REIM	Dental reimbursement	03/14/24	158.60	158.60	03/27/24	

Vendor	Vendor Name	Invoice Number	Description	Invoice Date	Net Invoice Amount	Amount Paid	Date Paid	Voided
Total Murray, Craig:					158.60	158.60		
<b>Myers &amp; Sons Construction LP</b>								
1720	Myers & Sons Construction	0214-53	STPURWE Change Order #61 & 62 (spread sh	02/21/24	96,202.74	.00		
Total Myers & Sons Construction LP:					96,202.74	.00		
<b>North Bay Watershed Assn.</b>								
1790	North Bay Watershed Assn	WATER COLL	Water Collaborator Sponsorship	03/26/24	5,000.00	.00		
Total North Bay Watershed Assn.:					5,000.00	.00		
<b>Orion Protection Services Group Inc</b>								
1860	Orion Protection Services	12997	Nightly Patrol- Smith Ranch	03/17/24	369.61	.00		
Total Orion Protection Services Group Inc:					369.61	.00		
<b>PAC Machine Co Inc</b>								
1875	PAC Machine Co Inc	93813	Parts	03/20/24	2,949.99	.00		
Total PAC Machine Co Inc:					2,949.99	.00		
<b>Paxton, Curtis</b>								
1935	Paxton, Curtis	WRF/EPA BIO	Water Research Foundation/EPA Biosolids Wor	03/26/24	318.02	.00		
Total Paxton, Curtis:					318.02	.00		
<b>Pease, Greg</b>								
1945	Pease, Greg	WELLNESS R	Wellness reimbursement	03/19/24	500.00	.00		
Total Pease, Greg:					500.00	.00		
<b>Platt Electric Supply</b>								
1995	Platt Electric Supply	4V76239	Bulk Electrical Supplies	03/14/24	40.28	.00		
1995	Platt Electric Supply	4X86124	Electrical Supplies	03/19/24	5.68	.00		
1995	Platt Electric Supply	4X89741	Bulk Electrical Supplies	03/15/24	139.13	.00		
1995	Platt Electric Supply	5A45582	Electrical Supplies	03/22/24	67.01	.00		
1995	Platt Electric Supply	6Z17841	Bulk Electrical Supplies	03/14/24	241.58	.00		
1995	Platt Electric Supply	6Z25366	Electrical Supplies	03/22/24	275.94	.00		
Total Platt Electric Supply:					769.62	.00		
<b>Regional Government Services</b>								
2090	Regional Government Serv	16476	Contract services for February 2024	02/29/24	1,548.60	.00		
Total Regional Government Services:					1,548.60	.00		
<b>RelaDyne</b>								
2105	RelaDyne	0100563-IN	Unleaded- Collections	03/19/24	1,157.13	.00		
2105	RelaDyne	0100563-IN	Unleaded- Plant	03/19/24	1,157.14	.00		
2105	RelaDyne	0100563-IN	Diesel- Plant	03/19/24	1,242.22	.00		
2105	RelaDyne	0100563-IN	Diesel- Collections	03/19/24	1,242.23	.00		
Total RelaDyne:					4,798.72	.00		

Vendor	Vendor Name	Invoice Number	Description	Invoice Date	Net Invoice Amount	Amount Paid	Date Paid	Voided
<b>REM</b>								
3165	REM	LEAK CREDIT	Leak Credit 2nd Installement for SSC 80 Mitchel	03/26/24	3,267.45	.00		
Total REM:					3,267.45	.00		
<b>Riedinger Consulting</b>								
2220	Riedinger Consulting	2024-930	STPURWE Additional PCO Support	03/18/24	1,750.00	.00		
Total Riedinger Consulting:					1,750.00	.00		
<b>Shape Incorporated</b>								
2360	Shape Incorporated	32124B20976	4" Elbow	03/22/24	1,530.59	.00		
Total Shape Incorporated:					1,530.59	.00		
<b>United Site Services</b>								
2650	United Site Services	Q-958019	Porta Potties at plant	03/14/24	1,309.34	.00		
Total United Site Services:					1,309.34	.00		
<b>Univar USA Inc.</b>								
2655	Univar USA Inc.	51933001	Sodium Bisulfite	03/12/24	9,570.40	.00		
Total Univar USA Inc.:					9,570.40	.00		
<b>USA BlueBook</b>								
2680	USA BlueBook	INV00309498	Round Rail Style Base Station	03/19/24	318.64	.00		
2680	USA BlueBook	INV00315522	Rail marking posts	03/25/24	215.11	.00		
2680	USA BlueBook	INV00315690	Rail marking posts	03/25/24	336.07	.00		
2680	USA BlueBook	INV00315725	Rail marking posts	03/25/24	21.52	.00		
Total USA BlueBook:					891.34	.00		
<b>Waters Jeffrey</b>								
3245	Waters Jeffrey	GV CERT REN	Certification Renewal	03/26/24	150.00	.00		
Total Waters Jeffrey:					150.00	.00		
<b>WECO Industries</b>								
2765	WECO Industries	0053242-IN	Nozzle	03/15/24	4,016.96	.00		
Total WECO Industries:					4,016.96	.00		
<b>WesTech Engineering LLC</b>								
2960	WesTech Engineering LLC	64605	On-Site Field Service for Bio-Wheel Inspection	03/15/24	5,500.00	.00		
Total WesTech Engineering LLC:					5,500.00	.00		
<b>WEX Health Inc.</b>								
2780	WEX Health Inc.	0001902472-IN	FSA Administration	02/29/24	50.00	.00		
2780	WEX Health Inc.	3_19 FSA	FSA Reimbursement 3-18-24	03/27/24	15.00	.00		
2780	WEX Health Inc.	3_21 FSA	FSA Reimbursement 3-20-2024	03/27/24	313.00	.00		
2780	WEX Health Inc.	3_22 FSA	FSA Reimbursement 3-21-24	03/27/24	232.27	.00		
2780	WEX Health Inc.	3_25 FSA	FSA Reimbursement 3-22-24	03/27/24	923.77	.00		
2780	WEX Health Inc.	3_26 FSA	FSA Reimbursement 3-24-24	03/27/24	195.00	.00		

Vendor	Vendor Name	Invoice Number	Description	Invoice Date	Net Invoice Amount	Amount Paid	Date Paid	Voided
Total WEX Health Inc.:					1,729.04	.00		
<b>Woodland Center Auto Supply Inc.</b>								
2805	Woodland Center Auto Sup	852945	Misc. Fleet Supplies	03/14/24	81.90	.00		
Total Woodland Center Auto Supply Inc.:					81.90	.00		
Grand Totals:					507,681.52	158.60		

Board Member: \_\_\_\_\_

General Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

Finance Manager: \_\_\_\_\_



AGENDA ITEM 4C  
DATE April 4, 2024



## BOARD MEMBER CONFERENCE/ MEETING/WEBINAR ATTENDANCE REQUEST

Date: 3/20/24 Name: MURRAY, Craig K.

I would like to attend the Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage for Land Professionals Meeting of International Right of Way Association (IRWA)

To be held on the 27th day of March from 900am a.m. / p.m. to 27th day of March from to 1100am a.m. / p.m.

Location of meeting: Online

Actual meeting date(s): March 27, 2024

Meeting Type: (In person/Webinar/Conference) Webinar

Purpose of Meeting: Updates in carbon sequestration and Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS)

Meeting relevance to District: Industry Updates from Carbon Capture and Land Professionals.

Request assistance from Board Secretary to register for Conference: YES  NO

**Board Directors to make their own Hotel Reservations and book their own transportation including airfare, taxi and/or shuttles.**

Frequency of Meeting: 1x

Estimated Costs of Travel (if applicable): \$0 N/A

Date submitted to Board Secretary: 3/20/24

Board approval obtained on Date: verbal 3/21/24

**Please submit this form to the Board Secretary no later than 1 week prior to the Board Meeting.**



Join this **webinar** hosted by the  
IRWA International Environment Committee

## Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage for Land Professionals

**Wednesday, March 27, 2024**  
11:00 a.m. (CST) to 1:00 p.m. (CST)  
2 CE Credits

The carbon market is a hot topic we are all hearing about. Land professionals are working on more carbon sequestration pipelines and projects supporting carbon injection/storage technologies, and work is not slowing down anytime soon. Land professionals providing appraisal, right of way negotiations and mineral rights services will benefit from diving in deeper to better understand the basics of what carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) is, why and how more industries and governments are wanting to utilize and improve the technologies for CCUS, the current general status of CCUS and what is hoping to be achieved by implementation of CCUS.

Our panel of carbon experts will share their knowledge and experiences so you can be better prepared to talk to landowners, clients and colleagues when they ask questions about carbon capture, sequestration, utilization and storage.

### *Speakers:*



**Brandon Bromberek**, Vice President of Oil & Gas, Measurement Solutions at Emerson Automation Solutions, will be providing a brief intro into CCUS and how developing and improving CCUS technologies to make it more efficient, financially feasible, sustainable and scalable will help North America.



**Kirk Barrell**, Co-Founder of NuQuest Energy and Petroleum Geologist, will be speaking about the basics of sequestration at injection sites.



**Micah Rorie**, VP of Land with Summit Carbon Solutions, will be talking about their massive Carbon Sequestration Pipeline (Midwest Carbon Express) serving the ethanol and agricultural industries and lessons learned.

### *Moderator:*

**Lauren Kodama Roenicke**, Talent Acquisition Specialist with Chronicle Heritage and IRWA International Environmental Committee Member. Contact: [lroenicke@chronicleheritage.com](mailto:lroenicke@chronicleheritage.com)

### *Support Moderator:*

**Christine Prah**, Co-Founder/CEO of On Pointe Consulting LLC, Environmental Scientist, and IRWA International Environmental Committee Vice-Chair. Contact: [chris@onpointe-llc.com](mailto:chris@onpointe-llc.com)

[Register Now](#)



Item Number 4D  
GM Review CP

# Agenda Summary Report

To: Board of Directors  
From: Mel Liebmann, Plant Manager [mliebmann@lgsd.org](mailto:mliebmann@lgsd.org) 415-526-1526  
Mtg. Date: April 4, 2024  
Re: Bid Award - Reclamation Pastureland Irrigation Operations and Maintenance Services  
Item Type: Consent  Discussion  Information  Other   
Standard Contract: Yes  No  (See attached) Not Applicable

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Board to award a contract to Custom Tractor Services Inc. (CTS) to provide Reclamation Pastureland Irrigation Operations and Maintenance with inclusionary language that obligates CTS to share 30% of the hay crop gross profit proceeds with the District.

## BACKGROUND

Plant effluent that is discharged to the reclamation storage ponds when needed throughout the year must be land applied in the irrigation pastures as a means of disposal. This reduces the storage burden and is anticipated to provide the capacity to successfully meet the full term of the treatment plant creek discharge prohibition period, June through October. The District utilizes professional services to provide pasture preparation, operate and maintain the irrigation equipment, and perform limited levee road and ditch maintenance during the reclamation season. In previous years, the District's need for annual biosolids removal and surface injection work was included as a second bid item but, beginning in the 2023-24 fiscal year, that need will be accomplished as a component of a larger effort to support the District's beneficial biosolids project which will be competitively bid under a separate scope of work and contract.

A single bid from Custom Tractor Services Inc. was received during the invitation for bids period. The Bid was officially opened and read at 10:31 am on March 15, 2024, with the following result recorded:

Custom Tractor Services Inc.

Item 1: Reclamation area pasture irrigation Operations and Maintenance. \$122,500

## PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

The Board awarded a contract to Custom Tractor Services Inc in the amount of \$121,400 for Reclamation Pastureland Irrigation Operations and Maintenance Services with a 30% of gross profit share to the District from the sale of hay crops grown on District lands at the April 6, 2023 meeting.

## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

The activities described above comply with the District's NPDES permit.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

\$122,500



Item Number \_\_\_\_\_ 4E \_\_\_\_\_

GM Review \_\_\_\_\_ CP \_\_\_\_\_

# Agenda Summary Report

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**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Dale McDonald, Administrative Services Manager   
(415) 526-1519 [dmcdonald@lqvsd.org](mailto:dmcdonald@lqvsd.org)  
**Meeting Date:** April 4, 2024  
**Re:** Resolution authorizing signing authority for the Bank of Marin bank accounts and removing signers from the authorized signers list.

**Item Type:** Consent  X  Action \_\_\_\_\_ Information \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ .  
**Standard Contract:** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ (See attached) Not Applicable  X  .

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### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Board to approve Resolution 2024-2325 to add new authorized member to the list of signers and remove those members that are no longer with the district.

### BACKGROUND

The Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District Operating bank accounts held at the Bank of Marin requires a formal resolution by the governing body to authorize representatives on their behalf to establish new accounts, modify existing accounts, and to make deposits or withdrawals into the bank account. Board Member Gary Robards, newly appointed as Vice President, will be added to the authorized signers list.

Concurrently, this resolution will also remove members no longer authorized to be on the approved signers list. The members to be removed from the list are Judy Schriebman and Ron Ford.

### PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

On August 18, 2022, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-2272 authorizing signers for Bank of Marin accounts.

### ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

N/A

### FISCAL IMPACT

None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-2325**

**A RESOLUTION OF LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT  
AUTHORIZING SIGNING AUTHORITY FOR THE BANK OF MARIN OPERATING  
ACCOUNT #03323300 AND ASSOCIATED ACCOUNTS #03510138, #03509510,  
#03508959, #03319258, #03317880, #03511060, #03513652, #03513983, #03716073,  
#03715679 AND REMOVE SIGNERS FROM THE AUTHORIZED SIGNERS LIST**

**LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT  
101 Lucas Valley Road, Suite 300  
San Rafael, California 94903  
Tel: 415-472-1734**

**WHEREAS**, a general operating checking account was established with the Bank of Marin in 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, additional associated accounts were established to conduct District business; and

**WHEREAS**, Board Financial Policy F-90-70 requires that checks drawn from the Operating bank account will be signed by the General Manager and a Board Member, or delegate the signing of the checks to the Administrative Services Manager, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District does hereby find that the authorized signers have changed due to a new board member being appointed as Vice President.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District authorize the following persons or combination of persons listed as signers on the signature card are authorized to endorse, on the behalf of the District, any checks or other items payable to the organization or its order, to deposit such checks and other items into the account(s), with or without such endorsement and to direct withdrawals from the account(s) by check drawing on the account(s) or otherwise, including withdrawals payable to anyone who is an authorized signer until they are removed from their elected or assigned position:

CRAIG K. MURRAY  
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GARY E. ROBARDS  
VICE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

MEGAN CLARK  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CRYSTAL J. YEZMAN  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

CURTIS PAXTON  
GENERAL MANAGER

DALE MCDONALD  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, as follows:

The following signers are to be removed from the authorized signers list:

JUDY SCHRIEBMAN

RONALD FORD

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Administrative Services Manager shall file with the Bank of Marin any required signature cards, consumer information forms, and/or submittals along with a copy of this executed resolution; all of the authorized signatures appearing for authorized signers on the signature card referenced by this resolution are those of the persons authorized to withdraw funds in accordance with this resolutions until such authority is revoked by giving written notice to the Bank of Marin signed by authorized officers of this organization, and, these resolutions are still in force and are unmodified.

\* \* \* \* \*

I hereby certify that the forgoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly passed and adopted by the Sanitary Board of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District, Marin County, California, at a meeting thereof held on the 4<sup>TH</sup> Day of April, 2024, that the following persons or combination of persons listed as signers are authorized to endorse, on the behalf of this of the district, any checks or other items payable to the organization or its order, to deposit such checks and other items into the account, with or without such endorsement and to direct withdrawals from the account by check drawing on the account or otherwise, including withdrawals payable to anyone who is an authorized signer, by the following vote of the members thereof:

AYES, and in favor there of Members:

NOES, Members:

ABSENT, Members:

ABSTAIN, Members:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Lerch, Board Secretary  
Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District

(seal)

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig K Murray, Board President  
Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District

**4/4/2024**

**SOLAR PROJECT UPDATE**

- Separate Item to be distributed at Board Meeting
- Separate Item to be distributed prior to Board Meeting
- Verbal Report
- Presentation

**4/4/2024**

**General Manager Report**

- Separate Item to be distributed at Board Meeting
- Separate Item to be distributed prior to Board Meeting
- Verbal Report
- Presentation






Item Number 5.3

GM Review CP

# Agenda Summary Report

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To: Board of Directors

From: Dale McDonald, Administrative Services Manager   
 (415) 526-1519 [dmcDonald@lqvsd.org](mailto:dmcDonald@lqvsd.org)

Meeting Date: April 4, 2024

Re: Opportunity to Modernize the District’s Disbursement Process (Policy F-90-70) due to the Sanitary District Reform Act

Item Type: Consent            Action            Information X Other           .

Standard Contract: Yes            No            (See attached) Not Applicable X .

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## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Consider revised updates to Board Policy Section F-90-70 Disbursements. All other sections of Board Policy F-90 will remain unchanged.

## BACKGROUND

Board Financial Policy F-90-70 currently requires that all disbursements, whether by check or electronic transfer, be included on a Warrant List for Board approval at a duly noticed meeting. Signatories for checks are identified in the policy. Legislative changes necessitated a review of our disbursement purchasing policy.

California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) sponsored legislation, AB 759 (Grayson), the Sanitary District Reform Act, was adopted and signed into law on June 29, 2023. The Sanitary District Act of 1939 was updated to modernize existing statutory accounting practices. The bill went into effect January 1, 2024. The act repealed and added to Section 6794 of the Health and Safety Code as shown below:

*Section 6794(a) The treasurer, or other person or persons that are authorized by the board, shall draw checks or warrants to pay demands when demands have been approved by the board and signed by the president and secretary.*

*Section 6794(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the board may adopt a procedure that provides for checks or warrants to pay claims and demands without approval by the board of directors before payment if the district treasurer determines the demands are payable within the district's approved budget. The procedure shall contain appropriate internal controls with measures to prevent fraud and ensure accountability, and which are necessary for financial reporting in conformance with the generally accepted accounting principles. Demands so paid shall be presented to the board of directors at the next regular meeting for review. Demands exceeding the district’s approved budget shall be subject to board approval.*

On January 4, 2024, the Board provided feedback on suggested policy changes, asking staff to address concerns on oversight, specifically that the policy should include the ability of the



Board to review details on invoices and their supporting documents. There was discussion on signatories authorized to sign check disbursements in advance of the Board meeting, but no consensus or decision was made. The Board inquired about what other agencies are doing.

Prior to AB 759, Ross Valley Sanitary District established their own internal-control accounting practices and protocols that best suited their district, giving staff the authority to make payments and sign checks in advance of the board meeting. They do require two signatures on checks for valid, documented, and approved expenses and board members can be the second signatory if staff are unavailable. Their board meets monthly and ratifies all prior month expenditures upon a review of a report of the expenditures.

Novato Sanitary District board meets monthly and issues payments/checks twice a month. The board receives check register reports, approves disbursements for the first half of the month, and ratifies the previous month's paid disbursements made after the previous month's board meeting. Checks are signed by the General Manager and a board member. There are no plans to change their practice.

Our District will benefit from modernizing the accounting practices allowed by Section 6794(b) by adopting a procedure to allow the issuance of warrants without obtaining prior Board approval, so long as the demands are payable within the District's approved budget and the check warrant list is included in the meeting materials at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. This practice is already occurring with vendors set up for Electronic-Fund Transfers (EFTs), for example CalPERS and the Bank of Marin who services the District's Recycled Water Loan.

A Petty Cash Checking Account was established to allow payments to be made between warrant approvals by the Board. It is not actively used. The \$500 balance kept in this account is not sufficient to pay bills of significance. If the Board supports the modernization and granting of authority to the General Manager to pay claims and demands from the Operating bank account, there is no need to keep the Petty Cash Checking Account.

Attached is the current and proposed version of Board Policy F-90-70 Disbursements for Board review. The updates proposed are in compliance with Health and Safety Code Section 6794.

The next steps, conditional upon support by the Board, staff will be to:

1. Bring a Resolution modernizing Policy F-90-70 to the Board.
2. Incorporate into the Resolution authorization to close the Bank of Marin Petty Cash Checking account and transfer funds to the Bank of Marin Operating Account.

### **PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION**

On September 1, 2022, the Board adopted Resolution 2022-2277 revising Board Policy F-90.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

N/A

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None




Item Number 5.4

GM Review CP

# Agenda Summary Report

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To: Board of Directors  
From: Dale McDonald, Administrative Services Manager   
(415) 526-1519 [dmcDonald@lqvsd.org](mailto:dmcDonald@lqvsd.org)  
Meeting Date: April 4, 2024  
Re: Topics for the Summer 2024 Newsletter

Item Type: Consent  Action  Information  Other   
Standard Contract: Yes  No  (See attached) Not Applicable

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### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests that the Board discuss proposed topics for the Summer 2024 Newsletter and select topics from the recommended list below.

### BACKGROUND:

The District publishes newsletters approximately every six (6) months to inform its ratepayers about District projects, programs, and other items of interest. Each newsletter typically has one main topic and three to four smaller articles. Staff is planning to mail the Summer 2024 Newsletter the first week of June 2024.

It will be a traditional 4-page color newsletter. The District’s new website allows residents and others to sign up for email alerts. As our email list grows, the District will incorporate electronic delivery of e-Newsletters into our public outreach efforts.

Included with this report is a list of past newsletter topics and their publication date. Below is a list of items for possible inclusion in the newsletter.

- Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District: 70 years of Service to Marin Residents
- Award of architectural design contract for Lab / Board / Education Center building
- Careers in the Wastewater Industry
- Welcome to Our Newest Board Member
- Website Redesigned and Email Alerts
- Electronic Recycling Achieve Zero Waste in Marin
- No Drugs Down the Drain

### PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

N/A

### ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

N/A

### FISCAL IMPACT:

Publication of the newsletter is included in the 2023-24 Budget.

**LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

3/26/2024

**NEWSLETTER TOPICS**

1:24 PM

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Article Title</b>	<b>Publication D</b>	<b>Period</b>
	District Celebrates Completion of the Secondary Treatment Plant Upgrade and Recycled Water Expansion Project	2024	Winter
Plant Upgrade	Low Income Assistance Program Can Help Customers In Need	2024	Winter
Rates	Fighting Climate Change Through Organic Waste Diversion	2024	Winter
Refuse	District Named Recycled Water Agency of the Year	2024	Winter
Awards	Public Invited to Review Hazard Mitigation Projects	2024	Winter
District	Upgraded Treatment Plant Successfully Weathered Storms	2023	Summer
Plant Upgrade	Replacement of Operations and Administration Building in the Works	2023	Summer
Admin Bldg	SF Bay Trail Traverses Las Gallinas Reclamation Ponds	2023	Summer
Reclamation	Welcome Gary Robards, Newest Board Member	2023	Summer
District	Sewer Rate Study Will Guide Board Decision on Sewer Charges	2023	Summer
Rates	Public Hearing Scheduled on Proposed Sewer Service Charge Increase	2023	Summer
Rates	District Evaluates Electric Vehicles to Include in Fleet	2023	Summer
District	Treatment Plant Upgrade Nearly Complete	2022	Fall
Plant Upgrade	Welcome Curtis Paxton, New General Manager	2022	Fall
District	Newest District Board Member Nearing One Year of Service	2022	Fall
District	Wildlife Spotlight Facts about the North American River Otter	2022	Fall
Reclamation	Programs Help Offset Your Costs Later Repair Assistance and Low-income Rate Assistance	2022	Fall
Laterals	Join the District in Helping Protect the Environment	2022	Fall
Pollution prevention	Thermometer Exchange and Battery Recycle Program	2022	Fall
District	Kid's Corner - Match the Truck with it's name	2022	Fall
Recycled Water	Recycled Water - Even More Important During Drought	2022	Spring
District	District Hires Interim General Manager	2022	Spring
Pollution prevention	Zero Waster Marin We can All do our Part To Achieve Zero Waste	2022	Spring
Rates	Sewer Rate Increase Anticipated	2022	Spring
Laterals	Reminder: Sewer Laterals are Property Owner's Responsibility	2022	Spring
District	District Honored for Helping Monitor COVID in Wastewater	2022	Spring
Reclamation	Sharing the Trails at District's Reclamation Area	2022	Spring
Construction	Major Construction Milestone - Completion of Phase 1: Recycled Water Expansion	2021	Fall

**LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

3/26/2024

**NEWSLETTER TOPICS**

1:24 PM

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Article Title</b>	<b>Publication D</b>	<b>Period</b>
		SORTED BY DATE	
Reclamation District	Trails, Ponds, Wildlife and Views: Reclamation is for all to Enjoy	2021	Fall
District	Careers in Wastewater Management	2021	Fall
District	Department Spotlight: Administration and Engineering	2021	Fall
District	How Activated Sludge is Used in Wastewater Treatment	2021	Fall
Refuse	Mobile App for Waste/Recycling Collection	2021	Fall
Recycled Water	Do Your Part to Save Water	2021	Fall
COVID-19	Tracking COVID in our Sewers	2021	Winter
Biosolids	Biosolids-Capturing a Resource	2021	Winter
Flushing	Wipes Clog Pipes	2021	Winter
Construction	Construction Affects Reclamation Area Access	2021	Winter
Construction	Progress Continues on Secondary Treatment Plant Upgrade/Recycled Water Expansion Project	2021	Winter
District	Department Spotlight: Operations	2021	Winter
Laterals	Low Cost Funds Available for Lateral Repair/Replacement	2021	Winter
District	Introducing Dale McDonald New ASM	2021	Winter
Construction	Update on Treatment Plant Upgrade	2020	Spring
Pollution prevention District	Monitoring Helps Keep Mercury Out of the Environment	2020	Spring
	Mutually Beneficial Partnerships Leverage our Efforts	2020	Spring
Pollution prevention District	Help Protect Local Waterways – Tips for your Pool, Spa, or Fountain	2020	Spring
District	Department Spotlight: Collections Systems	2020	Spring
Construction	Update on Treatment Plant Upgrade.	2019	Fall
District	District Administrative/Engineering Office Move.	2019	Fall
Ordinance	Sewer Lateral Ordinance.	2019	Fall
District	PG&E “Public Safety Power Shutoff” Program.	2019	Fall
District	Understanding the Recycled water storage ponds.	2019	Fall
Construction	Update on Treatment Plant Upgrade.	2019	Spring
Construction	Possible Road Closure.	2019	Spring
Rates	New Rates and Public Hearing.	2019	Spring
Drain/Flushing	Are they really Flushable.	2019	Spring
District	New Team at LGVSD: New Employees and Board members.	2019	Spring
District	LGVSD starting strong in 2018.	2018	Winter
District	Chris DeGabriele hired as interim general manager.	2018	Winter
Flushing	Microbeads study under way.	2018	Winter
Biogas	Biogas energy recovery system: another step towards energy independence.	2018	Winter
Plant Upgrade	Current Status of treatment plant upgrade project.	2018	Winter
Admin Bldg	Dilapidated building needs urgent revamping.	2017	Summer
Plant Upgrade	Treatment Plant upgrade addresses critical issues.	2017	Summer
Reclamation	Miller Creek dredging resumes.	2017	Summer

**LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

3/26/2024

**NEWSLETTER TOPICS**

1:24 PM

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Article Title</b>	<b>Publication D</b>	<b>Period</b>
	SORTED BY DATE		
Recycled Water	Potable reuse is the addition of advanced purified water, either indirectly or directly, into a drinking water system.	2017	Summer
Recycled Water	All water is recycled. Don't judge water by its history but by its quality.	2017	Summer
Refuse	Free Service: bulky item removal. Plus, curbside clean-up coming in the fall.	2017	Summer
Laterals	Always Get Three Quotes Before Performing Work	2016	Fall
Pest Control	Keep Mosquitos in Check Around Your Home	2016	Fall
Reclamation	River Otters Provide Student Biologist with Field Experience	2016	Fall
Reclamation	Miller Creek Dredging Begun	2016	Fall
Flushing	Did I cause a sewer overflow? Be aware of what you put down the drain.	2016	Fall
Pollution prevention	We Can All Do Our Part to Achieve Zero Waste	2016	Spring
Recycled water	Advanced Purified Recycled Water – the New Drought Proof Water Supply	2016	Spring
Laterals	Protect your sewer lateral and prepare for wet winter	2015	Fall
Pest Control	Tips for Your Pool, Spa, or Fountain	2015	Fall
Pollution prevention	Thermometer, bulbs and battery exchange	2015	Fall
Grants	Grants Received for Biogas Conversion to Energy	2015	Fall
Reclamation	Parking at reclamation area	2015	Fall
Refuse	Compost giveaway	2015	Fall
Flushing	"Wipe Out" Flushing of Personal Wipes!	2015	Spring
Pest Control	You Can Help Protect the Bay	2015	Spring
Rates	District Continues to Address Aging Infrastructure, Changes in Wastewater Content, and New Regulations	2015	Spring
Rates	Next Phase of Critical Upgrades Requires Fee Increases	2015	Spring
Rates	Tours, Workshops, and Public Hearing Scheduled	2015	Spring
Flushing	Wastewater Treatment Complicated by New Contaminants	2014	Fall
Flushing	Don't Use the Drain as a Dump	2014	Fall
Laterals	Roots and Sewer Laterals Don't Mix Well	2014	Fall
Plant Upgrade	District Forced to Upgrade Aging Treatment Plant to Meet Regulations	2014	Fall
Reclamation	Hiking, Biking, Views on Bayside Trails	2014	Fall
Admin Bldg	Facilities Need Upgrading	2014	Spring
Awards	District Wins Finance Award	2014	Spring
District	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District: 60 Years of Service to Marin Residents	2014	Spring
Laterals	What is a Property Easement and Do You Have One on Your Property?	2014	Spring
Flushing	FDA Questions Effectiveness, Safety of Antibacterial Soaps	2014	Spring

**LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

3/26/2024

**NEWSLETTER TOPICS**

1:24 PM

SORTED BY DATE

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Article Title</b>	<b>Publication D</b>	<b>Period</b>
Pest Control	Keep Your Pool or Spa Clean — and Protect Waterways	2014	Spring
Awards	LGVSD Awarded Certificate of Excellence for Transparency	2014	Winter
Projects	District Looks Ahead to Meet Regulatory Requirements	2014	Winter
Rates	Board considers options for sewer rate billing methods: variable vs. fixed	2014	Winter
Rates	Public Meeting on Proposed Rate Changes	2014	Winter
District	LGVSD Workers Go Above and Beyond to Help a District Customer in Need	2014	Winter
Awards	Awards Recognize Outstanding District Programs and Performance	2013	Summer
District	District Redesigns Website for Easier Access	2013	Summer
Flushing	Protect Water Quality: Watch What You Flush	2013	Summer
Flushing	Antibacterial Soaps Can Harm the Environment and Wildlife	2013	Summer
Plant Upgrade	Upgrades Maintain System Efficiency and Environmental Health	2013	Summer
Projects	LGVSD Will Perform Smoke Testing During Summer Months	2013	Summer
Laterals	It's Time to Have Your Pipes Inspected!	2013	Winter
Laterals	Prepare for the Rainy Season	2013	Winter
Plant Upgrade	LGVSD Launches New Recycled Water Treatment Facility	2013	Winter
Reclamation	LGVSD Trails Offer Hiking, Biking, Views and More	2013	Winter
Recycled Water	Recycled Water: A Track Record for Safety	2013	Winter
Pest Control	Avoid Using The Toxic Insecticide Permethrin	2012	April
Inflow and Infiltration	We Must Reduce Inflow and Infiltration	2012	May
Projects	Lighting Change Decreases Glare, Saves Money	2012	May
Reclamation	Growing Problem: Goose Population Boom	2012	May
Recycled Water	Recycled Water Project Under way	2012	May
Awards	Awarded Sewer Collection System of the Year... Again!	2011	March
Grants	District Awarded \$871,000 Grant for Recycled Water	2011	March
Laterals	What's the Best Way to Fix Laterals and How to Make it Affordable?	2011	March
Laterals	Damaged Laterals Are Privately Owned but Harm the Community	2011	March
Laterals	We Are Developing Lateral Inspection and Repair Options	2011	March
Refuse	Residential food waste composting test a success	2011	March

**LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

3/26/2024

**NEWSLETTER TOPICS**

1:31 PM

SORTED BY Topic

**Publication**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Article Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Period</b>
Admin Bldg	Replacement of Operations and Administration Building in the Works	2023	Summer
Admin Bldg	Dilapidated building needs urgent revamping.	2017	Summer
Admin Bldg	Facilities Need Upgrading	2014	Spring
Awards	District Named Recycled Water Agency of the Year	2024	Winter
Awards	District Wins Finance Award	2014	Spring
Awards	LGVSD Awarded Certificate of Excellence for Transparency Awards Recognize Outstanding District Programs and Performance	2014	Winter
Awards	Awarded Sewer Collection System of the Year... Again!	2013	Summer
Awards	Biogas energy recovery system: another step towards energy independence.	2011	March
Biogas		2018	Winter
Biosolids	Biosolids-Capturing a Resource	2021	Winter
Construction	Major Construction Milestone - Completion of Phase 1: Recycled Water Expansion	2021	Fall
Construction	Construction Affects Reclamation Area Access	2021	Winter
Construction	Progress Continues on Secondary Treatment Plant Upgrade/Recycled Water Expansion Project	2021	Winter
Construction	Update on Treatment Plant Upgrade.	2019	Fall
Construction	Update on Treatment Plant Upgrade.	2019	Spring
Construction	Possible Road Closure.	2019	Spring
Construction	Update on Treatment Plant Upgrade	2020	Spring
COVID-19	Tracking COVID in our Sewers	2021	Winter
District	Public Invited to Review Hazard Mitigation Projects	2024	Winter
District	District Evaluates Electric Vehicles to Include in Fleet	2023	Summer
District	Welcome Gary Robards, Newest Board Member	2023	Summer
District	Welcome Curtis Paxton, New General Manager	2022	Fall
District	Newest District Board Member Nearing One Year of Service	2022	Fall
District	Kid's Corner - Match the Truck with it's name	2022	Fall
District	District Hires Interim General Manager	2022	Spring
District	District Honored for Helping Monitor COVID in Wastewater	2022	Spring
District	Careers in Wastewater Management	2021	Fall
District	Department Spotlight: Administration and Engineering	2021	Fall
District	How Activated Sludge is Used in Wastewater Treatment	2021	Fall
District	Introducing Dale McDonald New ASM	2021	Winter
District	Department Spotlight: Operations	2021	Winter
District	District Administrative/Engineering Office Move.	2019	Fall
District	PG&E "Public Safety Power Shutoff" Program.	2019	Fall
District	Understanding the Recycled water storage ponds.	2019	Fall
District	New Team at LGVSD: New Employees and Board members.	2019	Spring



**LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

3/26/2024

**NEWSLETTER TOPICS**

1:31 PM

SORTED BY Topic

**Publication**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Article Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Period</b>
District	LGVSD starting strong in 2018.	2018	Winter
District	Chris DeGabriele hired as interim general manager.	2018	Winter
District	Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District: 60 Years of Service to Marin Residents	2014	Spring
District	LGVSD Workers Go Above and Beyond to Help a District Customer in Need	2014	Winter
District	District Redesigns Website for Easier Access	2013	Summer
District	Mutually Beneficial Partnerships Leverage our Efforts	2020	Spring
District	Department Spotlight: Collections Systems	2020	Spring
Drain/Flushing	Are they really Flushable.	2019	Spring
Flushing	Wipes Clog Pipes	2021	Winter
Flushing	Microbeads study under way.	2018	Winter
Flushing	Did I cause a sewer overflow? Be aware of what you put down the drain.	2016	Fall
Flushing	“Wipe Out” Flushing of Personal Wipes!	2015	Spring
Flushing	Wastewater Treatment Complicated by New Contaminants	2014	Fall
Flushing	Don’t Use the Drain as a Dump	2014	Fall
Flushing	FDA Questions Effectiveness, Safety of Antibacterial Soaps	2014	Spring
Flushing	Protect Water Quality: Watch What You Flush	2013	Summer
Flushing	Antibacterial Soaps Can Harm the Environment and Wildlife	2013	Summer
Grants	Grants Received for Biogas Conversion to Energy	2015	Fall
Grants	District Awarded \$871,000 Grant for Recycled Water	2011	March
Inflow and Infiltration	We Must Reduce Inflow and Infiltration	2012	May
Laterals	Programs Help Offset Your Costs Later Repair Assistance and Low-income Rate Assistance	2022	Fall
Laterals	Reminder: Sewer Laterals are Property Owner's Responsibility	2022	Spring
Laterals	Low Cost Funds Available for Lateral Repair/Replacement	2021	Winter
Laterals	Always Get Three Quotes Before Performing Work	2016	Fall
Laterals	Protect your sewer lateral and prepare for wet winter	2015	Fall
Laterals	Roots and Sewer Laterals Don’t Mix Well	2014	Fall
Laterals	What is a Property Easement and Do You Have One on Your Property?	2014	Spring
Laterals	It’s Time to Have Your Pipes Inspected!	2013	Winter
Laterals	Prepare for the Rainy Season	2013	Winter
Laterals	What’s the Best Way to Fix Laterals and How to Make it Affordable?	2011	March
Laterals	Damaged Laterals Are Privately Owned but Harm the Community	2011	March
Laterals	We Are Developing Lateral Inspection and Repair Options	2011	March
Ordinance	Sewer Lateral Ordinance.	2019	Fall

**LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

3/26/2024

**NEWSLETTER TOPICS**

1:31 PM

SORTED BY Topic

**Publication**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Article Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Period</b>
Pest Control	Keep Mosquitos in Check Around Your Home	2016	Fall
Pest Control	Tips for Your Pool, Spa, or Fountain	2015	Fall
Pest Control	You Can Help Protect the Bay	2015	Spring
Pest Control	Keep Your Pool or Spa Clean — and Protect Waterways	2014	Spring
Pest Control	Avoid Using The Toxic Insecticide Permethrin	2012	April
Plant Upgrade	District Celebrates Completion of the Secondary Treatment Plant Upgrade and Recycled Water Expansion Project	2024	Winter
Plant Upgrade	Upgraded Treatment Plant Successfully Weathered Storms	2023	Summer
Plant Upgrade	Treatment Plant Upgrade Nearly Complete	2022	Fall
Plant Upgrade	Current Status of treatment plant upgrade project.	2018	Winter
Plant Upgrade	Treatment Plant upgrade addresses critical issues.	2017	Summer
Plant Upgrade	District Forced to Upgrade Aging Treatment Plant to Meet Regulations	2014	Fall
Plant Upgrade	Upgrades Maintain System Efficiency and Environmental Health	2013	Summer
Plant Upgrade	LGVSD Launches New Recycled Water Treatment Facility	2013	Winter
Pollution prevention	Join the District in Helping Protect the Environment		
Pollution prevention	Thermometer Exchange and Battery Recycle Program	2022	Fall
Pollution prevention	Zero Waster Marin We can All do our Part To Achieve Zero Waste	2022	Spring
Pollution prevention	We Can All Do Our Part to Achieve Zero Waste	2016	Spring
Pollution prevention	Thermometer, bulbs and battery exchange	2015	Fall
Pollution prevention	Monitoring Helps Keep Mercury Out of the Environment	2020	Spring
Pollution prevention	Help Protect Local Waterways – Tips for your Pool, Spa, or Fountain	2020	Spring
Projects	District Looks Ahead to Meet Regulatory Requirements	2014	Winter
Projects	LGVSD Will Perform Smoke Testing During Summer Months	2013	Summer
Projects	Lighting Change Decreases Glare, Saves Money	2012	May
Rates	Low Income Assistance Program Can Help Customers In Need	2024	Winter
Rates	Sewer Rate Study Will Guide Board Decision on Sewer Charges	2023	Summer
Rates	Public Hearing Scheduled on Proposed Sewer Service Charge Increase	2023	Summer
Rates	Sewer Rate Increase Anticipated	2022	Spring
Rates	New Rates and Public Hearing.	2019	Spring
Rates	District Continues to Address Aging Infrastructure, Changes in Wastewater Content, and New Regulations	2015	Spring
Rates	Next Phase of Critical Upgrades Requires Fee Increases	2015	Spring
Rates	Tours, Workshops, and Public Hearing Scheduled	2015	Spring

**LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

3/26/2024

**NEWSLETTER TOPICS**

1:31 PM

SORTED BY Topic

**Publication**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Article Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Period</b>
Rates	Board considers options for sewer rate billing methods: variable vs. fixed	2014	Winter
Rates	Public Meeting on Proposed Rate Changes	2014	Winter
Reclamation	SF Bay Trail Traverses Las Gallinas Reclamation Ponds	2023	Summer
Reclamation	Wildlife Spotlight Facts about the North American River Otter	2022	Fall
Reclamation	Sharing the Trails at District's Reclamation Area	2022	Spring
Reclamation	Trails, Ponds, Wildlife and Views: Reclamation is for all to Enjoy	2021	Fall
Reclamation	Miller Creek dredging resumes.	2017	Summer
Reclamation	River Otters Provide Student Biologist with Field Experience	2016	Fall
Reclamation	Miller Creek Dredging Begun	2016	Fall
Reclamation	Parking at reclamation area	2015	Fall
Reclamation	Hiking, Biking, Views on Bayside Trails	2014	Fall
Reclamation	LGVSD Trails Offer Hiking, Biking, Views and More	2013	Winter
Reclamation	Growing Problem: Goose Population Boom	2012	May
Recycled Water	Recycled Water - Even More Important During Drought	2022	Spring
Recycled Water	Do Your Part to Save Water	2021	Fall
Recycled Water	Potable reuse is the addition of advanced purified water, either indirectly or directly, into a drinking water system. All water is recycled. Don't judge water by its history but by its quality.	2017	Summer
Recycled Water	Advanced Purified Recycled Water – the New Drought Proof Water Supply	2017	Summer
Recycled water	Water Supply	2016	Spring
Recycled Water	Recycled Water: A Track Record for Safety	2013	Winter
Recycled Water	Recycled Water Project Under way	2012	May
Refuse	Fighting Climate Change Through Organic Waste Diversion	2024	Winter
Refuse	Mobile App for Waste/Recycling Collection	2021	Fall
Refuse	Free Service: bulky item removal. Plus, curbside clean-up coming in the fall.	2017	Summer
Refuse	Compost giveaway	2015	Fall
Refuse	Residential food waste composting test a success	2011	March

4/4/2024

## **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

### **CLARK**

**NBWA Board Committee, CASA Workforce Committee, Operations Control Centers Ad Hoc Committee, Fleet Management Ad Hoc Committee, FutureSense Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports**

### **MURRAY**

**Marin LAFCO, Flood Zone 6, Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee, CASA Energy Committee, Development Ad Hoc Committee, SF Trail Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports**

### **ROBARDS**

**Gallinas Watershed Council/Miller Creek, Engineering Ad Hoc Committee re: STPURWE, McInnis Marsh Ad Hoc Committee, Development Ad Hoc Committee, FutureSense Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports**

### **YEZMAN**

**Flood Zone 7, CSRMA, Ad Hoc Engineering Sub-Committee re: STPURWE, Marin Special Districts Association, Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports**

IIJA and IRA Progress Report: Update from Rural America  
March 14, 2024 (Pi Day)  
EESI – Washington DC Congress Briefing EESI.org  
Rayburn House Office Building, Room: 2168  
45 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20515  
Craig K. Murray

**Speaker Sandra Purhoit**

**VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION FUNDING**



Lucinda Stuenkel, Palmer Kansas

- REDUCES COSTS
- BOOSTS FARM RESILIENCE
- REDUCES EMISSIONS
- WILDLY POPULAR

**CONSERVATION FUNDING CRITICAL TO FARMERS AND US FOOD SECURITY**



IIJA: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act  
IRA: Inflation Reduction Act

Extra income cows on cover crops. Soil increase water absorption 5x means more water on farm while others whilted. Also building economic systems true in rural America.

**Clare Sierawski, Senior Energy Counselor, USDA**, before West Africa Trade Wind Scale Solar and Hydro programs. Real Struggle for small and medium sized farmers in the red. REAP: Rural Energy for America Program: Over \$6.8B invested mostly in rural electric cooperatives. 3,000 REAP awards out and improved env. Review plans and famer benefit plans. Small scale farmers with wind turbine savings \$10k/year with funds from Inflation Reduction Act. Grants up to 50% grant and up to \$1M (used to be \$500k) and now over 1,000 fold increase in funding increase. Shows Farmers really in need. Can used to building AD . Example with Micro, Hydrothermal, supporting businesses too laundromat and dry cleaning. REAP TAG Technical Asst. Program. Distressed/Disadvantaged Cmmunites tribal, projects being pursued under \$20k. USDA Powering Affordable Energy. PACE: Powering Affordable Clean Energy. 300 Letter of interest (LOIs) partially forgivable loans. 20% rural; 40% disadv. And 60% forgiven for Tribes. Interest in tax credits too. USDA.gov.

\$139M in AZ, Co, AI and NE first five pace awards. New ERA \$10B for rural electric cooperatives. Over \$47B interest and if all committed then \$100B in rural America. Other Solar Siting options.

Picture in picture

## Rural Development - Inflation Reduction Act

**Three Clean Energy Programs:**

Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Powering Affordable Clean Energy (USDA PACE)

Empowering Rural America (New ERA)

- Largest investment in rural electrification since 1936.
- Grant, loan, loan modification, and partial loan forgiveness programs to expand clean, affordable, and reliable energy.
- Reduced pollution, improved health, jobs, and lower energy costs for rural America.
- Once in a generation opportunity for economic development and to enhance the quality of life in rural communities.

**EESI**  
Environmental and Energy

RESP Rural Energy Savings Program. Rural utility service allows to lend at 0% rate and on lend to others to rural electricity to unlend to them: for many things lighting, hvac. Been seeing great results eg Traverse City MI. Utilities access this program.

**Toniqua Hay DOE Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations** \$1B from IIJA for Tech Asst to systems replicable and scabale. Deployment. Energy improvements in rural or remote areas. \$6.3B industrial demonstrations. \$8B clean hydrogen hubs.

Picture in picture


## ERA Program Overview

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) authorizes DOE to invest **\$1 billion in Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas**. The DOE Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA) Program is managed by the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations.

### Purpose

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To provide financial assistance to improve, in rural or remote areas of the United States, the **resilience, safety, reliability, and availability** of energy and environmental protection from adverse impacts of energy generation.




### Program Goals


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- ① **Deliver measurable benefits to energy customers in rural or remote areas** by funding replicable energy projects that lower energy costs, improve energy access and resilience, and/or reduce environmental harm;
- ② **Support new rural or remote energy system models** using climate-resilient technologies, business structures that promote economic resilience, new financing mechanisms, and/or new community engagement practices; and
- ③ **Build clean energy knowledge, capacity, and self-reliance in rural America**




37

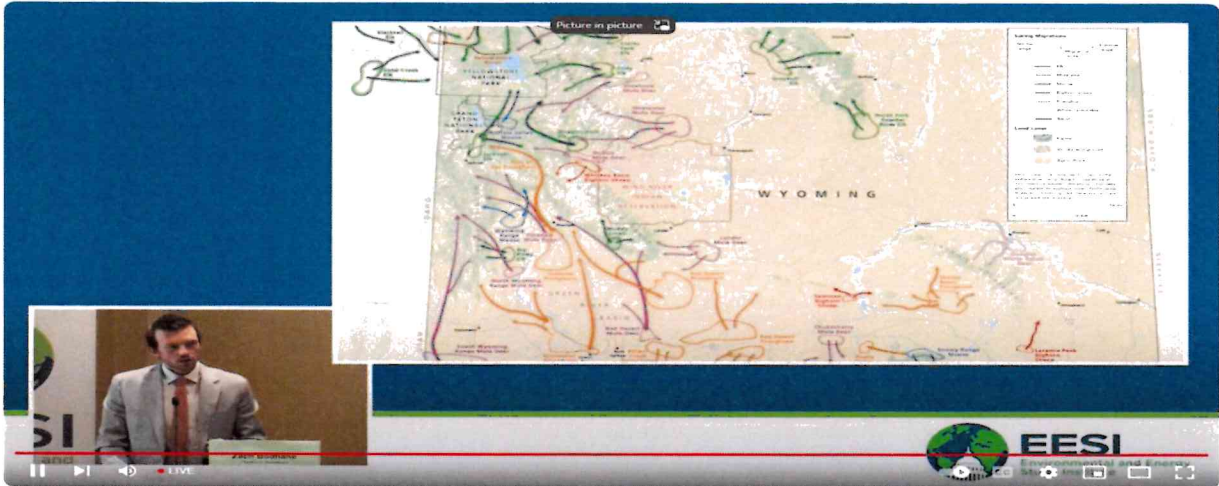




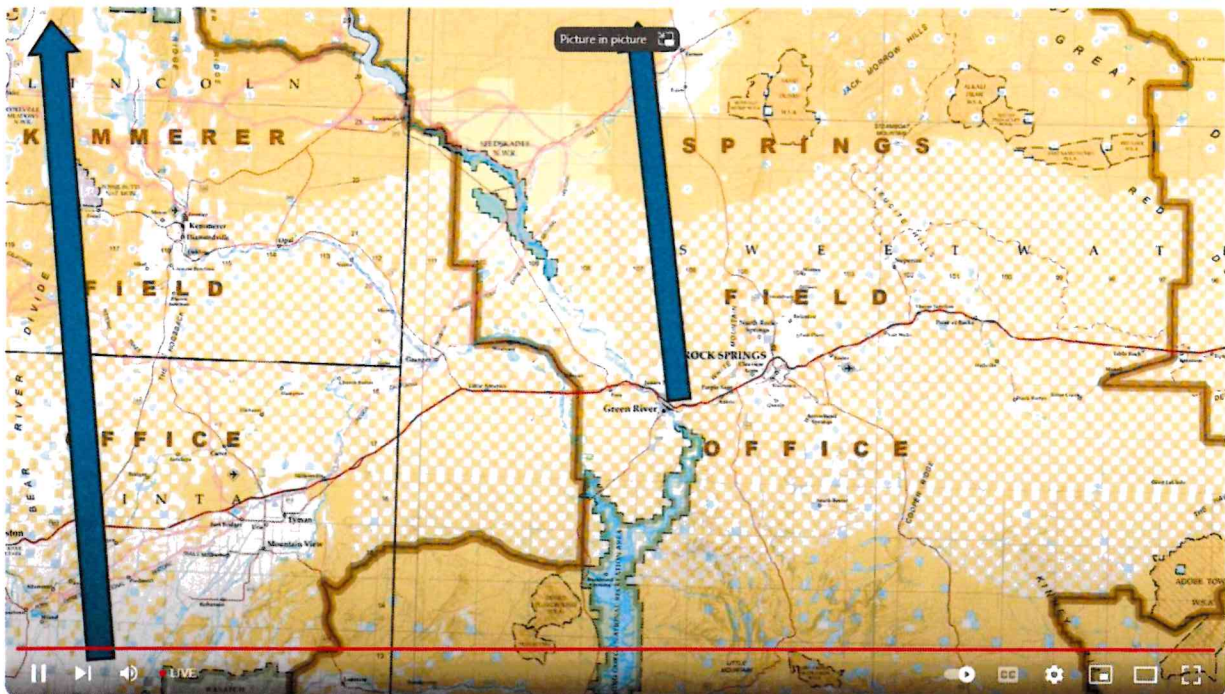
IIJA and IRA Progress Report: Updates from Rural America

365 concept papers received, 17 projects selected for award negotiations, 78 concept papers encouraged. DOE \$300M to increase energy affordability and promote climate resilience with fed. Cost share ranging \$5 to \$100M/project. ERA selections lower 48 and Alaska most remote communities. Angoon AK; Old Harbor AK; Chignik Bay AK. Many plan to deploy more than 1 technology. Happy Pi Day. Microgrid, Hydro, BESS. OCED req. applicants to include community benefits plans justice 40 initiative, greater justice equity and security. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility and all as important as technical part of application. \$8M solar PV and Battery Storage projects Hopi and Navajo Nations – 300 homes off grid and less cost then trying to bring on grid. Old Harbor 50 air miles, high energy bills, tribe will sell hydropower Fed cost share \$10M. Solar & Storage microgrids for Rural community health centers. Solar PV & battery storage up to 175 rural community health center sites with resilient, clean energy. \$45M in est. energy cost savings. \$57M fed cost share.

**Zach Bodhane Govt. Relations Dir. Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership..** Working Lands Conservation issues, Western.Gov Assoc.Wildlife Connection, habitat. Public and Private Lands, Water resources, climate solutions and Marine fisheries. IRA and IJA working groups.



Daily movement of wildlife important. Fish and Wildlife intertwined with landscapes. Not just preserves and parks. Winter spend in low lying southern private agricultural production areas and summer move up to Tetons. SW WY map of ownership. BLM **ownership checkerboard** with private problem and **land grants from railroad companies**. Barriers and fencing for Wildlife



IJA and IRA Progress Report: Updates from Rural America

Fish passage, ecosystem restoration for various IJA projects. DOT targets lot of funds need to be at table. \$20B to USDA particular for Climate SMART agriculture.

: LGVSD EESI Notes IJA and IRA Progress Report 3 14 24



Picture in picture

## IIJA Investments

- DOT Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) **\$350M**
- FWS National Fish Passage Program (NFPP) **\$200M**
- DOT Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grants (AOP) **\$1B**
- DOT Bridge Investment Program **\$12.5B**
- DOT PROTECT Grants **\$1.4B**
- DOT Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund **\$120M**
- DOI/USFS Ecosystem Restoration & Resilience Programs **\$1.4B**




WCCP Grants: Wildlife Crossing programs: \$100M FY 22-23 to Cities, Counties, DOTs and Tribes and federal land management agencies. Program already oversubscribed. Fish Passage Funding \$2B for aquatic ecosystem restorations, infrastructure improvement and culvert removal. \$531 M funded so far for eight federal agencies. Huge success. USDA \$20 B through IRA for Migratory Big Game Initiative. Priority Migration Corridors. Annual rental payments for improved mgt., invasive weed treatment, habitat restoration, grassland CRP – long-term stewardship. ID, MT looking to expand nationwide. [zbodhane@trcp.org](mailto:zbodhane@trcp.org)

**Frances Sawyer, Pleiades Strategy - Policy Research and Design.** Tom Steyer and CA Gov. Jerry Brown. Projects built with deep community leadership. Rural Cooperatives serve 92% and not able to access clean energy tax credits like larger corporations. \$12B PACE; New Era Oversubscribed for all 42M Americans. Deliver lower cost clean energy and household savings. NRRL – wealth of knowledge at Labs and open portal now on how to access knowledge. Great capacity need in rural and managing supply and demand. Community Benefit and Engagement Plans and baked in with project coordinators to deliver benefits to the community and how to build with faith, farmer and labor to deliver multiple goals with persons from placed based organizations. Strengthen our grid and our economy.

Q/A: ? Tech Asst to each State for rural farmers – Free? A: yes, first time doing tech asst. ? House Sustainable Energy Coalition/Sharon: Investments in Districts, good USDA list of fundings and DOE pie chart of energy systems funded. A: USDA date can be provided for REAP and new program called RAISE to help new energy systems. IRA and IIJA programs online now. Have a dashboard too. ? Ann Groome, Private Equity: Long term sustainability,

what in program framework to say small hydro project did work, same for microgrids expensive to build and maintain and with money invested. A: Sandra: Lot of funding recycled with loan for program & longevity there, Clare: reporting some out to 10 years and working with many rural electric cooperatives for over 70 years; Toniqua: reporting req., OCED imprt. To support new models to promote economic resilience. Zach – show working with a Mgt. Plan that has been federally approved. Durability is demonstrating broad buy in and success and benefitting real people and fish and wildlife. Real problem with Env. Compliance, NEPA like culvert removal to improve environmental outcomes and some things struggling with now. Frances: “Baked In”. ? States with more REAP A: MN, Iowa more active, there is a dashboard to see who is receiving funding.

Rooney Ldz Where can we find the report?

 @eesionline Hi @Rooney Ldz , could you please specify the report you're referring to? Sorry, we've just noticed your question!

Rooney Ldz Apologies. It is the report that Ms. Puroht referenced during her presentation. This is a great webinar, by the way. Thank you.

R

Rooney Ldz Also, Ms. Hay's presentation is not on the resources provided.



@eesionline Hi @Rooney Ldz , you can download the report here (it looks like you'll need to provide your email address): <https://e2.org/reports/clean-economy-...>

R

Rooney Ldz @eesionline Thank YOU!



@eesionline Unfortunately, we did not receive permission to post Ms. Hay's presentation. But you should be able to find a lot of the information here: <https://www.energy.gov/oced/era>

Rooney Ldz @eesionline Understandable. Thanks

Online audience: How much of IRA been implemented (IIJA had year start)? A: Sandra meant to be 10 year program & partnerships take time. More to come. Clare: What do you consider implementation. Each Fed. Dept. rolling out EPA. USDA did 3k REAP awards last year really moving money, 1k awards this year and announcing first pace awards and new era announcement of awards late summer. Some will be large and complex.

###

## IRWA Educational Committee Webinar: Carbon Capture, Storage, and Utilization for Land Professionals

March 27, 2024

Craig K. Murray, SR/WA

The carbon market is a hot topic we are all hearing about. Land professionals are working on more carbon sequestration pipelines and projects supporting carbon injection/storage technologies, and work is not slowing down anytime soon. Land professionals providing appraisal, right of way negotiations and mineral rights services will benefit from diving in deeper to better understand the basics of what carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) is, why and how more industries and governments are wanting to utilize and improve the technologies for CCUS, the current general status of CCUS and what is hoping to be achieved by implementation of CCUS.

Our panel of carbon experts will share their knowledge and experiences so you can be better prepared to talk to landowners, clients and colleagues when they ask questions about carbon capture, sequestration, utilization and storage.

### Speakers



#### **Brandon Bromberek**

Vice President of Oil & Gas, Measurement Solutions at Emerson Automation Solutions, will be providing a brief intro into CCUS and how developing and improving CCUS technologies to make it more efficient, financially feasible, sustainable and scalable will help North America.



#### **Kirk Barrell**

Co-Founder of NuQuest Energy and Petroleum Geologist, will be speaking about the basics of sequestration at injection sites.



#### **Micah Rorie**

VP of Land with Summit Carbon Solutions, will be talking about their massive Carbon Sequestration Pipeline (Midwest Carbon Express) serving the ethanol and agricultural industries and lessons learned

## Today's Carbon Webinar Panelists:



**Brandon Bromberbek**

VP of Oil & Gas Measurement Solutions  
with Emerson Automation Solutions

Carbon Capture, Utilization, and  
Storage Technology



**Kirk Barrell**

Co-Founder & Partner  
with NuQuest Energy LLC;  
Founder of Barrell Energy

Carbon Sequestration,  
Injection, and Storage



**Micah Rorie**

VP Land & ROW  
with Summit Carbon Solutions

Case Study  
Midwest Carbon Express Project

Chris Prah: IRWA started in 1934 for those in R/W. A Global, member-led organization of dedicated professionals within the right of way industry. IRWA is known for the education and credentialing (RWA, RWP, SR/WA) they offer their members to advance their careers in the industry. Better lives through infrastructure development. Saudi Arabia/87; Nigeria/84; South Africa/83; Australia/86; Mexico/85 and 10 regions with Chapters across the United States of America.

[www.irwaonline.org/members/membership-information/](http://www.irwaonline.org/members/membership-information/) Annual membership benefits:

### Membership & Resources

[www.irwaonline.org/members/membership-information/](http://www.irwaonline.org/members/membership-information/)

#### Annual Membership Fee Provides

- ✓ Discounts on courses, conferences, and events
- ✓ Access to trainings, education, credentialing
- ✓ Access to leadership opportunities
- ✓ Membership Network Directory
- ✓ Career Center
- ✓ Professional Networking
- ✓ Subscription to Right of Way Magazine publication
- ✓ Awards and Recognition



### Right of Ways Connect Us

**CCUS: Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage.** Ag, Chemical, Steel, Cement and many industries touched to meet net zero goals. 2015 Paris summit agreed to reduce 1.5 degrees Celsius. Lauren Roenicke: Introduce Brandon Bromberbek: Joined Emerson, Hydrogen. Oil and Gas Industry Masters Degree. The Carbon Capture Value Chain, How Advanced Automation Ensures Integrity, Emerson. Emerson: Software and Engineering area to make world more sustainable, north

America and world. Energy, Chemical and also other areas like food & beverage. How to we improve internal environmental sustainability performance; How we support customers decarbonization; How we foster collaboration of stakeholders.

### Emerson's Greening By Priorities



#### ENERGY SOURCE DECARBONIZATION

Low-carbon power (solar, wind, hydro, nuclear, biomass)

Low carbon fuels (biofuels, biogas, LNG)

Hydrogen & hydrogen-based fuels



#### ENERGY & EMISSIONS MANAGEMENT

Emissions monitoring & control

**Carbon capture, utilization, storage & removal**

Advanced controls, analytics & simulation



#### ELECTRIFICATION & GRID SYSTEMS

Smart grid & network management

Energy transport & storage

Workforce safety & productivity

Critical minerals value chains



#### CIRCULARITY & WASTE REDUCTION

New molecules production (Bio-based materials)

Materials & minerals recycling & circulation

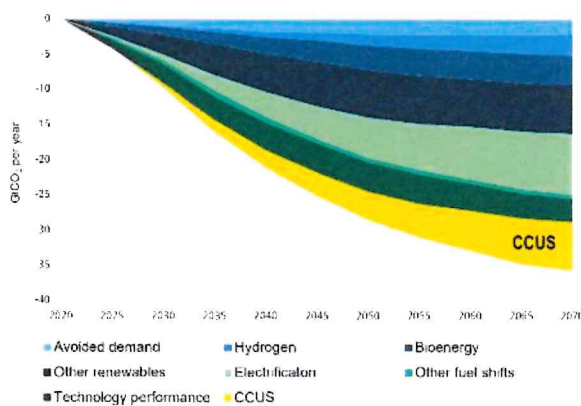
Water & waste management

Emerson 2022 ESG Report

### CCS/CCUS Offers Viable Role in Meeting Net Zero Targets

Carbon capture represents an estimated 15% of total CO<sub>2</sub> reductions by 2070

Global energy sector CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reductions



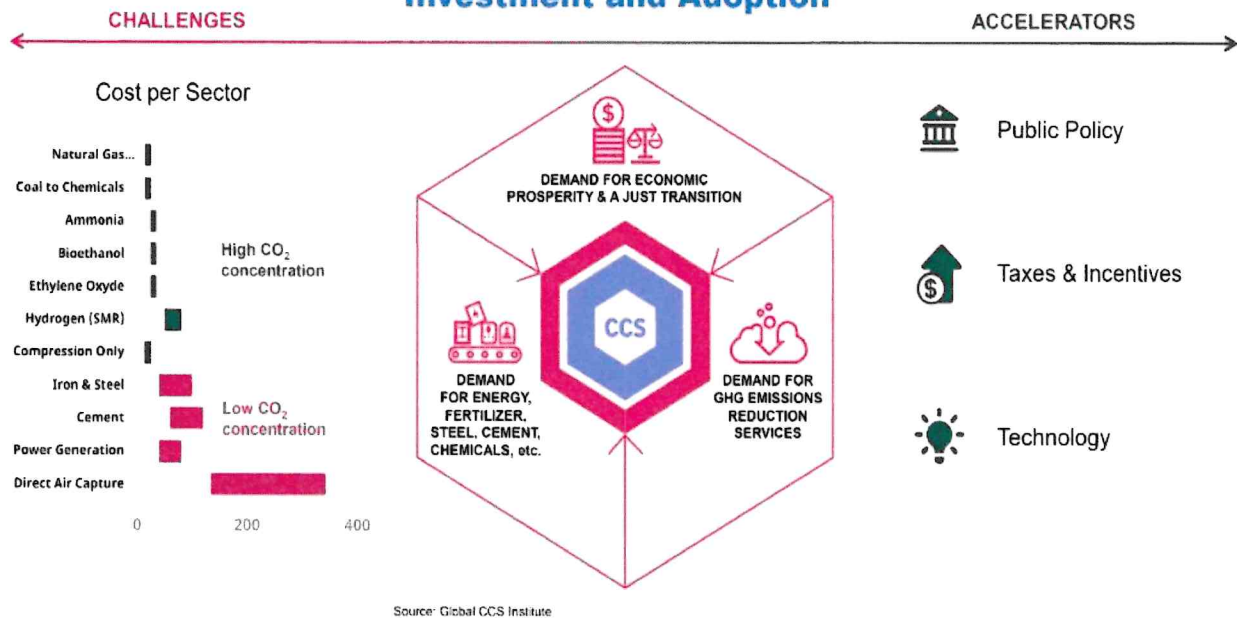
Source: IEA

While progress has been slow, CCUS development is picking up

- ~40 commercial facilities in operation today, with ~45Mt Co<sub>2</sub>/yr captured
- ~500 projects in various stages of development
- ~50 new facilities to be in operation by 2030, capturing ~125 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>/yr
- Even at such a level, only ~1/3 of that required under NZE 2050 scenario captured by 2030


Pace of developing economies a lot larger than what we can reduce demand by. Cement, Steel industry needs of electrification is just no there for so rely on carbon fuels. We capture about .1 % so long way to go.

## Advanced CCS: Nexus of Demand, Investment and Adoption



Not everyone signing up so need to do it so it makes economic sense. Can go all the way to direct air capture (~.04 %) of carbon. Value chain in 4 core parts: capture & purification; compression/liquefaction; transportation; geologic storage. Capture:

### Capture & Purification: Multiple Methods

	CAPTURE METHODOLOGY	BENEFITS AND LIMITATIONS
 <p><b>Capture &amp; Purification</b></p> <p><b>Business Objective</b> Separate and purify complex toxic gas to yield high purity CO<sub>2</sub>.</p>	<p><b>Pre-combustion:</b> convert fossil fuels into individual components; capture CO<sub>2</sub> along the way</p> <p><b>Post-combustion:</b> collect CO<sub>2</sub> after an industrial process or power plant produces it as exhaust or a chemical byproduct.</p> <p><b>Direct air capture (DAC):</b> draw in extremely high volumes of air using fan arrays, then compress and filter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>More efficient</b></li> <li>• <b>Usually requires new facilities</b></li> <li>• <b>Can retrofit to existing processes</b></li> <li>• <b>Less efficient; more energy intense</b></li> <li>• <b>Likely to play critical long-term role</b></li> <li>• <b>More costly than other methods</b></li> </ul>

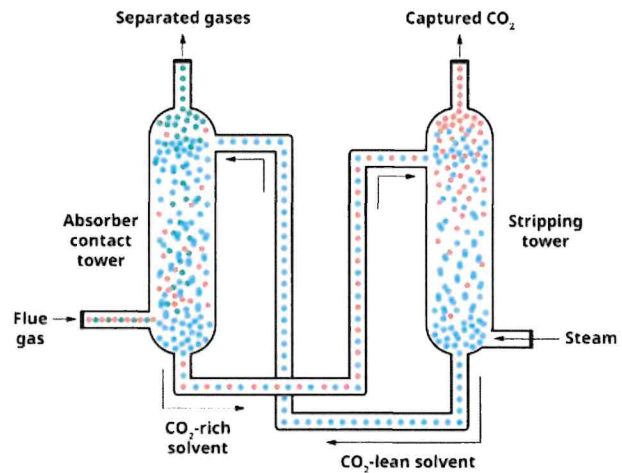
DAC: Direct Air Capture. A very low element. High cost.



## Capture & Purification: Process Overview

### Post-combustion Capture Process Overview

1. Flue gas from plant desulfurized.
2. Flue gas rises in absorber. Solvent drops down as CO<sub>2</sub> binds to the solvent.
3. Rich solvent is heated in the heat exchanger using steam energy.
4. Stripper separates solvent from CO<sub>2</sub>.
5. Lean solvent is recycled and sent back to absorber.
6. Pure CO<sub>2</sub> is captured.



Separate and purify complex toxic gas to yield high purity CO<sub>2</sub>.

Most common method is absorption with solvent, then heated up to release and vaporize the CO<sub>2</sub>. Can also pressure to allow solvent to separate. Series of heating & cooling to bond and then disassociate where want it to. 10-40% of energy of power plant (“The Energy Penalty”) to capture the carbon. Higher the conc. Of CO<sub>2</sub> lower the cost. Cost per ton. \$600-\$1,000/ton for lower conc.



## Balance Capture Rate and Energy Use

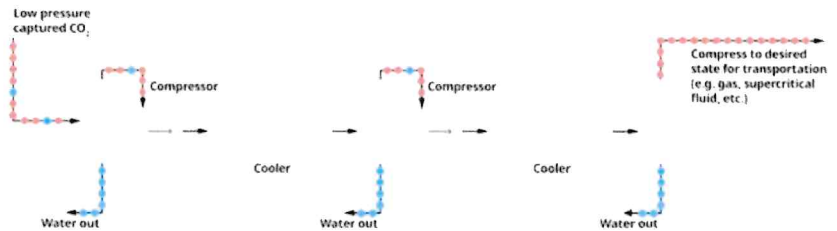
Operational Challenges	Value Enablers	Impact / Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedstock flow rate can vary dramatically</li> <li>• Plant operations are intertwined</li> <li>• Operational deviations are not intuitive to manage</li> <li>• Sequential processes in the capture process interact in complex ways</li> </ul>	<p>Emerson's <b>DeltaV control system</b> is enhanced by AspenTech <b>adaptive and predictive advanced process or state-based control</b>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> 10% reduction in energy consumption</li> <li> &gt;50% improved overall stability of carbon capture process</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incoming gas composition can vary dramatically</li> <li>• Fluid concentration measurements are not easily obtainable</li> <li>• Capture operations need to adjust as close to “real-time” as possible</li> </ul>	<p>Emerson's line of <b>gas analyzers and density instruments</b> provide precise results to optimize the entire capture process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Reduced response time from gas analyses enables tighter optimization of capture processes</li> <li> Real-time concentration monitoring provides advance warning in solvent regeneration / recharging</li> </ul>



## Compression & Liquefaction: Process Overview

### Liquefaction Process

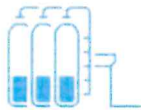
1. CO<sub>2</sub> moves through a series of compressors, or compressor train, to increase pressure.
2. Intercoolers lower the CO<sub>2</sub> temperature prior to the next stage of compression and to condense out the water or other contaminants.
3. Fluid exits compression clean of contaminants, including water, and in the proper state for transport.



*Efficiently compress or liquify CO<sub>2</sub> to the ideal, stable state for transport.*

Compressing to pipeline (1100 to 1600 psi and temp.) standards. Gives CO<sub>2</sub> higher density so reduce volume to move. On site power plant or debunkering if shipped by vessel.

### Compression & Liquefaction: Preparing CO<sub>2</sub> for Transportation



Compression/  
Liquefaction

#### Business Objective

Efficiently compress or liquify CO<sub>2</sub> to the ideal, stable state for transport.

#### Equipment Reliability

“Run to failure” reactive maintenance strategies

Poor visibility to wear and tear on critical assets (pumps, compressors, etc.)

Nature of process contributes to accelerated corrosion

Equipment performance can create CO<sub>2</sub> phase instability (liquid vs. solid vs. gas)

#### HOW TO ACHIEVE EQUIPMENT INTEGRITY

##### Monitor rotating equipment

Implement preventative & predictive maintenance



##### Lessen impact of corrosion

One compressor can impact the compressor train and the whole process. Liquefying NG same operational requirements as CO<sub>2</sub>.





## Rotating Equipment and Corrosion Monitoring

Operational Challenges	Value Enablers	Impact / Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complex, multi-stage process is challenging to control</li> <li>Fluid instability may exacerbate mechanical stresses</li> </ul>	<p>Emerson's suite of <b>vibration monitoring hardware and software</b> provide real-time monitoring and analysis to prevent failures on critical equipment</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vibration analytics take the guess work out of predicting failures</li> <li>Reduce installed cost and enhanced monitoring / analytics for remote assets</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heightened awareness for safe operations when operating at high pressures</li> <li>Pressure containment risks can go unnoticed until failure occurs</li> </ul>	<p>Emerson's <b>inline and external corrosion monitoring solutions</b> provide early detection of safety or containment risks</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased safety thru early detection of potential pipe or vessel failures</li> <li>Reduced risk of captured gas leaking into atmosphere</li> </ul>

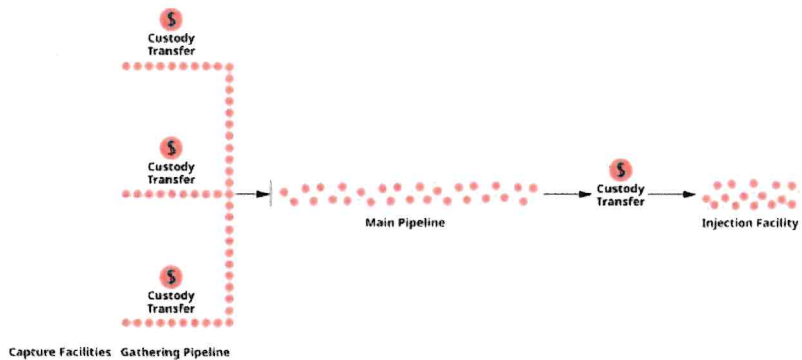
Carbonic Acid, corrosive CO<sub>2</sub> and managing in process is important. Look at wall thickness and wear without have to penetrate pipeline itself.



## Transportation: Process Overview

### Transportation Process

1. Transport stable CO<sub>2</sub> in the desired state for accurate custody transfer and fiscal measurement.
2. Continuously monitor pipeline and associated asset health and performance.
3. Efficiently manage wide area operations with real-time monitoring and control to avoid safety events, product contamination, leaks, spills, product loss and false alarms.



*Safely carry condensed and liquefied CO<sub>2</sub> to storage or utilization sites.*

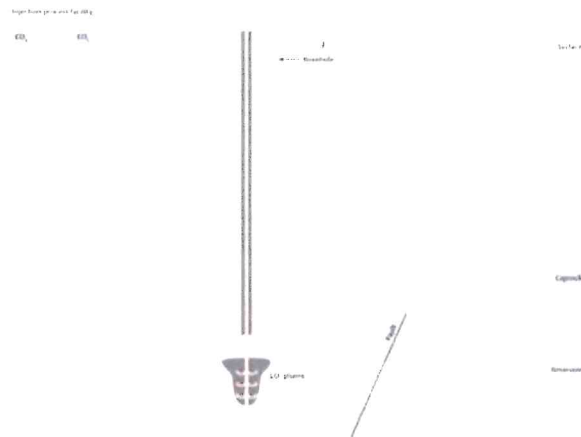
Specialized Assets to safely transport. High strength walled ships. Seeing HUB cluster concept develop at one country and ideal sink location 100s of miles away. Accurate custody transfer. See leaks through custom fittings, higher pressure valves, changes in ambient conditions, sublimation of CO<sub>2</sub> stream ultimately creates blockages in CO<sub>2</sub> system. How contaminants can affect that CO<sub>2</sub> stream. Operators. Look at these in Transportation sector. Storage provider to sequestoror. Access Tax Credits and Incentives and show it has made it to that other site, agree on methodology of metering and tracking.



## Geological Storage: Process Overview

### Geological Storage Process Overview

1. Study geological candidate sites and begin exploration permitting.
2. Interpret seismic and well data to select storage location.
3. Prove long-term CO<sub>2</sub> containment and minimal impact of operations.
4. Obtain regulatory approvals.
5. Develop the storage field and engineer drilling/injection project.
6. Begin safe injection of CO<sub>2</sub> and monitor operations.
7. Track CO<sub>2</sub> underground displacement over time to ensure permanent geological storage and report to stakeholders.

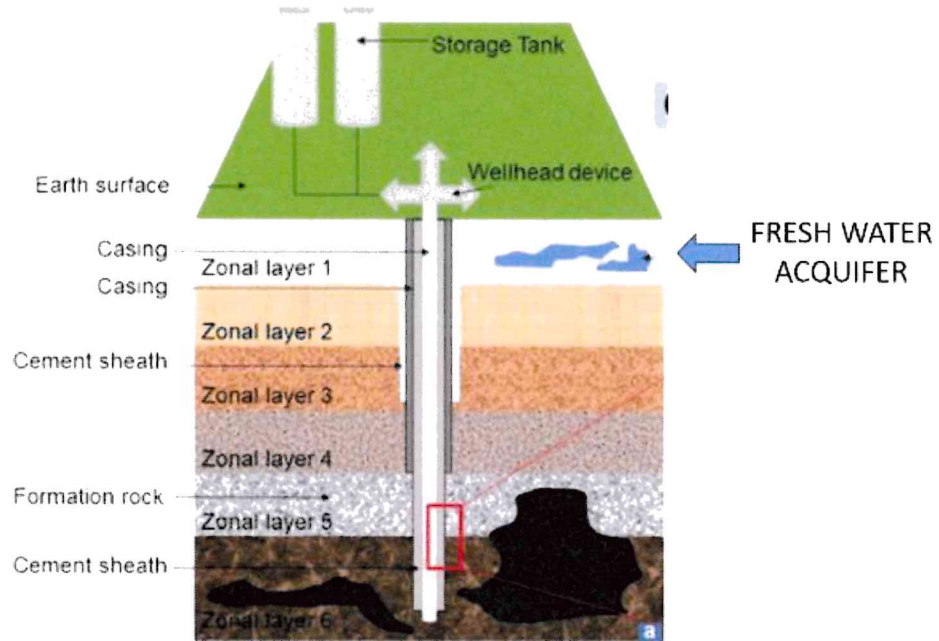


*Indefinitely and safely secure CO<sub>2</sub> at maximum capacity.*

Final step injecting: Coal streams; co2 aquifers or empty gas storage and ultimate goal to prevent it from reaching atmosphere. Injection well with pressure and temperature wells. 1500psi and multiple years for reservoir to reach capacity, then monitoring. Concerns liken to extraction of oil and gas but in reverse, faults/fractures, improperly sealed could be leaks, fines. Make sure permanent containment and not migration.

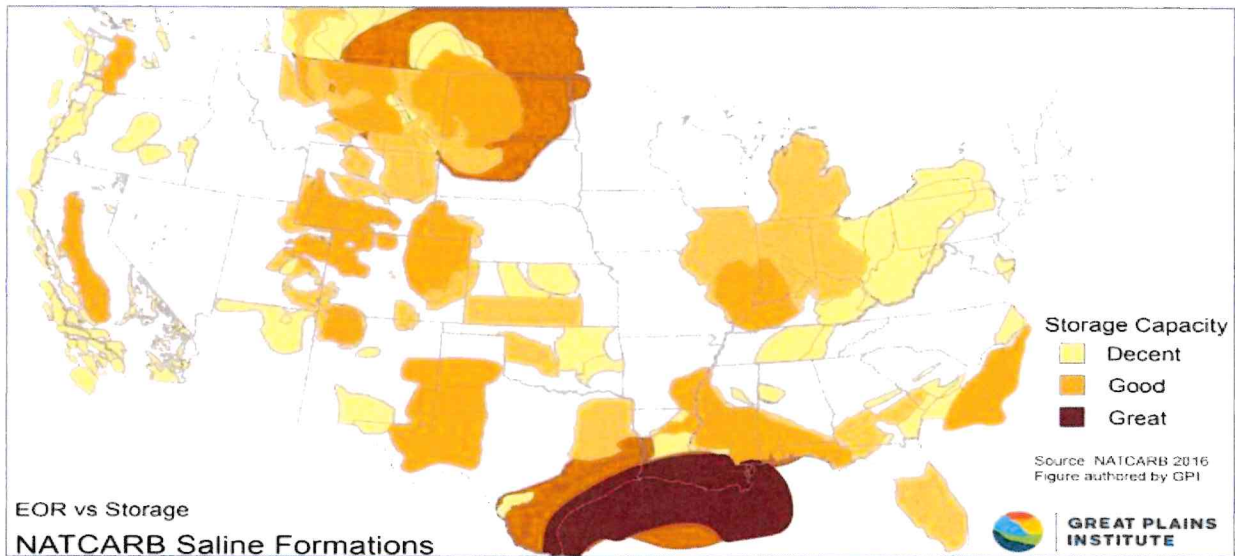
Kirk Barrell, Amelia Resources, nuquest energy. Oil, Natural Gas, Solar, wind, Co2 and lithium. Barrell Energy, Inc. TX A&M MS. 38 years petroleum geologist. \$477m projects, Solar and Carbon Sequestration and securing property. Co2, Lithium, NatGas, Oil mostly in Louisiana area. Mission to develop geologically-based greenfield projects with landowners (solar, wind, CO2). Lot of GIS based system, big believer in technology. Change Energy Transition to Energy Expansion and Diversification. Hydrocarbon Molecules from Oil and Gas and Electrons from Renewables. CCUS Components: Capture, Transportation, Oil/Gas secondary recovery and Storage (inject to oil/gas field or to saline formation)

# CARBON SEQUESTRATION



[https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Schematic-diagram-of-a-CO2-capture-and-storage-CCS-well-a-typical-casing-and\\_fig1\\_359700932](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Schematic-diagram-of-a-CO2-capture-and-storage-CCS-well-a-typical-casing-and_fig1_359700932)

# STORAGE CAPACITY



Why certain areas are starting to see a lot more activity. Salt in Gulf Coast.



## RESERVOIR TYPE

### SALINE

Saline formations are porous formations filled with brine, or salty water, and span large volumes deep underground. Studies show that saline formations have the largest potential volume for storing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) around the world.

### UNMINEABLE COAL SEAMS

Coal that is considered unmineable because of geologic, technological, and economic factors may still serve as locations to store CO<sub>2</sub>. To be considered for CO<sub>2</sub> storage, the ideal coal seam must have sufficient permeability and be considered unmineable.

### BASALT FORMATIONS

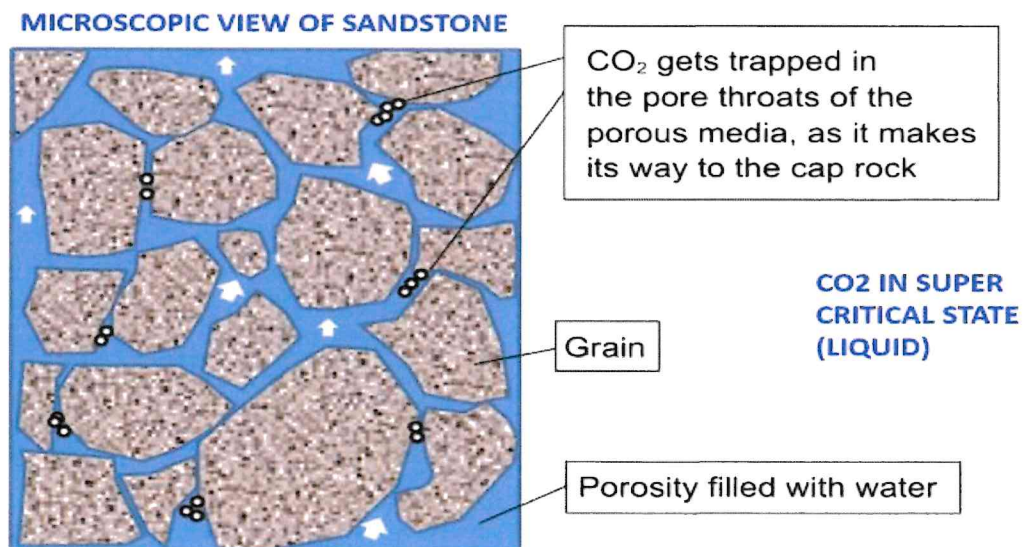
Basalt is a type of formation that was deposited when large flows of lava spread from volcanoes, cooled, and then solidified. The chemical and physical properties of these basalts make them good candidates for CO<sub>2</sub> storage systems. The chemistry of basalts potentially allows injected CO<sub>2</sub> to react with magnesium and calcium in the basalt to form the stable carbonate mineral forms of calcite and dolomite

### ORGANIC SHALE FORMATIONS

Shale formations are found across the United States and are typically low-porosity and low permeability formations best suited as confining zones. However, some shales have similar properties to coal, having the ability to trap CO<sub>2</sub> through adsorption, subsequently releasing methane and making them potentially attractive for storage.

Saline reservoirs ideal. Shale not ideal to inject.

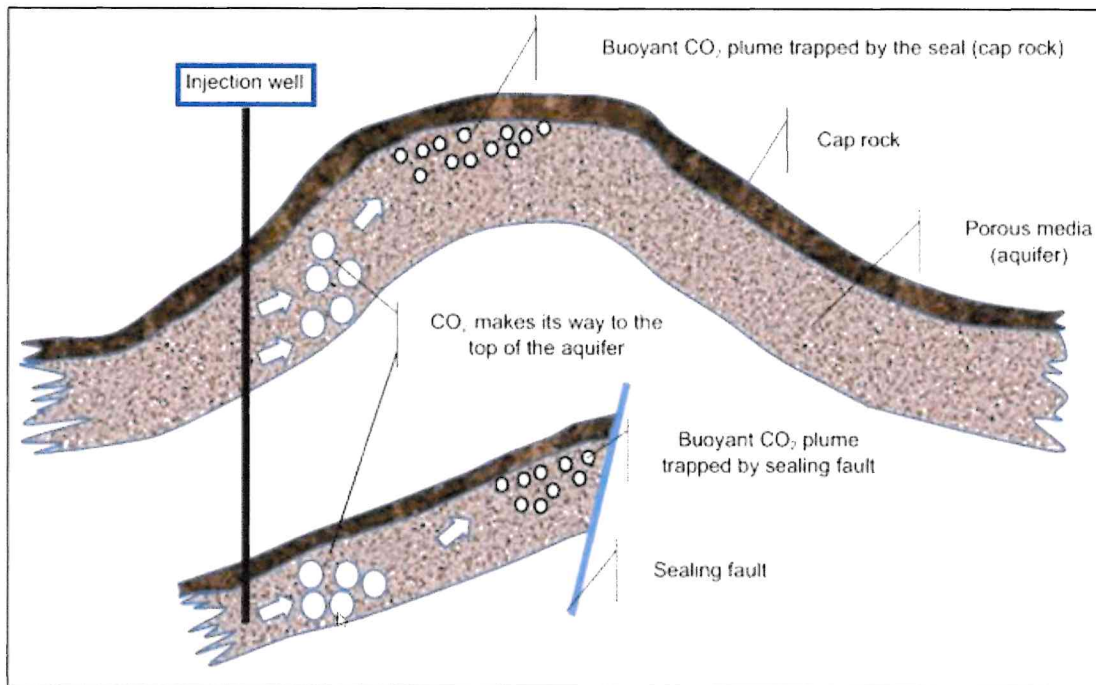
## CO<sub>2</sub> TRAPPING



<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12182-019-0340-8>

CO<sub>2</sub> migrating through rock just like oil, gas. CO<sub>2</sub> captured in the anticline.

## CO2 MIGRATION & TRAPPING



<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12182-019-0340-8>

CO2 plume injector well and migrating up structure through time.

[www.nature.com/articles/s41598-021-85346-8/figures/1](http://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-021-85346-8/figures/1)

Well Monitoring and shoot 2D, 3D and 4D seismic survey (difference is CO2) and can see where CO2 has migrated to.

Pore Space Leasing & Ownership: State of LA. Fed, State, Private. Pore space ownership by State. LA: surface; TX; Surface: MS: 50/50 surface & minerals. If Land Acq. Need to understand State surface area pore ownership reqs. Define carbon sequestration leads where emissions, transportation, geology, and large land ownership align (ie like 40,000 acres). Geology: high level level, contact landowner, secure land, bring in partner. Proximal to emission, pipelines, easy access, remote. Geologic no faults, fault zones. No shales, large pore space, good porosity permeability, reservoir continuity. Well logs-storage reservoirs: Miocene, fresh water, reservoir down to 6000 feet. 150' high porosity sand stone would be ideal. Reservoir pore volume: how many tons of Co2 can be stored.

# GULF COAST STORAGE NETWORK

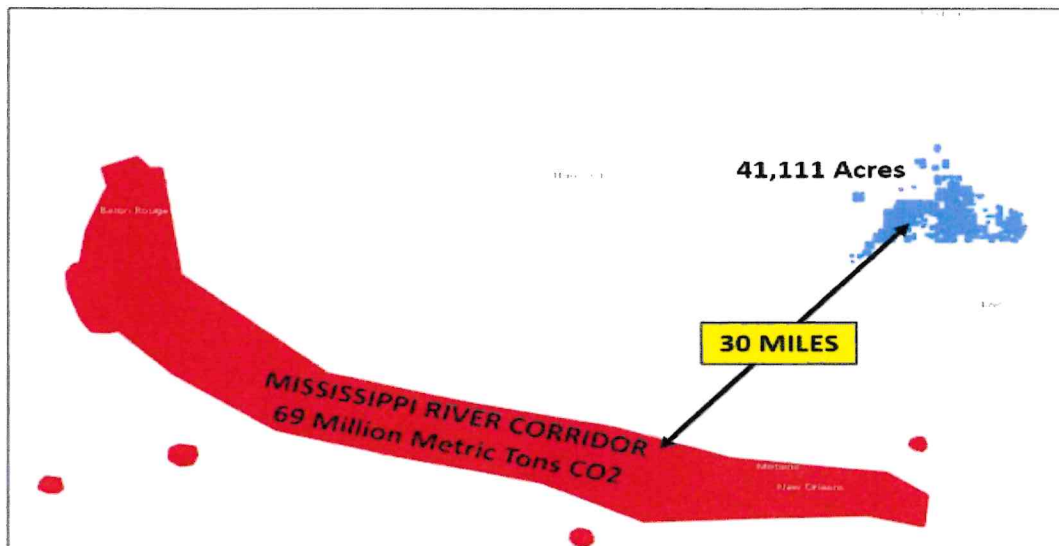
## Carbon Sequestration Projects



www.barrellenergy.com

27

## TOPAZ PROJECT



www.barrellenergy.com

28

Across Lake Pontcharin. 21,000 acres of State LA waters signed with partner BKV Corp. CCUS serves as a solution that can achieve support across a very challenged political climate. Carbon s \$50 to \$85/ton increase is significant. Carbon Sequestration is proven tech. solution for the permanent storage of CO2 in the subsurface.

Micah Rorie Midwest CCUS to debarbonize the biofuel. Greenfield infrastructure and long haul projects. Land side. Purpose and goals of these projects. R/W are talkers so talk. Connections to 57 Ethanol plants across 90 counties and 5-6k land owners. Real challenge is understanding differences in a carbon capture project either post or precombustion. How lead folks to acquire the r/w with enemy of pipeline project. Dense phased liquified CO2. Be valves, pumps, rectifiers, all underground like gas or crude pipeline. How to operate, communication with land owner post, pre construction, width/workspace/depth, reclamation requirements. Same topics with R/W in past. Not a difference in product but conversation from leadership top down. Directly tied to ethanol plant. To North Dakota and sequestering it. Huge contributor to State Economies. Half of US ethanol emitted. Every other row of corn in the Midwest is committed to ethanol plant. Taxes and general government contributions to these Midwest States diff conversation than the south. Landowner will encounter different sequence of conversation. Understand other pipelines in their area and safety. Be prepared to discuss why: what is goal of liquified CO2 and putting across property. Who they are and who working for need to define clearly to property owner. Understand who you work for and why affects the property and why being asked to participate in this infrastructure development. Why and 3 tenets: 1. Politically charged (misinformation and irrational spread). Carbon capture (to reduce carbon emissions and more viable to make fossil fuel to merge). Challenges face put you in tough spot. GHG and carbon emissions and ethanol liquid fuels market preservation, sustainable aviation fuel and ability to participate and w/o carbon capture that is not a thing. R/W need to be prepared to discuss and keep tough skin. Guy in the middle gets the heat from both sides. Why from landowner is always more important. Emotionally charged political conversations w/1x crossing on land on project that is unknown. Stay neutral, carbon capture is neutral thing, in conversation with land owner. How long for pipeline. With parents and property, often seen other pipelines, get refurbished, shift hands. Safety: 5,000 miles of carbon capture pipelines, not combustible and carbon capture has been around but not at this level but don't get too far out over your skis. Opportunities to answer and get right. Land owner right to have all information. Can help to accelerate and grow this concept in the country. Harder to get carbon capture if interrupting farming operations. Complete respect, value their time when get a meeting v. establishing a rapport, discussions. Leaders need to define what preparation is. Cradle to Grave CO2 and talk about front end and not mix it into an Easement conversation. Easy to say to landowner I don't know and I will get an answer for you. Leaders need to get out to explain and get out and give examples of how it can be accomplished. Understand the myths and motivations of misinformation in area. Armed with correct information but may have nothing to do with an Easement and a Payment. Differences is in order of your conversation and value time with land owner and a public official. Teams have acquired 1,600 miles R/W in 16 months in 5 states. How to recognize what is critically important to the land owner. Discuss permanence of pipeline and overall infrastructure and transportation in our country.

? Green/Blue Ammonia Plants in SW LA – Emerson yes. ? how is owner compensated A: pore space owner, terms, payments and injection fees. LA has state template typically \$400/acre upfront then option payments and paid \$1/ton. Range \$1.50-\$4/ton in Gulf Coast similar to a royalty payment.

Can Co2 be stored with NH4? Gov by EPA for Class 6 permit and look at all risk criteria. Criteria depth and temp. as get too deep it will get too warm and can't inject below that depth. ?What materials to store in a coal stream ? A: Coal bearing states should have template. ? how deep are wells? First look at fresh water aquafer want to be at least 1,000 feet below so most 5k to 10k deep. ? Salt A: not looking at any projects with salt for CO2. ? limit to how much cO2 can put in A: rock formations are containers think of a big bucket. Gulf Coast reservoirs including off shore and salt water reservoirs can contain all co2 in world. ? land agreements A: go to courthouse to see what was recorded. ? projects A; gulf coast timber companies have checkerboard but domain, LA law propose can't use eminent domain. Most companies large contiguous tracks with single owner, keep it simple. ? payments A: shift per acre to per ton with royalty-like payment, oil/gas over time get less and less and may get 2m tons/year and could go to 500m/tons year. So lot of upside. ? leases surface to basement or strata A: typically base, basal depth. ? can co2 be used to power a turbine? A: Brandon, don't see that coming to utilize in other ways other than sequester it. ? easements with put charge and how with native am lands? A: put through nullifies and non starter, not offer large scale Cap Ex. Try to open dialogue with other tribal interests.

###





**BOARD MEMBER  
MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUEST**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to attend the \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting  
of \_\_\_\_\_

To be held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m. to  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m.

Location of meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual meeting date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Type: (In person/Webinar/Conference) \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Meeting relevance to District: \_\_\_\_\_

Request assistance from Board Secretary to register for Conference: YES NO

Frequency of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Costs of Travel (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date submitted to Board Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Board approval obtained on Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit this form to the Board Secretary no later than 1 week prior to the Board Meeting.**

**4/4/2024**

**BOARD AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**

**Agenda Item 7B**

- Separate Item to be distributed at Board Meeting
- Separate Item to be distributed prior to Board Meeting
- Verbal Report
- Presentation

SAN RAFAEL

## Expanded plan submitted for Northgate mall redevelopment

Uses Senate Bill 330 rules to help expedite process

BY ADRIAN RODRIGUEZ

[ARODRIGUEZ@MARINIJ.COM](mailto:ARODRIGUEZ@MARINIJ.COM)

A complex plan to redevelop Northgate mall in San Rafael has a new wrinkle.

Merlone Geier Partners LLC, the mall's owner, has submitted a pre-application for an expanded plan to compete against its pending proposal that has already been exhaustively vetted and is undergoing environmental review.

The new plan has been submitted under Senate Bill 330 rules, which entitle the developer to an expedited approval process and prevents city officials from denying the project based on subjective standards. According to a city statement, "the developer will be conducting a financial analysis on their two project concepts and will choose the one that best fits their needs."

"Housing developers use SB 330 to make the housing development approval process streamlined and more predictable as there are specific requirements that the City must follow in terms of allowed number of public meetings and review criteria," city officials wrote in an email.

"The City continues to support the goal to bring housing development forward to address the housing crisis through our regular entitlement review process and the state SB 330 application allowances," the email says. Under the SB 330 plan, the developer proposes a number of layout changes that effectively increase the total dwelling count to 1,865, up from 1,422 called for in the original plan.

In a statement, representatives of Merlone Geier said the changes proposed in the SB 330 plan are in response to community comments.

"Essentially, this alternative concept provides another option for consideration as we continue the efforts to bring Northgate back to life," Ross Guehring, a spokesperson for Merlone Geier, said in an email.

Both proposals call for a 20-year construction project that will bring a mix of homes, shops and restaurants in two phases at the 45-acre site west of Highway 101. The original proposal requires a rezoning, while the SB 330 plan does not.

In response to community concerns about building height, two apartment buildings planned along Northgate Drive as well as the movie theater area would be replaced by townhomes under the new plan. The number of townhomes would increase from 100 to 266, and affordable homes would increase from 146 to 168.

The original plan calls for one building with 96 affordable apartments. Other affordable apartments would also be spread across other buildings. The idea of a standalone affordable apartment building, however,

was a sticking point in the original plan for some critics and planning commissioners who worried it segregated the community.

In order to alleviate that concern and to comply with the city's inclusionary housing requirements, the new proposal would spread all affordable housing throughout the new buildings.

The new plan also repositions 60 townhomes and three mixed-use buildings to the northern and western portions of the site, away from existing homes, the Alma Via senior living center and the Quail Hill neighborhood to calm worries about the density near those areas.

Guehring said many of the community amenities would be included in the new plan, including a town square community space equal to about an acre. The new plan turns this feature into a more pedestrian-focused area by relocating parking away from the central green, another change based on public comments.

"The retail will likely include local and regional restaurants, clothing and boutique retail, and a specialty grocery store," the developer said in a statement. "We also intend to analyze new options with our movie theater operator for an updated, modern facility within the alternative."

Meanwhile, the review of the original proposal will continue uninterrupted. City officials are working with LSA Associates to complete the final environmental impact report on the original project, said April Talley, the city's project manager. The report is a project study required by the California Environmental Quality Act.

At a hearing last month, critics of the proposed redevelopment said a draft environmental impact report of the project failed to fully consider disruptions on the community.

Residents said the project would create more severe disturbances in traffic, noise, emissions and emergency access than the report suggests. Residents urged officials to take a closer look as the final environmental impact report is prepared.

It is unclear if the new plan would be folded into the existing environmental review, or if it would trigger an analysis of its own. The path forward would be determined if and when the developer submits a formal SB 330 application for the new proposal, Talley said.

"At this time, there are no impacts associated with the SB 330 preliminary application as it is a standalone application," Talley said.

Hearing dates for the final EIR will be scheduled after the document is complete, Talley said.

San Rafael Mayor Kate Colin said the Northgate project is the largest combined commercial and residential project that the city has seen in decades.

"We are grateful that Merlone Geier has welcomed community input since they began the process years ago," Colin said.

"Their recent submittal of a SB 330 preliminary application is indicative of the very real financial and construction challenges that so many developers in California are facing right now," Colin said. "I remain optimistic that the formal development application that they ultimately submit will include not only the needed affordable units but also some of the community amenities that our residents desire."

## District faces opposition over water pump project



The North Marin Water District is seeking to replace its nearly 60-year-old pump station on Sunset Parkway in Novato. One potential location is about 1.3 miles away along Ignacio Boulevard. ALAN DEP — MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL

**BY CAMERON MACDONALD**

[CMACDONALD@MARINIJ.COM](mailto:CMACDONALD@MARINIJ.COM)

Plans to build a water pump station in Novato are drawing opposition from neighbors.

The North Marin Water District is considering building the station at “Site 2,” a parcel on a city-owned greenway that borders Arroyo San Jose Creek near Ignacio Boulevard and Palmer Drive. The district wants to replace a pump station that neighbors Lynwood Elementary School, which is 1.3 miles from Site 2.

If approved by the water board and the Novato City Council, a 1,188-square-foot pump station could be built there, and 3,750 linear feet of new piping could be installed to connect the station.

Opponents say the pump station will be an eyesore in the creek’s promenade area. Novato resident Mark Smith noted that the proposed site is not in a remote area.

“It’s a very large building for that space, it’s not something that will go unnoticed,” he said. “And that’s the problem that people have. They don’t want this building in this open space near the creek.”

Alternatives include building a station at Site 2 in addition to another station at either Bolling Drive, Main Gate Road or C Street. The alternative plan that doesn’t involve Site 2 would be a new station at a Sunset Parkway median between Monte Maria Avenue and Cambridge Street.

An engineers’ assessment determined that replacing the station at its current location is not feasible, due to the site constraints and the pump station’s age, which could lead to costly challenges.

“Since the PS is below grade, the district’s ability to perform repairs and upgrades is limited,” WRA Inc., a San Rafael environmental consulting firm, said in a report. Eric Miller, assistant general manager of the water district, said the Lynwood station is nearly 60 years old and that pump stations generally have a 50-year design life.

“We’re well beyond that,” Miller said. “The effort needed to maintain and replace the parts at the station is becoming exceedingly difficult, and so we started the process of replacing the station.”

He said that the replacement project’s construction cost estimates vary from \$4.5 million to \$11.1 million. If the “Alternative B” plan is approved for Site 2, then a 17-month construction project could begin there next year, according to the project’s proposed mitigated negative declaration.

“The project objective is to improve reliability, enhance operability, and meet the future needs of the district,” Miller said.

He noted that the district does not own any of the five sites being considered for a future pump station. Three sites are owned by the city, one is privately owned and one site is owned by the Novato Unified School District, Miller said.

If the water district were to build a station on a site, then the district would either need to purchase all or a portion of the parcel, or secure a utility easement, he said.

The water district has extended the deadline for public comments on the project until May 6.

An estimated 110 people attended a March 6 hearing on the project, Miller said. The meeting was held at the Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church, which is near Site 2.

Mike Arnold, a neighbor, said he is concerned that the pump station could be a visual blight and cause noise problems. He said the meeting was poorly managed and advertised and said consultants and district staff were unable to answer “obvious questions.”

In an email to district staff, he said that he only learned about the meeting from a neighbor and did not hear from the district.

“I was never contacted nor informed by NMWD that such an eyesore and a potentially noisy eyesore, was likely within a few hundred feet of my property line,” he wrote.

Smith said that he was unaware of the Lynwood station’s project until he was alerted by residents who saw an announcement outside a grocery store in Novato last month. He is campaigning against construction at Site 2, and said that the station will ruin the greenway’s natural beauty.

“There is nothing about this project that’s about meeting water needs through 2035,” he said. “There are also alternatives that are cheaper and less destructive, less intrusive that are not on open space.”

Information on the Lynwood water pump station project is online at [nmwd.com](http://nmwd.com).

# District picks consultant for workforce housing program

BY KERI BRENNER

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The Novato Unified School District has selected an Oakland real estate development firm as a consultant for its workforce housing program.

A district committee chose Brookwood Partners, which has completed similar projects at other Bay Area school districts, from a group of potential candidates. The committee was composed of Derek Knell, the staff housing development director; Tracy Smith, the superintendent; Joshua Braff, the chief financial officer; attorney James Traber; and Leslie Benjamin, the communications director.

“Brookwood Partners demonstrated extensive practical development experience on various projects, including the workforce housing project recently completed by Jefferson Union High School District,” Knell told trustees at a board meeting on March 5. “After careful consideration, the district staff believes Brookwood Partners would be the best fit for the district.”

Brookwood Partners’ proposed contract, including financial terms and scope of work, is pending approval by the trustees. It will be presented at a board meeting on March 19, Knell said.

Chris White, a principal of Brookwood Partners, told trustees his firm would plan to develop a feasibility study for a below-market or subsidized housing development in Novato to attract and retain teachers and other staff who could not otherwise afford to live in Marin.

White said he and his colleagues would produce the feasibility study over three months. Their work would include a site analysis of all available surplus or underutilized district-owned land, a survey of employees who might be interested in such a housing opportunity and a review of Novato’s pending housing plans.

“All those elements will give us an idea of the cost of the project and some budget projections,” White told trustees.

If the contract is approved, the company would arrange a tour of its latest project, in Daly City, for members of Novato’s workforce housing advisory committee. The 122-residence development in the Jefferson Union High School District was completed last year, White said.

“It was fully leased in three months and now has a waitlist,” he said. He said the project was “more dense” than what might be envisioned for Novato, but the goal of attracting and retaining staff was the same.

“The district had no new job openings at the beginning of the school year,” White said. “All signs point to the teachers and staff who are living there all being very happy.”

Other recent projects by the firm include a 60-residence development in Half Moon Bay for the Cabrillo Unified School District, and a 70-residence project for the Pacifica School District.



Trustees said they wanted to make sure that Brookwood Partners had access to all relevant resources in Novato, such as the Rotary Club of Novato, which runs its own affordable home program. Also, the firm needed to be steeped in the Novato culture, trustees said.

“Novato is very close-knit,” trustee Ross Millerick said. “We’re like a small town.”

The school district “depends on the support of our community,” Millerick said. “You need to be very careful to be in step with the community.”

The next meeting of the district’s workforce housing advisory committee is April 15.

## Multiuse path in San Rafael gets \$1.94M

Creates safer school route, links to key destinations

BY ADRIAN RODRIGUEZ

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A highly-desired bicycle and pedestrian link in northern San Rafael connecting residents to transit, shopping, schools and parks is getting \$1.94 million in federal funds.

The “Rafael Meadows Safe Crossing” project will create a 10-foot-wide multiuse path alongside the SMART Civic Center Station train tracks under Highway 101. The new path will run between Merrydale Road in the Rafael Meadows community on the southwest to Civic Center Drive on the east.

The path feeds into a larger network of multiuse routes leading to several destinations. Most notably it creates a safer passage to Venetia Valley School on North San Pedro Road.

“Students would be able to bypass busy North San Pedro Road entirely during their commutes to school, and other users would also benefit from a more direct connection to destinations east of the highway,” said April Miller, San Rafael’s director of public works. Officials designed the project plans based on feedback from students and their families, Miller said. Multiple agencies, including San Rafael City Schools, Sonoma-Marin Area Transit, the county of Marin and bicycle advocacy groups participated in project development.

“We’re thrilled to hear that funding has been secured for this new path, which will open up a safer route for many of our students to walk to school,” said Apolinar Quesada, principal of Venetia Valley. “We appreciate many groups working together to make this happen for our students and community.”

“All along the SMART corridor we are improving car-free pedestrian and bicycle access, connecting people to transit services, and connecting communities,” said Julia Gonzalez, spokesperson for the rail agency.

While the new path is not part of SMART’s extensive trail network, it is a key piece in San Rafael’s grid, Gonzalez said.

“This is exciting news, and we look forward to partnering with the city of San Rafael to advance this project,” she said.

Matthew Hartzell, director of planning for WTB-TAM, a Marin-based bicycle and pedestrian advocacy group, said the new path will make the SMART Civic Center Station “a model for multimodal transportation in Marin County.”

“Between the existing pathways, under-construction pathways, and planned pathways in the area, the Civic Center station will be connected in all directions, making it a hub of mobility for north San Rafael,” he said.

In total, the project is expected to cost about \$2.4 million. San Rafael staffers are working to identify a funding source for a city contribution equal to about \$500,000, Miller said.

In addition to the path, the project includes building a retaining wall, Miller said.

Construction will require encroachment permits from Caltrans and the city, as well as a traffic management plan, Miller said.

The U.S. Department of Transportation announced the award this month as part of its Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods grant program.

The program supports projects that reconnect communities that were cut off by transportation infrastructure decades ago, especially in underserved areas, according to the department.

The federal program is distributing \$3.3 billion in grants across the nation. Projects in California are receiving \$236.9 million, according to the department.

The grant funds must be used by September 2026. City staff estimate construction will take about six months and will be completed in 2026, Miller said.

“Upon completion, this would increase mobility options and positively impact quality of life for a community experiencing high transportation cost burdens and negative traffic safety impacts,” Miller said.

# County OKs \$519,000 for sea-level rise consultant

Work will help guide Marin with solutions, preparation

BY RICHARD HALSTEAD

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Marin County supervisors have approved a \$519,000 expenditure for a consultant to recommend a countywide governance structure to respond to sea-level rise.

“The county of Marin has over 70 miles of coastal and 40 miles of bay shoreline, leaving much of the county vulnerable,” Ariel Espiritu Santo, an assistant county executive, told supervisors prior to their unanimous vote Tuesday.

Recent assessments estimate that by 2100 about 7,000 acres, 9,000 parcels, 10,000 buildings and 120 miles of roads throughout Marin County will be exposed to sea-level rise during a 100-year storm.

The \$519,000 will pay for a contract with AECOM, a Dallas infrastructure consulting firm. The work will be done in two phases.

“The first,” Santo said, “will be looking at how Marin County can best work with its residents, cities, towns and state and federal agencies in advancing solutions to sea-level rise.”

“Phase two will answer the question, how can the county organize county staff and resources to effectively and efficiently prepare for sea-level rise and deliver future adaptation projects?” she said.

The second phase will result in AECOM recommending a countywide, sea-level rise decision-making model.

Santo said the first phase is expected to take a year and the second six months. “The first major task of the project is going to be coming up with a stakeholder engagement strategy for the project period,” she said.

Santo said many areas vulnerable to sea-level rise overlap with Marin’s communities of color.

“So it’s even more critical that we have a unified approach towards addressing this major climate crisis,” she said, “and in a way that lifts up the voices of those that will be most directly impacted by it.”

Several members of the public commented on the plan.

“It’s been a little vexing to me that it has taken us this long,” said Doug Wallace, a member of the Tam Valley Sea Level Rise Task Force. “We have a climate emergency and we need to treat it like one. We don’t have time to waste.”

Wallace said whatever plan Marin comes up with will require enabling state legislation to implement. He said it took San Mateo County five years to develop a program to ready its shoreline for sea-level rise after it was urged to do so by its own civil grand jury in 2015.

“We are running about five years behind them,” Wallace said, “even though we have greater financial exposure.”

Wallace said regional planning agencies have estimated that Marin has \$17 billion worth of infrastructure at risk.

Will Bartlett, a member of the Bolinas Civic Group, said, “We want to be at the table. Now is the time to advocate for collaborative impact and a new path forward.”

George Clyde, director of the East Shore Planning Group in Marshall, expressed some reservations. The group is a 40-year-old nonprofit that focuses on development along the east shore of Tomales Bay, where some 60 homes and businesses are between the water and Highway 1. These structures and Highway 1 are largely protected by bulkheads that date back to the 1870s, when they were built to protect a railroad that operated into the 1930s.

“Our one concern with the AECOM project,” Clyde said, “is that establishing a single, countywide governance structure to address sea-level rise may fail to take into account the extreme differences between Tomales Bay and West Marin coastal areas.”

The coast has ocean waves and tsunamis, and the bay does not. The primary regulator of the bay is the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, while the primary regulator of the ocean and Tomales Bay is the California Coastal Commission.

“We worry,” Clyde said, “that efforts to address our local situation will not persist if the Community Development Agency does not continue to dedicate the necessary resources to focus on the very special situations in Marshall and other West Marin coastal communities.”

Senate Bill 272, signed last year by Gov. Gavin Newsom, requires local governments in the coastal zone or within the San Francisco Bay to develop a sea-level rise plan that includes adaptation strategies and recommended projects by Jan. 1, 2034. The law also prioritizes funding for implementation of sea-level rise adaptation strategies contained in approved plans.

Supervisor Dennis Rodoni said, “I realize we’re trying to figure out how to work with all the parties and all our partners, but will we also be considering what is the best model to obtain grant money? I think that’s going to be a challenge.”

Santo said, “There is a lot of money available at the state and the federal level. To be competitive for that funding, it’s important to have a unified vision for our county.”

Supervisor Mary Sackett said, “We all want this process to move faster, and yet we have seen examples across the county where things try to move too fast without bringing people along, which actually slows things down.”

## California proposes delaying rules aimed at reducing water on lawns



Water flies from a sprinkler on a lawn in Sacramento. State regulators proposed delaying new conservation rules aimed at reducing the amount of water people use on their lawns. RICH PEDRONCELLI — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**BY ADAM BEAM**

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**SACRAMENTO >>** California regulators last week proposed delaying new rules aimed at reducing how much water people use on their lawns, drawing praise from agencies that said they needed more time to comply but criticism from environmentalists who warn that the delay would damage the state's already scarce supply.

Last year, California proposed new rules that would, cumulatively, reduce statewide water use by about 14%. Those rules included lowering outdoor water use standards below the current statewide average by 2035.

On Tuesday, regulators proposed delaying that timeline by five years, until 2040. The State Water Resources Control Board is scheduled to vote on the rules later this year.

The state would not punish people for using too much water on their lawns. Instead, it could punish the water agency that supplied those homes. There are about 405 of these agencies throughout the state that provide water to nearly 95% of Californians.

To comply with the rules, these agencies must convince their customers to use less water.

Their options include public education campaigns and incentives, such as paying to install more efficient fixtures and replacing grass lawns with more sustainable plants. They could also raise rates.

State officials estimated it would cost water agencies about \$13.5 billion to comply with these rules — an estimate Chelsea Haines, regulatory relations manager for the Association of California Water Agencies, says is likely too low. Water agencies had asked regulators for more time.

“The challenge is that water suppliers are regulated but compliance will come from Californians making changes to how they use water,” Haines said. “I think there will be a learning curve for residents, and that just takes time.”

The delay means there wouldn’t be an incentive for most water agencies to increase conservation until at least 2035, according to Tracy Quinn, president and CEO of Heal the Bay, an organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the coastal waterways of greater Los Angeles.

Quinn fears the delay would push agencies to make much more expensive investments in new water sources, including desalination plants to make ocean water drinkable and recycling wastewater to use again for drinking.

“The smartest thing to do first is the one that is fastest and cheapest. That’s conservation,” Quinn said. “It is true that conservation is not free, but the cost of conservation needs to be compared to the cost of other new water.”

The goal of the outdoor water standards for 2040 is to have the majority of a person’s yard made up of low-water plants irrigated by a drip system instead of sprinklers, which regulators argue are inefficient in part because they often spray water on sidewalks and asphalt.

But water agencies wouldn’t have to always meet these new outdoor standards. Each agency would have a “water use objective” it must meet that also considers indoor use and how much water is lost from leaky pipes. Agencies could also ask to have even more time to reach these standards, such as if a community uses more water than it should because it has a lot of livestock.

An agency could meet its water use objective through a combination of these factors.

“It’s always a trade-off between trying to advance conservation soon, but also providing enough flexibility so that we avoid unintended consequences,” said Eric Oppenheimer, executive director of the State Water Resources Control Board.

Water is a precious resource in the nation’s most populous state. California has long, dry summers, and relies on rain and snow in the winter and spring to fill up its reservoirs.

Although climate change has made those storms more intense, it’s also increased the severity of droughts — making it much harder to manage the state’s water.

California has had plenty of rain and snow in the past two years to ease fears about its water supply. But before that, the state experienced some of the driest years on record and saw its reservoirs drop to dangerously low levels. By the end of this century, state regulators predict California's snowpack could be up to 65% less than its historic average.

Statewide, residents account for about 6% of California's water use each year, while businesses account for about 3%.

Agriculture accounts for 40% while environmental purposes — including managing wetlands and increasing flows in rivers for fish and other purposes — makes up about 50%.

Regulators proposed changes to the water conservation rules after a critical report was issued this year by the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office.

It found that the proposed regulations were overly complex and would yield only modest savings — about 440,000 acre-feet of water per year, or about 1% of the state's total water use. One acre-foot of water is enough to supply two households for one year.

Also, the report noted that urban water use is already declining. Even without these regulations, state regulators predict that annual water use would be 7.5% lower in 2035 compared to the period from 2017-2019.

Heather Cooley, director of research for the Pacific Institute, said the Legislative Analyst's Office report "got it wrong." She noted 440,000 acre-feet is close to the amount of water the city of Los Angeles uses in one year.

"These are significant savings," she said.



# Utility declines to rule out site for pump station

BY CAMERON MACDONALD

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The North Marin Water District board has voted to keep a controversial site in the mix of options for a new water pump station.

Several board members said it was premature to remove the site, a city-owned parcel on a greenway that runs along Arroyo San Jose Creek near Ignacio Boulevard and Palmer Drive in Novato.

“To just pull one off without having some confidence that we got something better — we’re not at that point yet,” said Jack Baker, the board president.

The board, which met on Tuesday, also directed the district staff to seek more possible locations for the project, which aims to replace the nearly 60-year-old pump station near Lynwood Elementary School. Customers can still comment on the project’s environmental and engineering documents until May 6.

The controversial location is known as “Site 2.” A 1,188-square-foot pump station could be built there and 3,750 linear feet of new piping could be installed to connect the station.

The project site would first need to be approved by the utility’s board, and then the Novato City Council must agree to sell it or grant an easement.

One alternative that does not involve Site 2 is a new station at the Sunset Parkway median between Cambridge Street and Monte Maria Drive.

The district staff held a public meeting on the project on March 6, and more than 110 people attended. Opponents say the pump station will be an eyesore at Site 2 and cause traffic jams on Ignacio Boulevard during the construction.

The district board heard from Leonard Shaw, a 54-year resident of Fairway Drive who lives near Site 2. He urged the board to remove the site from the project plans as soon as possible.

“I just think that putting a pump station of this size on an open space that we strived so hard to protect just doesn’t make sense from the get-go,” Shaw said.

Joe Davidor, another longtime resident who lives near Site 2, noted the traffic on Ignacio Boulevard.

“What we’re all concerned about in our neighborhood is two to three years of construction in our neighborhood,” he said. “Ignacio Boulevard is a freeway and to clog that up for two to three years is going to do a lot to our property values.”

Resident Mike Arnold told the board that the district never notified him about the March 6 meeting on the project. He instead heard from neighbors.

Arnold encouraged the board to avoid a political fight.

“Oh, there are plenty of them in this county and this city,” he said. “We don’t need a political fight over this particular location because there is so much agreement that it’s just not an appropriate location.”

Tony Williams, the general manager of the water district, emphasized the need to replace the aging Lynwood station. He said the station is struggling to fill key storage tanks.

Eric Miller, the assistant general manager, advised the board keep Site 2 in the project plans.

“From an engineering staff perspective, we are absolutely, unequivocally not recommending that you remove Site 2 at this time,” he said. “It is far too premature. We’re not even sure there is another site south of that hill that satisfies all of the project objectives.”

Board members Rick Fraites and Stephen Petterle expressed reservations about Site 2. Petterle noted his background as a landscape architect and said the pump station must be “aesthetically appropriate” for the site.

“I want to know all of the facts so that I can make the decision that’s best for the community,” he said.

Fraites recalled visiting Site 2 and he said he could not see a pump station being there. He said the district must look harder for other sites.

“I agree with Steve that architecture is very important, but I don’t know if we can architect ourselves out of a structure there at this point,” Fraites said.

Board member Michael Joly said he has faith in the district staff and said it’s too early to remove Site 2 from the project plans.

“If you trust the staff and you trust us, you will go away feeling not exactly relieved, but accommodated,” he told the meeting attendees.

After the board hearing, Shaw said the directors were cordial, but he expressed his disappointment.

“Delaying the decision to withdraw this site just keeps the people concerned sitting on the edge and wondering when the ax is going to drop,” he said. “That means we’re going to stay involved with this and hopefully achieve the result we think is appropriate.”

## The science of weather will be key for supply

It wasn't that long ago that we were wondering when we'd see a good soaking rainstorm.

We didn't and the Marin Municipal Water District said it was perilously close to its mountain reservoirs running out of water and had launched into plans to build an emergency transbay pipeline to import water.

Then it rained. It poured.

The photo in the IJ from Jan. 12 showed Stafford Lake over its banks and two lakeside hammocks hanging over the water.

Though just a year or two removed from months of prolonged drought, IJ Photo Editor Alan Dep's image is a reminder our water supply relies on the variables of the weather.

That's why Marin water agencies are joining forces with the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes Water Affiliates Group, a group that researches atmospheric rivers and other severe weather patterns.

It is affiliated with the University of California, San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

The goal is for this information to help manage water supplies and mitigate flood risk.

For the Marin water agencies, this is about "being on top of science," says Tony Williams, North Marin Water's general manager.

Throw climate change into the mix and gaining a handle on long-term weather patterns sounds like promising knowledge that should work to local water agencies' advantage when it comes to managing our local water supply.

In fact, a 2023 report by the Marin County Civil Grand Jury urged local water districts to collaborate with science institutions working on climate change.

For North Marin, the group's research will be useful in the district's planning for improvements to the Stafford Lake dam.

The overall goal of working with the group is to minimize surprises and help water agencies do a better job of preparing for another prolonged drought.

It was just in 2021, when MMWD's leadership was facing the prospect that it could deplete its water supply as soon as mid-2022.

Tougher water conservation measures were imposed on local residents and businesses, but the outlook was troubling.

Other parts of the state were getting winter storms, but month after month they seemed to bypass the county.

Then it rained — and rained, bringing the reservoirs back to capacity.

But the close call led MMWD voters to elect three new directors and their promise to do a better job of making the district's supply more resilient.

Conservation will always be part of that strategy. It should. It must be an ethic that we have developed through our drought years, if not before.

But the weather group's research should help us avoid surprises by making extreme weather patterns more predictable in the future.

As climate change promises to bring more extremes in our local weather patterns, putting science to work in making them more predictable and enabling us to plan and prepare for them sounds like a smart partnership.

MARIN MUNICIPAL

## Water storage expansion sought

New reservoirs, dams among options considered by district

BY ADRIAN RODRIGUEZ

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The Marin Municipal Water District is taking a closer look at storage expansion projects that could increase capacity for billions of gallons of additional water to defend against drought.

After several months of study, district officials and consultants are considering projects that could include raising dam heights and some possibilities for creating new dams. Each option would increase the storage capacity by about 20,000 acre-feet.

The proposals include expansions of Alpine Lake, Kent Lake and the Soulajule and Nicasio reservoirs. The district is also looking at constructing new reservoirs in the areas of Devil's Gulch, Halleck Creek and upper Nicasio. The proposals were presented to the water board at its meeting March 19.

"We've got options," Paul Sellier, district water resources director, told the board.

Sellier said these are "generational projects" and the staff is working to narrow the alternatives, expected to cost millions of dollars, for a more focused discussion in May.

The discussion last was an update on the district's water supply roadmap, approved last year, that set the stage for the district to significantly increase water supply for the first time since the 1980s.

The plan seeks to add 12,000 to 20,000 more acre-feet of annual supply by 2035.

The effort follows the 2020-2021 drought that threatened to deplete the utility's seven reservoirs. Rains in late 2021 nearly refilled the basins and ended the crisis.

The district serves 191,000 residents in central and southern Marin. Its seven reservoirs make up about 75% of the district's water supply. The reservoirs can hold up to about 80,000 acre-feet of water, about a two-year supply. An acre-foot is about 326,000 gallons of water.

The water supply roadmap estimated the agency would need at least 8,500 acre-feet of additional water per year to weather a severe four-year drought.

Last year, the district adopted historic rate increases to help pay for the estimated \$35 million it plans to invest in the projects through mid-2027.

By comparison, each proposed expansion plan had its advantages and disadvantages.

For example, Alpine Dam would need to be raised 75 feet to accommodate the new 20,000 acre feet of capacity, while Nicasio would only call for an 18-foot-tall extension.

An expansion at the Peters Dam at Kent Lake would heighten the dam 37 feet, and at Soulajule by 39 feet.

Peters Dam at Kent Lake would require nearly 3 billion cubic yards of fill to create the expansion, about three times the amount needed for Soulajule.

Expansion at the Nicasio reservoir would come with the most widespread new inundation, including roads and a big portion of the town.

“Inundating the town of Nicasio, I would say right out of the gates, is not feasible,” said board member Monty Schmitt.

However, Schmitt said in order to understand the cost of each project alternative, he would like to know the cost of the privately owned land that would be within an expanded reservoir’s footprint.

He said the cost to acquire the land and the impact on the communities would be factored in to the project total.

When it comes to creating a new dam, consultants said the areas of Devil’s Gulch and Halleck Creek might be undesirable because they lie within narrow valleys. That would force a V-shaped reservoir with dam walls exceeding 270 feet tall.

A new reservoir at upper Nicasio could be built at 103 feet and achieve the desired storage capacity, staff said.

Additionally, staff said adding spillway gates at Nicasio Reservoir could add an additional 3,000 acre feet of storage.

Board member Matt Samson said the information was helpful, and he would also like to see what structures may be affected by expanded or new reservoirs.

“It’s really interesting to see how this process is starting to evolve, and we’re starting to really see where the rubber meets the road,” Samson said.

“In addition to cost, we obviously have to look at the environmental impact on our critical habitat and our native species and our watershed,” said board member Jed Smith. “I’d like to make sure that that is at the top of our additional criteria.”

Board chair Ranjiv Khush said that when thinking about enhanced storage, the district is considering its ability to capture more runoff and potentially store water imported from Sonoma County.

Khush suggested that staff also consider looking at options for a phased approach with projects building off one another to incrementally reach the desired 20,000 acre feet of storage.

Sellier said staff will look at approaches for different capacity levels.

One of the biggest questions about the proposals is how it would affect the district’s water rights. A 1995 order from state water regulators says that any additional reservoir storage capacity the district creates must be used for environmental water releases for protected fish, such as coho salmon.

Ben Horenstein, general manager of the water district, said the staff is simultaneously consulting with the state regulators on the proposed projects.

LOCAL NEWS

# San Rafael nabs \$1.94M for path project



A bicyclist rides south on a stretch of the bike-pedestrian pathway from the SMART Civic Center Station in San Rafael, Calif. on Saturday, April 24, 2021. (Sherry LaVars/Marin Independent Journal)



By **ADRIAN RODRIGUEZ** | [arodriguez@marinij.com](mailto:arodriguez@marinij.com) | Marin Independent Journal

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'WEATHER WHIPLASH'

# Storms prompt state to double water allocation

BY HAYLEY SMITH

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES >> On the heels of a soaking start to 2024, state water managers have announced a considerable increase in their forecasted water allocation for the year.

The California Department of Water Resources said Friday that it expects to provide 30% of requested supplies from the State Water Project, a massive network of reservoirs, canals and dams that supplies 29 water agencies serving about 27 million people.

The increase is double the initial projection issued in February of 15%.

The federal Central Valley Project — a similar network that serves as a key source of water for agricultural users in the state — also announced an increase on Friday.

The increase includes 100% of its contractual allotments for agricultural users north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, and 35% of allotments for irrigators south of the delta, up from 75% and 15%, respectively.

“Mid- to late February storms have since improved hydrological conditions particularly for Northern California, allowing for a more robust water supply allocation,” the agency said in a statement.

Indeed, both upgrades were attributed to soaking storms that dumped record rainfall and blinding blizzards across large swaths of California. Statewide snowpack on Friday was 98% of its average for the date, while the state’s major reservoirs were at 116% of their historic levels.

The next possible allocation update from the State Water Project would come after the fourth snow survey of the season on April 1. Should the current allocation hold, it would mark a significant improvement from the string of drought years ending in 2022, when state allocations were slashed to just 5%, spurring unprecedented water restrictions in Southern California.

But it would also be a considerable decrease from 2023, when water managers provided 100% of requested supplies for the first time in nearly 20 years after a remarkably wet winter.

Such rapid swings — not just in weather but in water reliability — are reflective of the state’s changing climate, officials say. The long-term trend points to hotter, drier conditions driven by climate change that will be punctuated by bursts of extreme weather, a pattern sometimes referred to as “weather whiplash.”

“As we experience more extreme weather conditions, each year brings its own challenges and that’s why it’s so critical to continue to adapt our water system to build climate resilience,” read a statement from DWR director Karla Nemeth.

State water officials said they have spent the winter working to maximize the capture and storage of water from this year’s winter storms, adding about 630,000 acre-feet to Lake Oroville and 150,000 acre-feet to the San Luis Reservoir since Jan. 1. (An acre-foot is approximately 326,000 gallons, or enough water to supply up to three homes for a year.)

But the state has also been criticized for missing out on opportunities to capture more stormwater and to recharge aquifers that have been drained by agriculture and drought. A recent report from the Pacific Institute determined that California ranks ninth of the 10 U.S. states with the most “untapped potential,” with approximately 2.27 million acre-feet of urban area runoff washing down storm drains and running to the ocean each year.

Not all of that water is capturable, and some is needed for environmental purposes, recreation and other uses, but the sheer volume indicates that more could be done, the researchers said.

State and federal officials said they were also hampered this winter in their ability to move water south through the system due to the presence of threatened and endangered fish species near pumping facilities in the south delta.

The presence of the fish — including delta smelt, winter-run chinook salmon and steelhead trout — has triggered state and federal permit requirements that significantly reduce pumping from the delta, including limiting the ability to move water into the San Luis Reservoir, officials said.

“While the series of storms in Northern California improved the water supply outlook, a number of factors, particularly anticipated regulatory constraints throughout the spring, continue to limit the water supply allocation for south-of-delta agriculture,” said Karl Stock, regional director for the Bureau of Reclamation, which oversees the Central Valley Project.

Nemeth said similarly that “DWR continues to take proactive measures and use the best available science to operate our water storage and delivery system to balance water supply needs while protecting native fish species.”

She underscored the need for climate adaptation efforts, including the advancement of the Delta Conveyance Project, a proposed 45-mile tunnel that would move more water from the delta to regions to the south.

A subject of fierce opposition, the \$16-billion project “will make it possible to move more water during high flow events while helping fish species like steelhead trout avoid threats posed by current pumping infrastructure,” the DWR said.

Had the tunnel been in place this winter, the DWR could have captured an additional 730,000 acre-feet of water between Jan. 1 and March 14, or enough for more than 7.6 million people for a year, according to Jennifer Pierre, general manager of the State Water Contractors, a nonprofit association of public water agencies.

“California’s climate is rapidly changing, and we must modernize our infrastructure so we can respond quickly to take advantage of unpredictable, flashy storm events and store as much water as possible for the next inevitable dry period,” Pierre said in a statement. “With rain and snow in this weekend’s forecast, we hope to see an increase in the April allocation update.”

The DWR said it is also working with state, federal and local partners to continue to invest in groundwater recharge projects, surface water storage such as Sites Reservoir, and the expansion of stormwater capture and desalination projects.

The State Water Project allocation announced Friday includes the anticipated delivery of 30% of requested supplies to contractors south of the delta — which account for the majority of contractors — as well as 50% to contractors north of the delta and 100% to Feather River Settlement Contractors, the DWR said.

The final allocation for the year is typically determined in May or June.

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