



Matt Beard

Trinidad Bay Watershed Council

Draft Meeting Notes

Wednesday, November 01, 2023, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm
Via Zoom

The Trinidad Bay Watershed Council works collaboratively to improve and maintain the watersheds, coastal waters and communities in the Trinidad and Westhaven area for the benefit of all community members.

Meeting Purpose: Discuss issues and activities in the Trinidad-Westhaven watersheds

Agenda

1) Welcome and Introductions

- Becky Price-Hall – City of Trinidad
- Angela Cather – City of Trinidad
- Roland Johnson – South Fork Two Creeks resident
- Trever Parker – SHN, Contract City Planner for City of Trinidad
- Brita Goldstein – Green Diamond
- Henry Baker – Trinidad Rancheria
- Steve Madrone – 5th District Supervisor
- Don Allen – South Fork Two Creeks watershed
- Paul Rosenblatt – WCSD, Two Creeks, & Joland Creek
- Peter Cohen – Scenic Drive, Westhaven
- Cheryl Kelly – Mayor, City of Trinidad (joined mid-meeting)

2) Finalize Agenda (all)

- All agreed to finalize

3) Partner and Watershed Updates (all)

- *H. Baker* – Confirmed that the Stormwater Project in the harbor area is being wrapped up for the year, and construction will resume in June. He also noted that the Rancheria recently received EPA funds to conduct a stormwater project in the the parking lot area near the tribal offices. He also mentioned that last month during creek cleanup they removed 11 tires, and that a Marine and Climate Resiliency Planner has been hired.
- *B. Price-Hall* – Gave an update on the City’s stormwater project, additionally noting that the City has officially decommissioned the stormwater outfall that discharged into the bay. She also stated that City staff will give the TBWC a stormwater final wrap up at the next meeting. She also briefly discussed that the City is currently working with the regional board to determine what permit is needed for the City’s ground water discharge; explaining that the City should no longer have to comply with the current mandatory MS4 permit. Price-Hall lastly provide updates on other City projects - the installation of a rainwater catchment system at Trinidad Elementary School, the wrap up of the

vulnerability analysis with the OPC project, and the nearing bid process for the water tank and pipeline project.

- *T. Parker* – Confirmed the City is working on the LCP update, the OPC grant, and hazard planning for Edwards Street infrastructure. Additionally, she stated the City is working on a few trail closure options for Trinidad – Axel Lindgren Memorial Trail and Van Wycke Trail.
- *P. Rosenblatt* – Provided an update on the partner intertie project between the City and WCSD. He explained that the objective of the project is to modestly augment the system for a short time – providing a few examples to show the benefit. He explained that the intertie is vital for both entities, because after an impactful event affecting the water supply, each party can assist one another. Adding that it gives both entities some resiliency. Rosenblatt went on to update TBWC that WCSD is currently installing over a mile of 6” water line pipes and hydrants – replacing those from 1968, which should assist in situations where WCSD has had water loss as high as 61%. Rosenblatt also added that WCSD has completed an impactful project where they drilled a few wells, and they have another project going out to bid that will assist in increasing their water tank shortage. He further added, that \$20 million worth of projects will help 50+ years down the road. He also stated that the final project they are working on is a Two-Creeks watershed plan. Advising that WCSD has a willing seller of adjacent properties that are completely in the watershed. He also mentioned WCSD benefited from a recent sediment study, and that they are interested in working with Moonstone Heights, but aren’t looking to consolidate – instead are happy to collaborate with our neighbors and help each other in times of need.
- *Supervisor Madrone* – Applauded TBWC. He stated that every proposal with a TBWC partnership has been extremely helpful to the communities. He noted that a tremendous amount of information and recommendations have been implemented; one of the them being a \$1.6 million grant for water source protection – the City partnering with Green Diamond on the project, as well. He stressed that no matter what our communities water sources are they need to be protected. He thanked everyone for their hard work. He also stated that even within his own neighborhood they are working on applying for forest thinning grants to assist in fire resilience; specifically targeting failing culverts and bolstering their water storage. He showed his appreciation for the Rancheria’s involvement in TBWC too.
- *D. Allen* – Stated that the TCLT has a hired a new Executive Director – Claire Nasr. He also confirmed that they have received a grant for the Tepona Lookout, but stated they have had a difficult time implementing the grant, as the bid they received was over the budget. He also stated that he wanted to recognize GHD and Rebecca Crow their assistance in the Luffenholtz Creek Watershed project.
- *B. Goldstein* – Stated there weren’t any updates from Green Diamond; adding that she is still relatively new to the group and has only been with GD for 2 years. She offered her assistance in providing guidance to the monitoring reports on Green Diamond’s website.

- *R. Johnson* – Confirmed that Moonstone Heights Water District has considered an intertie project with WCSD to increase resilience and the ability to assist their neighbors in an emergency.
 - Per interest – B. Price-Hall and P. Rosenblatt shared their screens to show the water district maps.
- *C. Kelly* – City of Trinidad’s Mayor, and chair of the City’s Water Advisory Committee, inquired who should be contacted about illegal water connections. Additionally, she noted the City is looking into pursuing a raw water reservoir location and has reached out to property owners.
 - *D. Allen* – Suggested talking to Supervisor Madrone in regard to illegal connections. In response to raw water, he questioned if the City has looked into Supervisor Madrone’s suggestions to tap into springs.
 - *T. Parker* – Stated that GHD has superficially reported back that there would be a lot of hurdles, as even catchment ponds are far out in terms of feasibility.
 - *P. Rosenblatt* – Regarding illegal connections, he suggested reaching out to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Noting that there are a lot of illegal diversions that affect our water supply greatly.
- *P. Cohan* – Stated he wants to know when there will be discussions surrounding water quality issues. Noting that he has water rights to the creek, thus is concerned about the quantity of moderately treated water for use.
 - *C. Kelly* – confirmed that Nov 8th at 5 pm the City’s WAC will talk about water quality and supply.

4) *Discussion: Watershed Council next steps and priorities going forward*

- *Desired future topics*
 - *P. Cohen* – Water supply
 - *C. Kelly* – Raw water storage
 - *D. Allen* – Hotel water supply via Humboldt Bay
 - *P. Rosenblatt* – Information on what funding the Rancheria received for a new water treatment facility, and was interested in discussing the partnerships with other tribes
 - *H. Baker* – Confirmed R. Sundberg will update the TBWC at the next meeting, and the new Marine and Climate Resilience Program Planner may join the meeting. He also stated that tribes have declared the importance of the ocean waters, from the Oregon border to local, of significance and in need of protecting.
 - *R. Johnson* – Water quality issues if the Rancheria’s water usage increases and how will the additional wastewater affect the bay.

5) TBWC Business

- January Meeting topics
 - Update from the Rancheria
 - Update from the City’s WAC

- Future meeting topics and presentations
 - January Meeting: ASBS Stormwater Project 2011-2024 – outcomes and lessons learned
 - April Meeting: Green Diamond Aquatics – Matt Nannizzi – AHCP and Little River Watershed, possible field tour (spring 2024), CR 1000, CR 1400