



**Zone 3A – Sonoma Creek Watershed  
Flood Protection Zone Advisory Committee Meeting  
December 7, 2023**

**Meeting Minutes**

**General notes:** This was a regular meeting of the Flood Protection Zone 3A Advisory Committee (Committee). The meeting was in-person at the Valley of the Moon Water District’s Boardroom at 19039 Bay Street, El Verano, CA 95476. Chase Takajo facilitated the meeting and Candace Messner recorded minutes.

Public notice of the meeting and the meeting agenda were posted at the following locations and dates:

- Sonoma Water’s website on November 30, 2023,
- Sonoma County Clerk-Recorder on November 30, 2023,
- Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Clerk of the Board on November 30, 2023
- Valley of the Moon Water District’s Boardroom on November 30, 2023
- Press Democrat newspaper on December 3, 2023, and
- Sonoma Index-Tribune newspaper on December 6, 2023.

Notice of the meeting was also posted on Sonoma Water’s social media on December 2, 2023 including Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor, and X (formally Twitter).

**Attendees:**

- Committee:
  - Erica Warren (designated alternate for City of Sonoma),
  - John Meserve (community member), and
  - Mike Berger (City of Sonoma; left meeting at 1:59 p.m.).
- Sonoma Ecology Center: Lauren Claussen and Steve Lee.
- Sonoma Water: Candace Messner, Carlos Diaz, Chase Takajo, Jon Niehaus, Kent Gylfe, and Sasha Ponomareva.
- Public: Bill Montini, Bill Wilson, and Robert Lunbeck.

**Absent Committee Members:** Chris Prevost, Laurie Glover, Nicholas Babb, and Phil Busalacchi.



**Agenda:**

1. **Opening/Introductions.** Chase Takajo called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. All attendees self-introduced. The Committee quorum was not present.
2. **Public Comment on Agenda Items.** Bill Montini commented that this Committee meeting and the previous meeting both lacked a quorum.
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes.** Due to the lack of a quorum, a vote to approve the December 13, 2022 Committee meeting minutes was not held.
4. **Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) Update.** Informational. Lauren Claussen and Steve Lee gave an update on the status of SEC's currently funded projects and studies related to flood control. Updates were given for the Watershed Partnerships Program habitat restoration projects on Nathanson Creek (Phases 4, 5 and 6) and Rodgers Creek (Phases 1 and 2); Debris Management Project; Upper Nathanson Creek Stormwater Management Feasibility Study, and Upper Sonoma Creek Stream Gravels Beneficial Reuse Project. There was a brief discussion following the presentation. The presentation materials are on file.
5. **Countywide Flood Risk Management Assessment.** Informational. Sasha Ponomareva gave an overview of the project motivation, purpose, funding sources, findings to date, next steps and schedule. The project is expected to identify gaps in flood risk management services across Sonoma County in order pursue a more comprehensive and integrated countywide flood management and adaptation strategy. Clarifying questions and answers followed the presentation. The presentation materials are on file.
6. **Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) Update.** Informational. Chase Takajo presented a summary of the SMP sediment and vegetation management projects completed in 2023. The presentation also included a brief summary of the Sonoma OneRain and its uses, and ongoing beaver dam management actions on Fryer Creek. Clarifying questions and answers followed the presentation. The presentation materials are on file.
7. **Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Flood Control Budget.** Chase Takajo and Carlos Diaz presented the recommended fiscal year 2024/2025 flood control budget, including a brief description and status for budgeted projects and studies. Clarifying questions and answers were given during and after the presentation. Due to a lack of a quorum, a Committee vote to approve the recommended budget was not held. The presented budget is on file.



**Sonoma  
Water**

**8. Reports and Comments by Sonoma Water and Committee.** None.

**9. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items.** None.

**10. Next Meeting and Adjourn.** The next regular meeting is planned for November/December 2024, date and time to be announced. Chase Takajo adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.