

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

## **General Manager's Report for September 2022**

*Presented at Regular Meeting of Monday, October 3, 2022*

**Priority 1: Security ~ Ensure reliable, resilient, and available sources of water.**

(1: Improved river & reservoir operations. 2: Fair & reliable inter-basin. 3: Expanded water sources. 4: Increased storage capacity)

**See Agenda Items on Water Supply Conditions and Water Resiliency Planning**

**2-Potter Valley Project Decommissioning:** The Round Valley Indian and Wiyot Tribes submitted a request to the Federal Emergency Regulatory Commission (FERC) for a government-to-government consultation on the decommissioning process.

**Priority 2: Collaboration ~ Work with partners to achieve aligned goals for a common benefit.**

(1: Trusted relationships with community partners for regional water security. 2: Improved diversity, equity, and inclusion in the stewardship of water resources. 3: Expanded relationships with non-traditional partners and stakeholders in pursuit of enhanced Environmental Stewardship.)

**2-ACWA Non-Profit Foundation:** In February 2022, the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Board of Directors approved ACWA to form a taskforce to explore the formation a new non-profit foundation to advance ACWA's efforts to promote diversity, equity and inclusion within the water industry through leadership and professional development. Updates are provided at ACWA Board and Regional meetings. This week, the Board approved the creation of the nonprofit.

**Priority 3: Advocacy ~ Influence outreach, education, funding, regulation, and legislation in support of equitable water resource stewardship.**

(1: Improved public awareness and understanding of the importance of water issues. 2: State and Federal governmental policy and funding support for the region.)

**1-Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo):** The Commission is recruiting applicants to serve as the Regular Public member on LAFCo? See [www.mendolafco.org](http://www.mendolafco.org) – deadline is October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Priority 4: Use ~ Ensure effective and beneficial use of water as a public resource.**

(1: Maximum beneficial use of water under District water right license. 2: Strategic use of water by customers.)

**Priority 5: Administration ~ Foster sustainable leadership and management of agency resources.**

(1: Capable and high quality executive leadership. 2: Engaged, diverse, and knowledgeable Board leadership. 3: Effective systems and human resources to execute the strategic plan. 4: Sound and sustainable management of District finances.)

**See Agenda Item on Financial Audit.**

### **Community Meetings Attended This Month**

**Redwood Valley County Water District Special Mtg (9/6/22):** During the well-attended meeting the Board discussed the proposed Emergency Water Supply Agreement with RRFC and once approved, how to allocate the 400 acre feet. Some will go to domestic, some to agriculture, and some held in the pond for fire suppression and emergency.

*(Continued...)*

**Upper Russian River Water Agency (URRWA) (9/7/22):** GM Walker reported on issues created by the heat wave. No updates were available for the Potter Valley Project and the Groundwater Sustainability Agency. GM Walker and Board Members reviewed the September 6, 2022 consolidation effort meeting involving Willow, Millview, Calpella, Redwood Valley, and the City of Ukiah which was reported as having gone well. Now the nature of an agreement among the participants must be worked out and further meetings will be held. Once again, no representative for the Groundwater Sustainability Agency was appointed. Redwood Valley's receipt of an unexpected 400 acre feet was discussed.

**Inland Water & Power Commission (9/8/22):** Updates were provided on the regular topics, including the progress on Sonoma Water Agency's DWR Grant projects and Potter Valley Project.

**Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) (9/12/22):** The Commission held a workshop on the City of Ukiah and Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Municipal Service Review (MSR) Update, notable for the unique approach to completing it jointly.

**Willow County Water District (9/12/22):** GM Walker reported on emergency water supply for Redwood Valley CWD through RRFC and potential consolidation of URRWA members and City of Ukiah was discussed.

**Redwood Valley County Water District (9/15/22):** Closed Session with legal counsel to discuss Grand Jury report, consolidation, and RRFC annexation. GM reported 70 ag connections turned on and only 40 acre feet (af) of the 400 af from RRFC used so far. He also reported it cumbersome and time consuming to turn on the ag hook ups that have been off since early 2021. Ag customers have reported they are not filling ponds because they leak and may take time to swell up after being dry so long. The Board representatives that attended the Consolidation meeting reported it went well and the initial plan is for a managerial consolidation which shares staff resources but keeps district governances and finances intact. The Board approved going forward filing CEQA documents for the DWR grant funding for treatment plant upgrades.

**Board of Supervisors (9/20/22):** nothing to note.

**Millview (9/20/22):** Staff reported August water use up 9% from July possibly due to the heat. Annual water analysis is in process at Alpha Labs. The financial audit is wrapping up. State inspection happening at the Hopland water treatment plant. Last one was 2009. Consolidation progress: Two hour ad hoc meeting with all parties was held to discuss how to move forward. Subsequently, Staff of Willow and City of Ukiah met to develop a draft for a contract for services agreement with the City of Ukiah. A second September meeting of the ad hoc scheduled to see the draft and discuss. Objective is to go for an agreement rather than the full consolidation so that they can apply for the consolidation monies sooner. The draft is about 10 pages with a fair amount of boilerplate.

**County Drought Task Force (9/21/22):** This is now being called the Public Health, Safety, and Resources Committee and there is some effort to use this Committee to meet the requirements of SB552. The Committee (Haschak and McGourty) are taking recommendations to the BoS on October 4 and some stakeholders are concerned with next steps and strategizing public comment on the item.

**Calpella (9/21/22):** Cancelled due to lack of quorum.

**City of Ukiah (9/21/22):** A member of the public offered comments on Doolan Creek, making the Council aware of what they believed to be unauthorized development around the creek that may cause flood damage to other properties. Councilmember Crane reported on the joint meeting with URRWA members toward consolidation "making some headway with a fair amount of agreement."

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