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Memorandum

Date: September 21, 2018

To: Governing Board
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

From: Karen McDowell

Subject: Recommendation on Citizens Oversight Committee Appointments

We recommend that the Authority adopt Resolution 52 appointing the listed individuals to the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee.

Background

Measure AA requires that the Authority appoint six members of the public to an Independent Oversight Committee (“Oversight Committee”) that shall: (a) annually review the Authority’s conformance with the Measure; (b) review the Authority’s audits and expenditure and financial reports; and (c) publish an annual report of its findings, which shall be posted on the Authority’s website.

On April 27, 2016, the Authority adopted the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee Procedural Document (“Procedural Document”) to provide guidance on the Oversight Committee’s role and the membership selection process, and amended it on February 10, 2017 (to indicate that there will not be stipends for committee members).

The Procedural Document provides guidance on the Oversight Committee’s role and membership selection process, including clarifying the geographical representation of the Oversight Committee as defined in Government Code 66703(a) and indicating that the Oversight Committee should have at least one representative from each of the four regions, and the two remaining Committee members should be from counties not already represented.

The Procedural Document further indicates that each member of the Oversight Committee must possess expertise in one or more of the following subject matters: water quality, pollution reduction, habitat restoration, flood protection, improvement of public access to the bay, or financing of these objectives.

The Procedural Document also indicates that no person may serve on the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee who: 1) Is an elected official or government employee; 2) Has had or could have a financial interest in a decision of the Authority; or 3) Is affiliated with an organization associated with a member of the Governing Board.

Selection Process

On March 1, 2018, the Authority released a Call for Applications to Serve on the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority's Independent Citizens Oversight Committee. The initial deadline of March 30th was extended to April 18, 2018. Staff received applications by the required deadline from 34 individuals, 32 of which met the eligibility requirements for membership.

An ad hoc committee of the Governing Board, consisting of Vice Mayor Bacon and Councilmember Scharff, reviewed the applications, with assistance from Authority staff. The applicants' areas of expertise as well as geographic representation were considered. Councilmember Scharff and Authority staff conducted phone interviews of seven candidates that represented the required areas of expertise and met the geographic requirements, and selected six of those candidates to recommend to the Governing Board.

The recommended Oversight Committee members are as follows, with all terms commencing on September 21, 2018 for the durations specified:

Andy Rodgers, Sonoma County, representing North Bay (3 Year Term)

Andy Rodgers is a consulting geologist with more than 30 years' experience evaluating, managing and monitoring groundwater and stormwater quality on behalf of public agencies, private parties, and NGOs. As past president of the Sonoma County Regional Parks Foundation and chair of the Sonoma County Agriculture Preservation and Open Space District's citizen advisory committee, Mr. Rodgers has reviewed many habitat restoration projects. In addition, he is a Sonoma County Water Agency Zone 2A Flood Control Advisory Committee member, serves on the Board of the Friends of Petaluma River, and is the Executive Director of the Russian River Watershed Association.

Cindy Darling, Contra Costa County, representing East Bay (2 Year Term)

Cindy Darling is the CFO of Darling H2O Consulting, Inc. where she focuses on water supply alternatives. Ms. Darling served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Resources Agency for four years where she worked on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. Prior to that she represented CalFed in the Bay Area, managing water supply and water quality planning efforts. Ms. Darling also spent close to 15 years as a field biologist and environmental specialist for the California Department of Fish and Game. Ms. Darling is also the current chair of the Walnut Creek Planning Commission.

Brian Steen, Santa Clara County, representing South Bay (3 Year Term)

Brian Steen currently serves as a Community Relations Consultant, providing community outreach, capital campaign planning, and process guidance for businesses, non-profits and public agencies. As the Executive Director of the Sempervirens Fund from 1999-2008, Mr. Steen directed all land acquisition transactions and implemented fundraising campaigns. Mr. Steen managed all organizational assets, including financial, real property and commercial holdings, as well as prepared annual budgets and quarterly projections. In addition, Mr. Steen was the Executive Director of the Big Sur Land Trust from 1980-1997, where he negotiated terms and conditions of conservation easements and purchases with private and public landowners.

Nancy Cave, San Francisco County, representing West Bay (1 Year Term)

Nancy Cave recently retired from the California Coastal Commission where she worked for 40 years, overseeing many water quality, habitat restoration, flood protection, and public access

projects. Ms. Cave retired as the North Central District Manager for the Coastal Commission, working with Sonoma, Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties to update local coastal plans to reflect climate change. Ms. Cave also served on a Wets Marin task force headed by State Senator Mike McGuire to help resolve public access conflicts.

Barry Nelson, Alameda County (2 Year Term)

Barry Nelson has worked on issues related to San Francisco Bay for more than 30 years, including 15 years at Save the Bay, with 9 years as the Executive Director, where he worked on many habitat protection and restoration projects. Mr. Nelson also worked for 15 years at the Natural Resources Defense Council, directing and co-directing NRDC's California water team. Most recently, Mr. Nelson has worked as an independent water policy consultant for a wide range of clients, including extensive work on flood management and restoration projects. Mr. Nelson served for 9 years as a commissioner on the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, serving also as the chair of the Bay Fill Working Group which is responsible for reviewing the Commission's laws, policies and the Bay Plan to ensure the region is ready to meet the challenges posed by sea level rise.

Paul Jones, San Mateo County (1 Year Term)

Paul Jones recently retired from the US EPA where he spent 27 years working in the Water Division, Wetlands Office in Region 9. Mr. Jones has spent his entire career working on habitat restoration, flood protection, water quality, pollution reduction, and financing projects, including on the staff of the San Francisco Estuary Project. Mr. Jones represented US EPA Region 9 on the National Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Workgroup, and organized and led a team to develop the California Rapid Assessment method for wetlands and riparian areas. Mr. Jones was a grant project officer for his entire career with US EPA which has provided him with familiarity in financing, contracting, and monitoring of projects. Mr. Jones volunteers locally and has served on a variety of Boards and Committees including the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory Board of Directors, the Pacifica Land Trust Board of Directors, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Negotiated Rulemaking Committee, and the San Pedro Creek Watershed Coalition Board of Directors.

Recommendation

The ad hoc committee has followed the guidance on the Oversight Committee Procedural Document in recommending Oversight Committee members. Accordingly, we recommend that the Authority adopt Resolution 52.

Attachments

1. Resolution