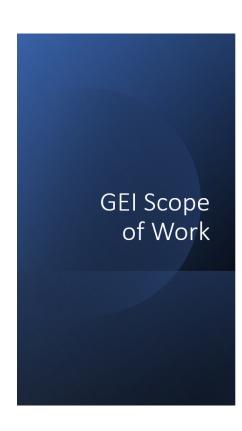
Re-establish the Mendocino County Water Agency as a Standalone Agency

Presentation to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors March 15, 2022



- Brief Board of Supervisors on project scope and progress
- Present overview of survey and interview results
- Seek input on Steering Committee participants
- Seek input on workshop process



Task 1 – Information Gathering

- Existing and Historical Information
- Survey
- Interviews
- Stakeholder Assessment and Critical Issues

Task 2 – Shape Mission, Vision and Objectives

- · Steering Committee
- Workshops
- · Implementation Plan

Task 3 – Define Requirements and Identify Resources

- · Staffing and Resource Needs
- General Manager Recruitment
- · Policies and Agreements

Task 4 – Determine Funding Mechanisms

- Grants
- Fee for Service
- · General Fund
- Assessments

Task 5 – Final Work Plan and Implementation Recommendations



- January 2022 Project Kickoff
- March 2022 present to BOS and seek input on Task 2
- April 2022 Workshops with Steering Committee
- May 2022 Present workshop results and preliminary budget to BOS
- July-August 2022 Deliver Final Work Plan

Stakeholder Assessment Participating Stakeholder Groups **Board of Supervisors** County offices and leadership Cities and City Managers Regional, Large and Small Water Providers Water Systems Water Agencies **Municipal Advisory Councils** Tribal Representatives Chambers of Commerce **Business Organizations Environmental Organizations** State Agency Representatives State and Federal Legislators

- Over 100 surveys distributed via email
- 48 surveys completed
- 17 interviews conducted



RECURRING THEMES

- · Addressing climate change impacts
- Resiliency
- Need funding and staff
- Conservation
- Invest in infrastructure
- Protect water quality and water levels
- Conduct scientific studies
- Advocacy and collaboration
- Regulatory compliance
- Healthy watershed
- Equity and inclusion
- Manage natural resources and habitat
- Clearinghouse for information
- Countywide water initiatives
- Support water security and long-term infrastructure solutions
- Increase water capacity



- 1. Drought/water conservation
- 2. Climate change
- 3. Infrastructure
- 4. Lack of information on groundwater conditions
- 5. Water quality
- 6. Water affordability



Partnerships, Advocacy, and Outreach Activities Results

Rank	Activity	Preferred Priority	Preferred Water Agency Role
1	Advocate on County water issues with legislators and regulators	High Priority	Lead Role
2	Provide a forum for relationship building and collaboration among water stakeholders	High Priority	Lead Role
3	Promote education on water issues	High Priority	Lead Role
4	Promote water conservation	High Priority	Support Role
5	Provide information for water and land managers	Moderate Priority	Support Role
6	Build a County identity to engage potential partners	Moderate Priority	TIE: Lead Role or Support Role



Water Planning and Management Activities Results

Rank	Activity	Preferred Priority	Preferred Water Agency Role
1	Plan for countywide water reliability and drought resilience	High Priority	Lead Role
2	Provide countywide drought response	High Priority	Lead Role
3	Identify and develop new sources of water for the county	High Priority	Lead Role
4	Facilitate water exchanges and joint use of facilities	Moderate Priority	Support Role
5	Develop watershed management plans for habitat restoration and enhancement	Moderate Priority	Support Role
6	Manage water rights	Moderate Priority	Support Role



Technical Services Activities Results

Rank	Activity	Preferred Priority	Preferred Water Agency Role
1	Coordinate and promote cooperation among water providers	High Priority	Lead Role
2	Maintain Geographic Information Systems to support water resources planning	High Priority	Lead Role
3	Provide technical assistance to water agencies/organizations	High Priority	Support Role
4	Provide shared staffing to support small water systems	Moderate Priority	Support Role
5	Provide regulatory support for water users	Moderate Priority	Support Role
6	Provide services to implement water efficiency measures	Moderate Priority	Support Role



Water Facilities Development and Operation Activities Results

Rank	Activity	Preferred Priority	Preferred Water Agency Role
1	Plan, construct, operate, and maintain water supply facilities	High Priority	Support Role
2	Manage the Countywide NPDES Stormwater Permit	Moderate Priority	Lead Role
3	Plan, construct, operate, and maintain flood control facilities	Moderate Priority	Support Role
4	Plan, construct, operate, and maintain wastewater treatment facilities	Low Priority	Support Role
5	Plan, construct, and maintain water-related recreational facilities	Low Priority	Limited or No Role



Funding Assistance Activities Results

Rank	Activity	Preferred Priority	Preferred Water Agency Role
1	Track grant opportunities and communicate with groups who might benefit from them	High Priority	Lead Role
2	Assist in grant preparation	High Priority	Support Role
3	Manage/administer grants and other sources of financial assistance	High Priority	Support Role

Proposed Steering Committee Devon Boer Jones - Executive Director, Mendocino County Farm Bureau

Carre Brown – former Supervisor, District 1

Joe Scriven or Deborah Edelman - Senior Project Manager, Mendocino County RCD

John Morrill - Operations Manager, Westport County Water District

Janet Pauli - Chair, Inland Water and Power Commission

Elizabeth Salomone - General Manager, Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District

Javier Silva – Tribal Consultant, North Coast Resource Partnership

John Smith - Public Works Director, City of Fort Bragg

Jessica Stull-Otto - Round Valley MAC

Jim Sullivan - Mendocino CSD

Jared Walker - <u>Calpella</u> County Water District; Hopland PUD, Millview County Water District, Redwood Valley County Water District; River Estates Mutual Water Company, Upper Russian Water Agency

Sean White - Director of Water & Sewer, City of Ukiah