

**GLENN MCGOURTY**  
1st District  
Supervisor  
Chair

**MAUREEN  
MULHEREN**  
2nd District  
Supervisor  
Vice-Chair

**JOHN HASCHAK**  
3rd District  
Supervisor

**DAN GJERDE**  
4th District  
Supervisor

**TED WILLIAMS**  
5th District  
Supervisor



**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER**  
501 Low Gap Road, Room 1070  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
(707) 463-4441 (t)  
(707) 463-5649 (f)  
[cob@mendocinocounty.org](mailto:cob@mendocinocounty.org)

**MENDOCINO COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND  
RESOURCES COMMITTEE AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 27, 2023 - 1:30 PM**

---

This meeting will take place in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, at 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, California, and virtual attendance will be available via Zoom (pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e)(1)(A)). Meetings are live streamed and available for viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/MendocinoCountyVideo>

The public may also participate digitally in meetings in lieu of personal attendance. Comment may be made via written comment using our online eComment platform at <https://mendocino.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>, or by joining the Zoom Webinar and using the "raise hand" feature when Public Comment is called. For details, please visit: <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/board-of-supervisors/public-engagement>

Zoom Link: <https://mendocinocounty.zoom.us/j/85184271276>

Zoom Phone Number (if joining via telephone): 1 669 900 9128 ; Zoom Webinar ID: 851 8427 1276

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Supervisor Gjerde and Supervisor Williams**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS**

- 2a) Discussion and Possible Action Including Acceptance of Update from EKI Environment and Water, Inc., Regarding Discussions and Recommendations of the Mendocino County Water Resources Team Technical Advisory Committee to Prioritize Community Water Projects for Grant Preparation Assistance (Countywide); and Referral to the Board of Supervisors Regarding Any Appropriate Direction to Staff (Sponsor: Water Agency)**

**Recommended Action:**

*Accept update from EKI Environment and Water, Inc., regarding discussions and recommendations of the Mendocino County Water Resources Team Technical Advisory Committee to prioritize community water needs (Countywide); and refer to the Board of Supervisors any appropriate direction to staff.*

**Attachments:** [EKI BOS Presentation](#)  
[TAC Summary Report](#)

**3. OTHER BUSINESS**

**3a) PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

- 3b) Approval of Minutes of February 27, 2023 Regular Meeting**

**Recommended Action:**

*Approve minutes of February 27, 2023 regular meeting.*

**Attachments:** [02-27-23 PHSR Minutes](#)

**3c) ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Additional Meeting Information for Interested Parties**

*For a full list of the latest available options by which to engage with agenda items, please visit <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/board-of-supervisors/public-engagement>*

*All electronically submitted comment is immediately available to Supervisors, staff, and the general public by clicking this meetings eComment link at: <https://mendocino.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>*

*LIVE WEB STREAMING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS is available at <https://mendocino.legistar.com> or visit the Mendocino County YouTube channel. Meetings are also livestreamed from the Mendocino County Facebook page. For technical assistance, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (707) 463-4441. Please reference the departmental website to obtain additional resource information for the Board of Supervisors: [www.mendocinocounty.org/bos](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/bos)*

***Thank you for your interest in the proceedings of the Public Health, Safety, and Resources Committee.***



# Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Agenda Summary

---

**Item #: 2a)**

---

**To: Public Health, Safety and Resources Standing Committee**

**From:** Water Agency

**Meeting Date:** March 27, 2023

**Department Contact:** Howard Dashiell

**Phone:** 707-463-4363

**CEO Contact:** Steve Dunncliff

**Phone:** 707-463-4441

**Item Type:** Regular Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: 1 Hour

**Agenda Title:**

Discussion and Possible Action Including Acceptance of Update from EKI Environment and Water, Inc., Regarding Discussions and Recommendations of the Mendocino County Water Resources Team Technical Advisory Committee to Prioritize Community Water Projects for Grant Preparation Assistance (Countywide); and Referral to the Board of Supervisors Regarding Any Appropriate Direction to Staff  
(Sponsor: Water Agency)

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

Accept update from EKI Environment and Water, Inc., regarding discussions and recommendations of the Mendocino County Water Resources Team Technical Advisory Committee to prioritize community water needs (Countywide); and refer to the Board of Supervisors any appropriate direction to staff.

**Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:**

On April 20, 2021, the Board of Supervisors created an Ad Hoc Committee comprised of Supervisors McGourty and Haschak to work on drought-related issues. Mendocino Countywide Drought Task Force began as an Ad-Hoc Committee meeting with public stakeholders on July 8, 2021, from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. via Zoom and met bimonthly or quarterly thereafter. The Ad Hoc Committee provided updates to the Board of Supervisors on October 19, 2021, November 9, 2021, November 16, 2021, and December 14, 2021, with a final update to the Board on August 2, 2022, at which time the Drought Task Force was transferred to the Public Health, Safety, and Resources Standing Committee. By Resolution Number (No.) 22-257 (December 13, 2022), the Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved BOS Agreement No. 22-310, with EKI Environment and Water, Inc., to serve as the water resource specialist and to create a Mendocino County Water Resource Team (MCWRT) to serve as the Mendocino County Water Agency (MCWA). On February 27, 2023, PHS&R Committee comprised of Supervisors Gjerde and Williams discussed Technical Advisory Committee recommendations to Prioritize Community Water Projects for Grant Preparation Assistance.

**Summary of Request/Referral:**

The Drought Task Force, now incorporated into the Public Health, Safety and Resources (PHSR) Standing Committee, pursuant to August 2, 2022, direction of the Board of Supervisors at which time the function of Drought Task Force Committee (required by SB 552) was transferred to the Public Health, Safety, and Resources Standing Committee.

---

**Item #: 2a)**

---

**Supplemental Information Available Online At:**

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/mendocino-county-water-agency>

**Fiscal Details:**

**source of funding:** \$227,000 EKI contract, 23,000 various county departments MCWRT from PG&E settlement - BU 0326 Line Item: 862189 **budgeted in current f/y:** Yes

**current f/y cost:** EKI contract Task 4 -Provide technical assistance and grant application support to Non-County Entities Subtask 4.1-Coordinate with NCEs to advance identified water planning and infrastructure projects \$17,000 subtask 4.2-Identify grant opportunities and support and coordinate grant application preparation \$71,000 Subtotal \$88,000 **if no, please describe:**

**annual recurring cost:** N/A

**revenue agreement:** Yes

**budget clarification:** N/A

---

**CEO Liaison:** Executive Office

**CEO Review:** Yes

**CEO Comments:**

**FOR COB USE ONLY**

---

Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Senior Deputy Clerk

Final Status: Approved

Date: March 27, 2023



# MENDOCINO COUNTY WATER RESOURCES TEAM

## IDENTIFY COMMUNITY WATER NEEDS

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

28 MARCH 2023

# AGENDA

- Introductions
  - EKI
  - Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Process to Pursue Funding for County's Water Priorities
- TAC Process
- TAC Recommendations
- Questions and answers



Image Source: <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/>



# INTRODUCTION: EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER INC.



- Employee-owned
- 100+ employees: engineers, hydrogeologists, geologists, environmental scientists, GIS, database specialists, and data scientists
- Extensive water resources planning and engineering expertise



**Anona Dutton, PG, CHg**  
**Principal-in-Charge**

- ✓ Leader in California water issues
- ✓ Strategic and technical direction
- ✓ Support communication and coordination efforts
- ✓ Point-of-contact (POC) and grant application support
- ✓ Support grant development



**Amir Mani, PhD, PE**  
**Project Manager**

- ✓ Project management experience
- ✓ Primary internal and external POC
- ✓ Drought Task Force POC
- ✓ Coordination with Non-County entities (NCEs)
- ✓ Support grant development



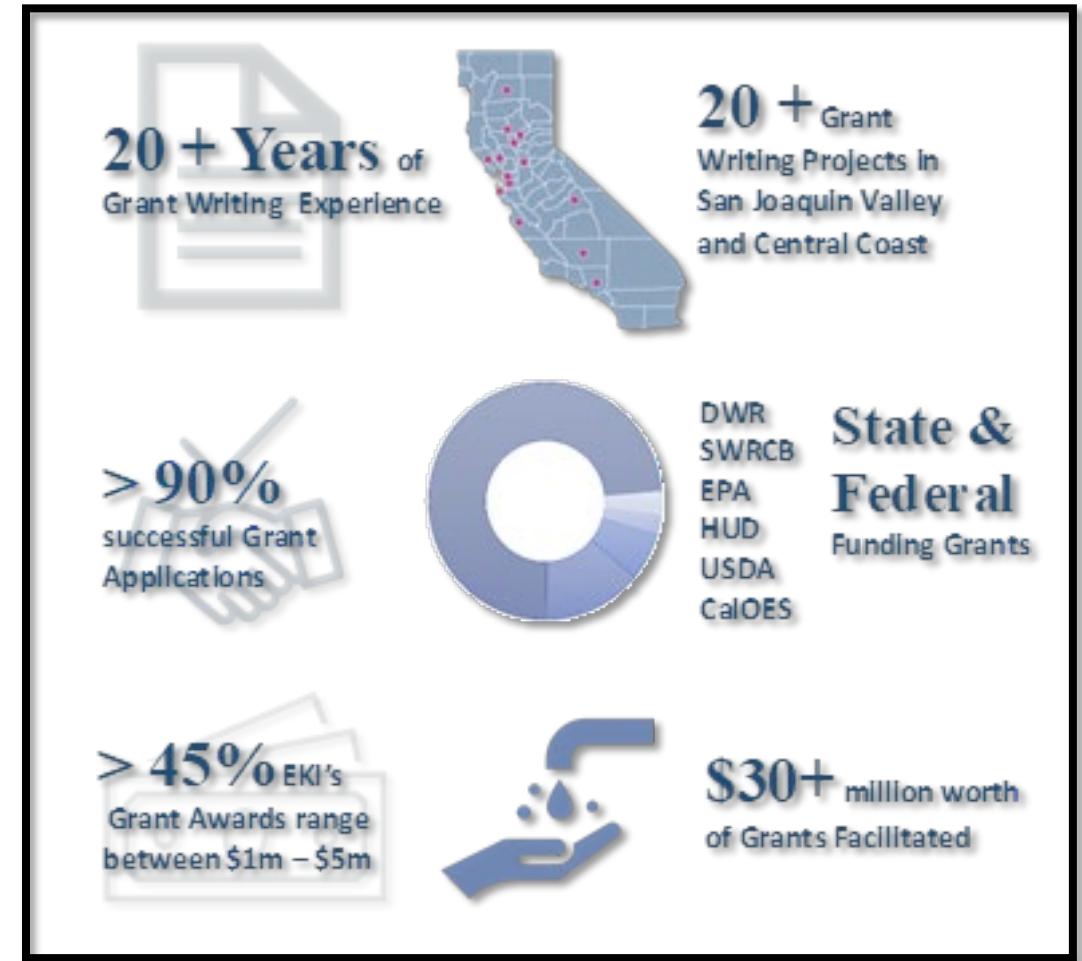
**Sarah Hodson, EIT**  
**Environmental Engineer**

- ✓ Technical support in all phases of the project
- ✓ Data analysis, GIS, and reports
- ✓ Grant application
- ✓ Development of supporting materials



# EKI SCOPE OF WORK: GRANT SUPPORT

- Under this scope, EKI is tasked to support Mendocino County in pursuit of its funding and financing goal:
  - Advocate, lead and prioritize studies and projects to position for grants
  - Build and maintain relationships with state and federal funding agencies on behalf of the County's water interests
  - Lead and coordinate grant applications and grant management
- Since 2018, EKI has administered almost 99% of the grants applied on behalf of the clients
- Received ~\$10M in drought grants in the past two years.
- Submitted Six SGM Round 2 Implementation grants the past December.



# INTRODUCTION: TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## District 1: Deborah Edelman

- Mendocino County Resource Conservation District

## District 2: Sean White

- City of Ukiah

## District 3: Jim Shields

- Laytonville County Water District

## District 4: John Smith

- City of Fort Bragg

## District 5: James Sullivan

- Mendocino City Community Services District

## Howard Dashiell

- Department of Transportation

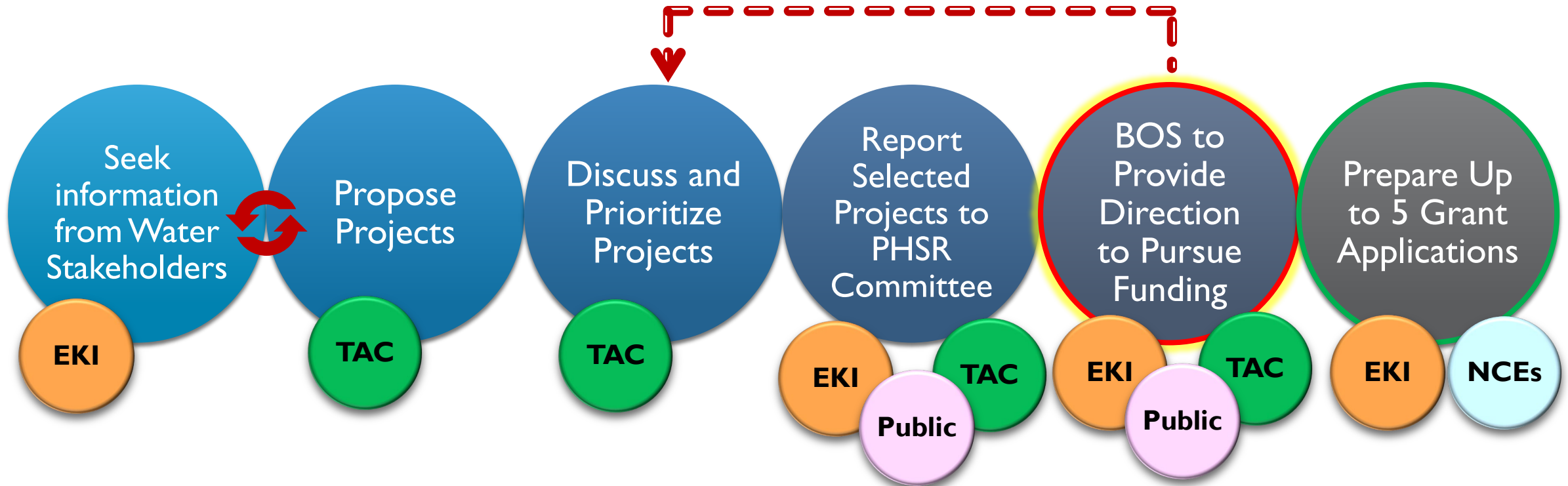
## Steve Dunnicliff

- Executive Office

## John Harper

- UC Cooperative Extension

# PROCESS TO PURSUE FUNDING FOR COUNTY'S WATER PRIORITIES



# TAC PROCESS: SEEK INFORMATION FROM WATER STAKEHOLDERS AND PROPOSE PROJECTS

- EKI conducted outreach to various stakeholders, including:
  - ✓ Tribes
  - ✓ Small water agencies
  - ✓ Community services districts
  - ✓ Water districts
  - ✓ Consulting firms
- Built upon project list previously developed by MCRCDD for the County's application to DWR's 2021 Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program
- Stakeholders could directly edit and add projects to a live list on Google Sheets
- Led to 46 projects from 24 different lead agencies

# TAC PROCESS: DISCUSS AND PRIORITIZE PROJECTS

## **1. EKI proposed 10 criteria to evaluate project merit based on the County Water Agency Implementation Plan (WAIP)**

- Promotes long-term investment in water reliability and resiliency.
- Promotes conservation, recycled water, or provides capacity for drought response.
- Increases access and transparency to water data in the County.
- Promotes education and outreach.
- Serves disadvantaged and underserved communities.
- Well-defined or -designed project, ready for implementation.
- Eligible for an existing grant (project type, implementation timeline, etc.).
- Promotes habitat restoration and protects fisheries.
- Includes publicly available monitoring and data collection.
- Multi-benefit with quantifiable benefits and impact.

## **2. TAC members filled out an anonymous survey to rank the importance of each criterion**

## **3. EKI created a ranking tool that translated evaluation of qualitative criteria (i.e., “Yes” or “No”) to numerical weighted scoring for each project**

- TAC survey responses were used to apply weights to the scoring of each criterion

# TAC RECOMMENDATION

***“Pursue funding for the ranked water resiliency projects in the order listed.”***

Rank	Project Name	Agency	District
1	135 Acre-Foot Raw Water Reservoirs	City of Fort Bragg	4
2	Recycled Water System Upgrade and Expansion and Modernization of Wastewater Treatment Plant	Mendocino City Community Services District (MCCSD)	5
3	Water Treatment Plant Repairs	Laytonville County Water District	3
4	Smart Water Meter Project	MCCSD	5
5	Gualala River Flow Bank Project	Gualala Water Company	5
6	Ackerman Creek Floodplain Management and Groundwater Recharge Project	Pinoleville Pomo Nation	1
7	Consolidation of URRWA	Upper Russian River Water Agency (URRWA) or Mendocino County	1
8	Western Hills Source Water Protection	City of Ukiah	2
9	Eel River – Trout Creek Water Resource Project	Potter Valley Tribe	2
10	Rainwater Harvest and Greywater Workshops and Tank Cost Share	Mendocino County Resource Conservation District	All

# TAC RECOMMENDATION

***“The County to consider one application bundling multiple projects to the State Board’s Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Grant.”***

- The County-wide and Regional Funding Program (County-wide SAFER) focuses on immediate needs of state smalls, domestic wells, or small public water systems serving Disadvantaged Communities (DACs).
  - Counties or NGOs/Public Agencies representing one or more counties can apply.
  - Funds specific projects:
    - Assessment: Community outreach, Domestic well testing
    - Interim Solutions: Bottled water, Tanks and hauled water, Kiosk filling stations, Point of Use/Point of Entry (POU/POE) installation and maintenance
    - Long-Term Solutions: Well repairs and/or replacements, Limited-scale consolidation (such as laterals, above-ground interties), POU/POE installation and maintenance (selected cases)
  - County will be responsible for applying and administering grants. Costs after approval are reimbursable if an agreement is ultimately executed.
  - County or lead agencies need to incur costs first. County-wide SAFER would reimburse costs already incurred.
- According to EKI’s correspondence with the State Board:
  - Projects identified in the Project list for the County-wide SAFER will most likely need separate applications to the overall SAFER funding program and will not fit under County-wide SAFER eligibility and requirements.
  - Some of the projects may not fit under FY 2022-23 SAFER funding priorities and should pursue other funding sources.
  - The County-wide SAFER may be updated, but terms and timeline are uncertain at this time.



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



9 March 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Howard Dashiell

From: Amir Mani, PhD, PE (EKI)  
Anona Dutton, PG, CHg (EKI)  
Sarah Hodson (EKI)

Subject: Summary Report for the Mendocino County Water Agency Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to Prioritize Community Water Needs (EKI C20176.00)

This memorandum (Memo) presents a summary of discussions and the final recommendations by the Mendocino County Water Resources Team (MCWRT) Technical Advisory Committee to Prioritize Community Water Needs (TAC). The Memo is organized to follow the formatting and structure of the Mendocino County Public Health, Safety, and Resources Standing Committee Agenda Packet to facilitate its inclusion as an agenda item for the Committee's upcoming public meeting on 27 February 2023.

**Agenda Title:** Discussion of Proposed Priority Projects by the Mendocino County Water Resources Team (MCWRT) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to Prioritize Community Water Needs

**Recommended Action/Motion:** Consider input from local water districts, purveyors, and community partners regarding proposal of priority projects; provide direction to staff as appropriate.

**Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:** On 21 September 2022, the Mendocino County Public Health, Safety, and Resources Standing Committee (PHSR) discussed the proposed priority water resilience projects sponsored by Supervisor McGourty. The project proposal was further discussed during a Board of Supervisor (BOS) meeting on 1 November 2022. Since the County of Mendocino was in the process of hiring a consultant to serve as the Water Resource Specialist and Create a Mendocino County Water Resource Team, the BOS decided that the hired consultant would maintain an updated list of water resilience projects and water needs and convene a TAC to prioritize those projects. The prioritized list of projects would then be reported back to the PSHR and the BOS for public discussion and further direction. On 13 December 2022, the BOS approved Department of Transportation Agreement Number 220025, Professional Services Agreement with EKI Environment & Water, Inc. (EKI), to serve as the consultant. On 27 February 2023, the PSHR reviewed and discussed the presentation from EKI regarding TAC's recommendation to prioritize community water needs.

**Summary of Request/Referral:** The following are the priority water resilience projects proposed by TAC. The priority projects were presented for review and discussion with the PSHR on 27 February 2023. The discussion has been updated based on the information received from entities, lead agencies, and State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to be presented and discussed at the BOS meeting on 28 March 2023.

## SUMMARY OF WORK

The TAC is an eight-member committee, with five voting members representing each of the County supervisorial districts and three non-voting members, as listed in **Table 1** below. EKI is the consulting Water Resources Team responsible for convening the TAC and facilitating discussion in TAC meetings.

The TAC convened on 24 January 2023 and 8 February 2023 to propose and prioritize water supply resiliency and reliability projects for the County.

**Table 1. Technical Advisory Committee to Prioritize Community Water Needs**

<p><u><i>Voting Members:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deborah Edelman*, Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD; District 1)</li> <li>Sean White, City of Ukiah (District 2)</li> <li>Jim Shields, Laytonville County Water District (District 3)</li> <li>John Smith, City of Fort Bragg (District 4)</li> <li>James Sullivan, Mendocino City Community Services District (District 5)</li> </ul>	<p><u><i>Non-Voting Members:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Howard Dashiell, Department of Transportation</li> <li>Steve Dunncliff, Executive Office</li> <li>John Harper, University of California Cooperative Extensions (UCCE)</li> </ul> <p><u><i>Other Participants:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EKI Environment &amp; Water, Inc. (MCWRT)</li> </ul>
---	---

\*Elizabeth Salomone (Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District) was originally selected to represent District 1 but forfeited her position after the first TAC meeting.

## Compile List of County-wide Projects

EKI conducted outreach to various stakeholders, including tribes, water districts, community services districts, small water agencies, and consulting firms, using the contact information provided by TAC members. EKI shared an editable project information table with all stakeholders, allowing each participant to enter proposed and ongoing water resiliency projects.

The updated list of projects builds upon a project list previously developed by MCRCD for the County's application to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR's) Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program (submitted in December 2021). The project list was used to facilitate TAC discussions and will be updated as needed by EKI throughout its contract with the County.

## Initial Project Prioritization

EKI developed the following ten criteria based on the County Water Agency Implementation Plan (WAIP) goals to score and rank the proposed projects:

1. Promotes conservation, recycled water, or provides capacity for drought response;
2. Promotes habitat restoration and protects fisheries;
3. Promotes education and outreach;

4. Serves disadvantaged and underserved communities;
5. Promotes long-term investment in water reliability and resiliency;
6. Well-defined or -designed project, ready for implementation;
7. Includes publicly available monitoring and data collection;
8. Multi-benefit with quantifiable benefits and impact;
9. Increases access and transparency to water data in the County; and,
10. Eligible for an existing grant.

At the 24 January 2023 TAC meeting, TAC members completed a survey to rank the importance of each of the above-listed criteria, as it relates to project selection. Prior to the second TAC meeting, EKI determined which criteria were satisfied by each proposed project. The projects were then scored by weighting the criteria based on TAC survey results and ranked accordingly.

### **Recommended Projects**

At the 8 February 2023 meeting, the TAC discussed over 40 projects included on the ranked list, individually and at length. After discussion, the TAC chose to select the top ten ranked projects based off the prioritization described above, excluding projects that were recently included in the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's application to the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program, and increasing the rank of one project (Rainwater Harvest and Greywater Workshops and Tank Cost Share) that the TAC agreed had significant County-wide benefits.

It is important to note that although the recommended project list includes projects for all supervisorial districts, the TAC viewed the projects holistically (i.e., based on technical merits and their benefit to County's water reliability and resiliency) and did not select projects by any geographical or political boundaries. Recommended projects are listed in **Table 2** below. EKI's scope of work includes assistance for grant writing for up to five projects depending on the solicitations. However, the TAC chose to include ten projects on the priority list due to the needed communications and consultations for most of the projects to further determine their scope and eligibility for grant applications. The additional projects will be selected as ranked when higher priority projects are deemed ineligible for open solicitations or have lower chances of funding.

**Table 2. Technical Advisory Committee Recommended Projects**

Rank	Project Name	Agency	District	Project Description
1	135 Acre-Foot Raw Water Reservoirs	City of Fort Bragg	4	The City will purchase 582 acres of land for the purpose of constructing three 45-acre foot reservoirs that provide an additional 44 million gallons of stored water. Floating solar panels will be installed and generate three megawatts of electricity and reduce algal growth and evaporation. Benefits to this work include; watershed protection, off stream storage, riparian habitat relief, sensitive natural communities protection, community fire protection (helicopter water access), Community Forest, coastal water support set aside and Blue Economy tie-in. Reservoirs to be filled during winter months to reduce impacts on stream sources.
2	Recycled Water System Upgrade and Expansion and Modernization of Wastewater Treatment Plant	Mendocino City Community Services District	5	<p>The wastewater treatment plant was designed over 50 years ago and requires upgrade to provide tertiary treated water for landscape irrigation. Presently, there is only a 3-day emergency storage facility for untreated wastewater which is inadequate should a breakdown incapacitate the facility. Additionally, the town of Mendocino is very water insecure. Modern tertiary water treatment can be used for landscape irrigation and possibly groundwater replenishment during summer months when over 25% of the wells supplying town water go dry.</p> <p>Additionally, this project includes the design and construction of a new Recycled Water System to meet current State Title-22 standards, the addition of a 50,000-gallon recycled water storage/contact tank, and expanded recycled water use and fire protection.</p>
3	Water Treatment Plant Repairs	Laytonville County Water District (LCWD)	3	LCWD is in the initial stage of seeking funding for Water Treatment Plant repairs for booster pumps and roof replacements for a backwash tank and reaction tank, as well as the abandonment of a non-producing water well. This project also includes the interior epoxy re-coating of a 250,000-gallon storage tank.

Rank	Project Name	Agency	District	Project Description
4	Smart Water Meter Project	Mendocino City Community Services District (MCCSD)	5	This project will replace 500 water meters on private well heads, for more accurate and timely data collection, improving groundwater management and helps better detect leaks. Meters could be repurposed when MCCSD has a community water system.
5	Gualala River Flow Bank Project	North Gualala Water Company	5	This project includes the purchase and installation of a 22'D x 21'H, 36,000-gallon glass-lined Backwash Tank as part of a larger water project to conserve water in the Gualala River and provide drinking water for the Gualala residents.
6	Ackerman Creek Floodplain Management and Groundwater Recharge Project	Pinoleville Pomo Nation	1	<p>Pinoleville is located on a flood plain adjacent to Ackerman Creek. Decades ago, berms were installed using the accepted technology of the time (junked cars) that have since rusted into scrap metal. Pinoleville has been actively working on remediating this issue and enhancing the natural flow of the creek. The Tribe has many riparian restoration studies and plans for restoring the flow and flood plain, and has been working with McBain and Associate in Arcata for many years gathering flow data and conducting in-house groundwater and stream monitoring.</p> <p>Funding for final plans and the pilot project would allow the Tribe to move forward with this project, providing much needed groundwater recharge and flood management, benefiting the Ukiah Valley Aquifer.</p>
7	Consolidation of URRWA	Upper Russian River Water Agency (URRWA) or Mendocino County	1	<p>The URRWA is a Joint Powers Authority working for the consolidation of Ukiah Valley's water. The board includes a single member from Willow County Water, Calpella County Water, Redwood Valley County Water, Millview County Water, and most recently the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District.</p> <p>This project will connect water service from Ukiah to Redwood Valley to ensure that there is a safe, clean, reliable, and water system supplying potable water to residents in the service area that managed as a unit.</p>

Rank	Project Name	Agency	District	Project Description
8	Western Hills Source Water Protection	City of Ukiah	2	This project is proposed to purchase the undeveloped headwater properties in the western hills. The current hydrology of the western hills of the Ukiah Valley is a major driver for recharging the underlying aquifer. Preserving these properties will protect these important resources and help ensure that natural runoff and groundwater recharge patterns will continue in perpetuity.
9	Eel River – Trout Creek Water Resource Project	Potter Valley Tribe	2	This project includes the design and installation of rainwater catchment system and tanks on Trout Creek property to promote fire response and reforestation projects.
10	Rainwater Harvest and Greywater Workshops and Tank Cost Share	MCRC	All	This project involves four workshops to demonstrate installation of rainwater catchment and greywater systems, as well as funding for tank purchases.

#### **Recommendation of the TAC for the County to Pursue SAFER Grant**

In addition to the projects listed above, the TAC recommends considering a County-wide application to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) program. Senate Bill (SB) 200 established the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund, which provides \$130 million annually to develop and implement sustainable solutions for small systems with violations of drinking water standards. Expenditures from the Fund will complement other funding, including General Fund appropriations, general obligation bond funds, and funding available through annual Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants. The SAFER Program's goal is to provide safe and affordable drinking water in every California community, for every Californian.

The TAC identified several projects that may be eligible for SAFER program funding, such as water distribution system replacements and upgrades at the Little Lake and Branscomb Mobile Home Parks. The TAC's recommendation was for the County to apply to the County-wide and Regional Funding Program (County-wide SAFER)<sup>1</sup> to be able to bundle the above-mentioned projects under one application to the SAFER program, which the County would sponsor. This approach would allow small entities, often with

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/safer/funding\\_solicitation.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/safer/funding_solicitation.html)



insufficient resources for grant administration, to receive funding for projects critical to meeting drinking water needs. Additionally, previous correspondence between James Sullivan, a member of the TAC, and SWRCB has indicated that funding is readily available for these types of projects in the County.

Upon approving this recommendation, EKI has reached out to the lead agencies for the projects being considered for County-wide SAFER and the State Board to receive more information on the program's requirements and the feasibility and potential of this approach. The County-wide SAFER is intended to address the needs of state smalls, domestic wells, and small public water systems that generally need immediate assistance and serve disadvantaged communities (DACs) and low-income households. Counties, Non-governmental organizations (NGO) or other public agencies on behalf of one or more counties are eligible for funding under this program.<sup>2</sup> The County-wide SAFER supports and funds the following project types:

- Assessment
  - Community outreach
  - Domestic well testing
- Interim Solutions
  - Bottled water
  - Tanks and hauled water
  - Kiosk filling stations
  - Point of Use/Point of Entry (POU/POE) installation and maintenance
- Long-Term Solutions
  - Well repairs and/or replacements
  - Limited-scale consolidation (such as laterals, above-ground interties)
  - POU/POE installation and maintenance, in selected cases

The County-wide SAFER will follow the priorities outlined in the Fund Expenditure Plan<sup>3</sup> for funding allocation. The overall process for a County-wide SAFER grant application is as follows:

1. The County or an eligible partner entity applies through Financial Assistance Application Tool (FAAST).
2. State Water Board staff review the application. State Water Board staff work with the applicant to obtain any additional information to complete the application package and make a funding recommendation.

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/safer/docs/2022/application-and-funding-process-overview-accessible.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/grants\\_loans/docs/2022/final-2022-23-sadw-fep.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/docs/2022/final-2022-23-sadw-fep.pdf)

3. State Water Board approves the funding. The recipient may start implementing the project and costs may start being incurred upon approval. However, costs cannot be reimbursed until after the execution of a funding agreement.
4. A funding agreement is drafted and executed.
5. Recipient submits reimbursement requests and progress reports in accordance with the terms of the funding agreement.
6. State Water Board makes payments for reimbursement requests.

Notably, the County would be responsible for writing and submitting the grant application. Therefore, as the application sponsor, the County would ultimately be responsible for grant administration should funding be awarded. Additionally, SAFER funding is typically done on a reimbursement basis<sup>4</sup>, and as such, the County or the project lead would be responsible for providing project funding until reimbursed for expenses when grant funding is received.

With respect to the projects identified by the TAC to be considered for a bundled SAFER application, EKI's correspondence with the State Board indicates that due to the construction and infrastructural nature of the projects, and their relatively large scopes and expenses, separate applications for each project under the overall SAFER program is the most reasonable pathway for funding. Furthermore, projects that do not address immediate needs or water quality non-compliance, such as installation of meters, would be unlikely to be eligible for funding under the SAFER program, based on the Fund Expenditure Plan.

### **Fiscal Details**

EKI recommends that fiscal details be provided as needed by the County staff for the PSHR and the BOS review.

---

<sup>4</sup> SWRCB is authorized to provide necessary advance payment for projects funded by the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund, with advance payments for construction projects not to exceed 25% of the total amount of construction funding provided by the State Water Board for a project.



# Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Agenda Summary

---

**Item #: 3b)**

---

**To: Public Health, Safety and Resources Standing Committee**

**From: Executive Office**

**Meeting Date:** March 27, 2023

**Department Contact:** Atlas Pearson

**Phone:** 707-463-4441

**CEO Contact:** Darcie Antle

**Phone:** 707-463-4441

**Time Allocated:** 5 Minutes

**Agenda Title:**

Approval of Minutes of February 27, 2023 Regular Meeting

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

Approve minutes of February 27, 2023 regular meeting.

---

**CEO Liaison:** Executive Office

**CEO Review:** Yes

**CEO Comments:**

**FOR COB USE ONLY**

---

Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Senior Deputy Clerk

Final Status: Approved

Date: March 27, 2023



GLENN MCGOURTY  
1st District  
Supervisor  
Chair

MAUREEN MULHEREN  
2nd District  
Supervisor  
Vice-Chair

JOHN HASCHAK  
3rd District  
Supervisor

DAN GJERDE  
4th District  
Supervisor

TED WILLIAMS  
5th District  
Supervisor



DARCIE ANTLE  
Chief Executive Officer/  
Clerk of the Board

CHRISTIAN M. CURTIS  
County Counsel

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER  
501 Low Gap Road, Room 1070  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
(707) 463-4441 (t)  
(707) 463-5649 (f)  
cob@mendocinocounty.org

## **PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

### **ACTION MINUTES – February 27, 2023**

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO - STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FAIR STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
(PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE §25150)

---

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – OPEN SESSION (ROLL CALL 1:31 P.M.)**

**Present:** Committee Member/Chair Dan Gjerde and Committee Member/Supervisor Ted Williams. Chair Gjerde presiding.

**Staff Present:** Darcie Antle, Chief Executive Officer; Christian M. Curtis, County Counsel; Atlas M.A. Pearson, Senior Deputy Clerk of the Board; Kim Saylor, Deputy Clerk of the Board; and Lillian Bearden, Deputy Clerk of the Board.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – REGULAR CALENDAR**

**2A) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION INCLUDING ACCEPTANCE OF UPDATE FROM EKI ENVIRONMENT AND WATER, INC., REGARDING DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY WATER RESOURCES TEAM TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO PRIORITIZE COMMUNITY WATER NEEDS (COUNTYWIDE) - SPONSOR: WATER AGENCY**

**Presenter/s:** Howard Dashiell, Director, Transportation; and Amir Mani, Consultant, EKI Environment and Water.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Committee Action:** No Action Taken.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – OTHER BUSINESS**

**3A) PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

**Presenter/s:** None.

**3B) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 SPECIAL MEETING - SPONSOR: EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

**Presenter/s:** Atlas Pearson, Senior Deputy Clerk of the Board.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Committee Action:** Upon motion by Supervisor Williams, seconded by Supervisor Gjerde, IT IS ORDERED that the Public Health, Safety, and Resources Committee approves minutes of the September 21, 2022, Special Meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

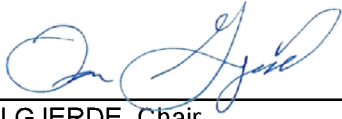
Aye: 2 – Supervisor Williams and Supervisor Gjerde

No: 0 – None

Absent: 0 – None

THERE BEING NOTHING FURTHER TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADJOURNED AT 2:03 P.M.

Attest: ATLAS M.A. PEARSON  
Senior Deputy Clerk of the Board



DAN GJERDE, Chair



**NOTICE: PUBLISHED MINUTES OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS**

- Effective March 1, 2009, Board of Supervisors minutes will be produced in “action only” format. As an alternative service, public access to recorded Board proceedings will be available on the Board of Supervisors’ website in indexed audio format
- LIVE WEB STREAMING OF BOARD MEETINGS is now available via the County’s YouTube Channel. If technical assistance is needed, please contact The Mendocino County Executive Office at (707) 463-4441.
- Minutes are considered draft until adopted/approved by the Board of Supervisors
- The Board of Supervisors’ action minutes are also posted on the County of Mendocino website at: [www.mendocinocounty.org/government/board-of-supervisors](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/board-of-supervisors)
- To request an official record of a meeting of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, please contact the Executive Office at (707) 463-4441
- Please reference the departmental website to obtain additional resource information for the Board of Supervisors and Clerk of the Board: [www.mendocinocounty.org/government/board-of-supervisors](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/board-of-supervisors)

***Thank you for your interest in the proceedings of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors***