


From: [Jan Stephens](#)
To: [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#)
Subject: Board of Directors Contact Details | Marin Water
Date: Saturday, August 7, 2021 7:05:22 PM
Attachments: [marin_water_logo.svg](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[facebook.svg](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)
[twitter.svg](#)
[ATT00003.htm](#)
[youtube.svg](#)
[ATT00004.htm](#)
[nextdoor.svg](#)
[ATT00005.htm](#)
[instagram.svg](#)
[ATT00006.htm](#)

What are you doing to store water? What happened to Prop. 1 that we voted for in 2014 to increase more water storage? It is VERY disappointing that MMWD has not done what the votes requested.
Please reply ~

Jan and Bob Stephens
415-459-5318

San Rafael, CA
<https://www.marinwater.org/board-contact>

Marin is in a severe drought. Conserve water. [Learn more.](#) 

From: clewis3642@aol.com
To: [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)
Subject: Water From Air Using Dehumidifiers
Date: Saturday, August 7, 2021 2:06:39 PM

To All:

At the moment I'm watching a 12/4/2018 episode of Tastemakers on Ch. 9. One included story features Orchid Island Brewery in Florida. As here, that area experiences fog. Lots of fog.

This particular brewery was purchasing distilled water to control that element of the production process. It got expensive as the operation grew. So the owners investigated and settled upon a technology that essentially used glorified dehumidifiers (their term) to extract water from the air. Specific cost went unmentioned but it is clear that distilled water cost more. Enough more that the investment was warranted for the owners.

Perhaps a much larger version is appropriate as a supplemental water source for the County of Marin. Larger water generating capacity could be achieved via physical size, a distributed generation system or other means.

Anyway, I suggest the alternative be evaluated given the general situation of Marin perpetually being on the verge of or in a drought.

Regards,

Charles K. Lewis
415-299-9085

From: [Jacques Yenni](#)
To: [Cynthia Koehler](#)
Subject: Drought
Date: Sunday, August 8, 2021 9:02:47 AM

Dear Ms Koehler,

I am a 45 year resident of Corte Madera and witnessed several drought years.

The problem has plagued us for as long as I have lived here. Other than conservation (which has its limits) no permanent solution has been offered or implemented. We know climate change is causing much of the problem and that will persist.

Dismantling the Richmond bridge pipeline was shortsighted but in any case is moot since there is so little water to purchase and bring in.

A desalinization plant would relieve a great deal of the shortage and appears to be a reasonable solution. Sooner or later it will happen and your delaying it is causing great harm to the residents of this county.

I urge you to reconsider.

Sincerely,

Jacques Yenni

300 summit dr.

Corte Madera Ca 94925

415-515-2228

From: [Michael](#)
To: [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)
Subject: Marin Water Usage
Date: Sunday, August 8, 2021 7:39:35 AM

We were reading this morning about Marin residents failing to meet the 40% reduction target in water usage and that if the drought continues, there will be even more pressing demands to reduce our usage.

Perhaps the Board or the Management team has already considered this but I wanted to share one thought that might encourage more people to save water.

Can Marin Water tell residents by household their water consumption this year vs. last year or vs. the last two years. And give people 'star' ratings or some other badge for effectiveness. It could also be done by neighborhood (or district).

We live in the Peacock Gap area, the person leading our HOA has been pretty persistent in reducing the water usage for our homeowner's association. Although the HOA did have a problem with leaky irrigation valves that I think has been fixed. We are attempting to use less water in our home, but I really have no idea how our usage compares to last year. Are we using 20% less, 40% less, 50% less???

In the organizational improvement work I did over the years, I found that factually correct and publicly posting meaningful metrics could drive behavior change. Having a list of Marin Communities and showing their % changes might be helpful. There are some potential unintended consequences that would need thoughtful consideration before doing this. If doing listings by neighborhood the list might need to disclose why some areas are at the bottom (e.g., our leaky valves impacting our HOA's usage). But giving all Marin Water usage residents their own metric shouldn't put anyone at risk and it could be a useful influence for positive behavior changes.

We're relatively recent California residents, having moved here from Chicago in late 2018. So still getting used to our new environment. It's pretty clear from my simple observations that some geographic sections of Marin are dealing with water restrictions differently. Water is clearly one of the mega issues for this area and I simply wanted to share an idea of seen motivate behavior changes over the years.

Best wishes,
Michael Bremer
VP AME Excellence Award Council
Author "[How to Do a Gemba Walk](#)"
[Linkedin](#)
[@MichaelBremer](#)
630-235-4210 cell

"Thinking is difficult, that's why most people judge." Carl Jung

From: [M](#)
To: [Ben Horenstein](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Jack Gibson](#); opinion@marinij.com
Subject: No desalination
Date: Sunday, August 8, 2021 2:33:10 PM

I don't get it. Mr. Ben Horenstein said a \$37 million dollar rented desalination plant would only generate a fourth of the water needed. Well, rent a bigger one. Sounds weak. Build a big permanent plant that will forever fulfil the needs of Marin.

But he and the water gang have no consequences if there is no water. They will get their huge salaries and no one gets fired for incompetence, let's reflect on our consequences.

We get less water, yet pay more for less. We can't water the lawn or plants yet pay as if we are watering the lawn. Short showers and no car washing while the water people tell us desalination is out.

Now I am aware of such plants In Tampa, Southern California and Saudi Arabia. Are their plants only one fourth capacity. But the board needs some consequences before they will act appropriately. How about for every \$100 we pay for less use their salaries are reduced \$100. Or maybe firing people who are no longer needed. Something. The gang at the water district are climate phoebes and will never tell us the truth about desalination. To those paranoid climate phoebes using ocean water is a sin against the environment and the world.

It is a good thing they are no where else but Marin. We suffer for their incompetence but not one else has to. The real issue is why they are reluctant to tell us the real reason for rejecting desalination. Look at the excuse. It will only produce one fourth of the needed water. Build a bigger one. But this paper are climate phoebes also so the issue is dead and no question will be asked of the water gang. All they have to do is wait until the rain season. What a county.

Robert A. Casper, SR
San Rafael, CA

From: [James Jackson](#)
To: [Cynthia Koehler](#)
Subject: Recycled water station
Date: Sunday, August 8, 2021 8:29:39 AM

Why has the Civic Center recycled station not been opened? It's been done for weeks.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Teresa McGlashan](#)
To: [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)
Subject: Support for Desalinization plants for Marin County
Date: Sunday, August 8, 2021 8:43:31 AM

Hello MMWD board of directors,

I am writing to express my support for investment in substantial desalinization rather than a pipeline. I believe that Marin County needs to be working toward water independence in light of the reality of climate emergency. Desalination is a long term sustainable option that will give our county the confidence to supply our own water during years of water abundance and drought.

As we all know, there will be long term conflict over the use and distribution of water in California and the West during the coming years. Let's think long-term and invest in desalinization. Let's be a model for how this can work. Let's make sure we use solar so the desalination plant is carbon neutral.

Short term solutions are short-sighted. Please think long-term and invest our money wisely in something that will solve our ongoing water needs.

Thank you for considering this perspective. I appreciate the challenge of your work right now.

Warmly,
Teresa McGlashan

From: ["oi](#)
To: opinion@marinij.com; chair@maringop.org; [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#)
Subject: To be or not to be Water
Date: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:28:56 AM

Almost every day there is a letter criticizing the MMWD for their lack of action to combat the drought and lack of water. Allen Friedman was today's writer. And with good reason. The MMWD exists for one reason, to give us clear and plenty of water for our daily use. They aren't doing that. Instead they tell us to conserve, use less while they charge us more for less use. I am pretty sure if these directors were in the real corporate world, they have their jobs for long.

Desalination is the wave of the future since more water will always be needed as the population grows. But in Marin it's a sacrilege to even think about using ocean water. That water belongs to the environmentalist climate phoebes, not us. Now they will never allow drilling in "their" ocean but they are considering 1000s of windmills. But it is a relative easy solution. Get rid of the directors and replace them with directors who will finally do something about Marin's water problem.

Robert A. Casper, SR
San Rafael, CA

From: [Pierre Auroy](#)
To: [Cynthia Koehler](#)
Subject: Water conservation and retention
Date: Monday, August 9, 2021 12:50:42 PM

Pierre Auroy
p.auroy47@gmail.com
415-233-2710

Sir

We are getting deeper into the drought and who knows when we will have our next substantial rain fall. Eventually we will. Meanwhile, our water district officials, along with the board of supervisors are debating on building a pipeline (again) across the Richmond bridge. It's no news that the drought is all over California, which includes the East Bay, so why spend 60 to 88 million dollars on a project that realistically will be a band aid on a broken leg? In Marin County, our reservoirs were built over 60 years ago for a population that is half of what it is now. Few improvements have been made since, while during these years, soil from surrounding hillsides have significantly filled up the bottom of these reservoirs, hence reducing the water capacity. Nicasio reservoir looks like a meadow right now. The evidence is obvious that this lake can easily be dredged 5 to 10 feet. One square acre, the size of a football field, by one foot deep amounts to 325,851.6 gallons! Besides increasing the lakes capacity, it would reduce the rate of evaporation as the water temperature would remain cooler. Also the soil extracted could be used to reinforce our aging levees, and perhaps improve Hwy 37.

Now is the time to do it. In September of 2016 we were facing a similar drought. Water agency experts predicted that it would take ten years of heavy rain to get back to normal. Less than two months later, we had the media forecasting a so-called "El Nino", which eventually was upgraded to "Godzilla El Nino." And for once they were right. The rain filled up the reservoirs in less than two months, sending tremendous amounts of water to the overspill and back to the ocean. Are we going to miss our window of opportunity... again?

Sincerely
Pierre Auroy

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Douglas Scherf](#)
To: [Cynthia Koehler](#)
Subject: Water, water and more water!
Date: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 1:41:46 PM

Dear Ms. Koehler:

Over the past six months, my wife and I have reduced our water usage by 40%. How did we achieve this result? Here's how:

1. We only shower for one minute, every ten days.
2. I only shave every ten days, with cold water.
3. We save water from the showers and taps, and use it to water our garden.
4. We take most of our washing to the laundromat.
5. We use paper plates and cups, and plastic silverware.
6. We spent \$2,000 changing our watering system to drips only.
7. We sweep the yard and deck instead of hosing them.
8. We operate the garden watering system two times per week, instead of three.
9. We take our cars to a car wash which recycles the water.
10. I turned off the pool heater to reduce evaporation, and I am not swimming at all this year.
11. I keep the cover on the pool, but I am now fighting to eliminate the phosphates and algae.

When we were young, we struggled, sacrificed and saved to be able to afford a home in Marin. Now that we are over 80 years old, we would like to enjoy life.

I am tired of living like a hermit and making further sacrifices because the MMWD board fails to provide adequate water supplies, which is your reason for being.

Also, we have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on the landscaping and maintenance of our garden. We do not intend to lose all of that because you neglected your responsibilities.

If you don't provide desalination, a pipeline, larger reservoir capacity or new sources of water by next spring, I believe you will see lawsuits against the board for malfeasance and against you personally for dereliction of duty.

Do you duty - find new water sources now!

Doug Scherf

From: [M](#)
To: opinion@marinij.com; spotswood@comcast.net; [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#)
Subject: water
Date: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 9:43:01 AM

I read with little interest the article by Spotswood about Marin's water needs and the water district failure to provide us with needed water. Spotswood mentions climate change and what will happen in 50 years and said Marin is slow in responding to that eventuality. Of course, there is no global warming and the problem with Marin is we suffer with two groups of loons that are fighting each other. First there are the climate phoebes who waste billions of trains, bike paths and other none needed item. Then we have the environmental loons at the water district.

These two group hate cows, hate oysters and love the ocean. To these people the water and ocean are scared. We can't touch the water and doing so is a sin against the planet. These loons have one thing in common. The ocean. The climate phoebes think cows are destroying the earth with their dong and polluting the ocean with their run off. So with these types of mentalities it is useless to discuss something logically.

The water guy will see us die of thirst before they allow using the ocean for our need. What I am surprised is that they never sacrificed a virgin to the Sea god. Maybe they have and the IJ just didn't print it. We do live in a pathetic county. But we had 1000s leave last year and more will leave in coming years. They will be replaced by illegal aliens that are sucking us financially dry. The districts theory is to "wait it out" like they did in 1976. And they will. Then in 2030, we will have another drought.

Robert A. Casper, Sr
San Rafael, CA

From: chrisamarks@comcast.net
To: [Terrie Gillen](#)
Subject: Use recycled water for required stream discharges
Date: Friday, August 13, 2021 5:26:43 PM

During this extreme drought we are experiencing in Marin, MMWD has been considering a number of options to supply its customers with water. After looking through the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (WMP) provided on www.MarinWater.org it appears MMWD releases between 8,000 and 12,000 acre feet (AF) for environmental releases for wetland or wildlife habitat (Table 4-1 Demands for Potable and Non-Potable Water). It also appears MMWD's WMP does not list using recycled water to at least supplement some of the required environmental releases (Table 6-5 Current and Projected Water Direct Beneficial Uses Within Service Area).

Central Marin Sanitation District (CMSA) alone discharges 9,477 AF of secondary disinfected water (Table 6-4)

- 12,000 AF released from MMWD reservoirs to creeks
- 9,500 AF of recycled water from CMSA alone discharged in the bay

If CMSA could treat their discharge water to standards that meet the requirements for environmental releases (which may already be occurring), MMWD could reduce its reservoir environmental releases during drought years and keep that water in their reservoirs.

This may be a less expense option than buying water and pumping it across the bridge and desalinization, and it could be a long term option for MMWD within its own footprint.

I'm sure the District has looked at many options and wanted to be sure the District has considered this potential option as well.

Thanks for your time,

Chris Marks
42 Briarwood Dr
San Rafael

From: [Peter Anderson](#)
To: [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)
Cc: [Frank Egger](#); [Barbara Bogard](#); [Paul Mann](#); [Valeri Hood](#); [Laura Chariton](#); [Judy Schriebman](#); [Thomas McAfee](#)
Subject: Is this a picture of inappropriate use of water during a time of deep and permanent drought?
Date: Saturday, August 14, 2021 8:35:17 PM

The lush green belt in the valley below is the Indian Valley golf course today.



From: laurachariton@comcast.net
To: [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Jack Gibson](#)
Cc: [Barbara Bogard](#); [Kathy](#); [Peter Anderson](#); [Paul Mann](#); [Thomas McAfee](#); [Valeri Hood](#); [Frank Egger](#)
Subject: Re: Golf course greens require lots of water to maintain that deep green color during a drought.
Date: Saturday, August 14, 2021 9:10:51 PM
Attachments: [ATT00001.png](#)
[EMACIATED RUNNING ELK.png](#)

While the golfers play, the Tule Elk in Point Reyes national seashore are dying of thirst and starvation and their last water sources are drying up.

Please watch these two short videos.

[https://link.edgepilot.com/s/269dee03/3-SfKtpoM0Socpoo9SkGaA?
u=https://youtu.be/CayVD_82K3w](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/269dee03/3-SfKtpoM0Socpoo9SkGaA?u=https://youtu.be/CayVD_82K3w)

[https://link.edgepilot.com/s/b4b42c54/VKYobq-lmUeG3hLuBNTprQ?
u=https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvHhm0yWabY](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/b4b42c54/VKYobq-lmUeG3hLuBNTprQ?u=https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvHhm0yWabY)

Sincerely,

Laura Chariton

watermarin.org (501) C3
446 Panoramic Hwy. Mill Valley, CA 94941



415 234-9007 cell 415 855-5630

From: [Jan King](#)
To: [Cynthia Koehler](#)
Subject: REDISTRICTING Marin Water and the League of Women Voters of Marin County
Date: Monday, August 16, 2021 3:54:32 PM
Attachments: [MarinWater.Ltr.Outreach.8.13.21.pdf](#)

Dear Ms. Koehler,

Please see the attached letter from the League of Women Voters of Marin County to General Manager Bob Horenstein of Marin Water. The League is committed to supporting your efforts in the upcoming process of redistricting the divisions in your special district. We in the League are most interested in ensuring a *"robust and transparent" process that enables community input.*

I am the League member who is assigned to follow Marin Water's redistricting efforts. Please provide me with the date you expect that your redistricting web page will be up and available for public access.

Thank you for your work in our community, especially during this historic drought.

Sincerely,
Jan King
138 Westward Dr, Corte Madera, Ca 94925
510.684.0141 mobile
jan.king@cliffordadvisory.com



August 13, 2021

Mr. Bob Horenstein
General Manager
Marin Water
220 Nellen Avenue
Corte Madera, CA 94925

Re: Redistricting Public Input and Transparency

Dear Mr. Horenstein:

The League of Women Voters of Marin County (LWVMC) believes our political maps should represent the people who live within. To that end, we look forward to supporting your efforts in implementing a robust and transparent redistricting process.

The LWVMC will encourage all residents of Marin to provide Community of Interest input to the 12 redistricting jurisdictions in Marin. While consideration of adjustment or drawing of district lines will occur sometime in late summer or fall, public input on Communities of Interest can begin as soon as your redistricting webpage is live and accessible. Your webpage should serve as a hub for basic community outreach that includes the following:

- a general explanation of the redistricting process for the jurisdiction, in English and applicable languages
- posting a master calendar of the dates, times, and locations for any public hearings or workshops
- recordings or written summaries of public comments, advisory committee proceedings, and board deliberations made at public hearings and workshops
- a mechanism to allow the public to submit testimony about Communities of Interest or draft maps in writing and electronically
- posting of the final draft map at least seven days before it is to be adopted

Please provide us with the date you anticipate your webpage will be available. We look forward to supporting your outreach efforts during this 2021 redistricting process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Wakeley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Wakeley, PhD, President

Scott McKown, Chair, Local Redistricting Committee

From: [Roy](#)
To: [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#); [Ben Horenstein](#)
Subject: Truth and Facts About MMWD Rainfall Totals
Date: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 10:11:46 AM

Gentlemen:

In a MMWD mailing about water restrictions and drought I received on 7/23/2021, the statement was made "We have had two consecutive dry years, and rainfall levels over the past 18 months have been the lowest we have on record in more than 140 years." That 18 month period would have to be Jan 2020 – Jun 2021.

In reviewing the MMWD Lagunitas Lake rainfall data "LAGUNITAS LAKE - MONTHLY RAINFALL (IN INCHES) 1880-2021 - Calendar Year", I see a different story than that portrayed by the MMWD, MarinIJ, and local elected officials. I called the MMWD office on 7/23/ 2021 and left a message about the incorrect statement for the 140 years of rainfall and requested the statement be corrected and published on the MMWD website and other mailings. Also, I asked for a return call to discuss the data and public statements. There's been no return call.

The MMWD data show that 2 other 18 month periods were very close to the Jan 2020 – Jun 2021 period rainfall total and 1 other 18 month period where a significantly lower total rainfall by -2.55 inches was recorded compared to the Jan 2020 - Jun 2021 18 month period.

Below are the 4 - 18 month periods referred to:

1. Past 18 months Jan 2020 - Jun 2021, Rainfall Total 32.33".
2. 18 consecutive months Jan 1923 - June 1924, Rainfall Total of 32.95". This total is 0.62" Inches greater than 32.33".
3. 18 consecutive months Jul 1928 - Dec 1929, Rainfall Total of 32.70". This total is 0.37" Inches greater than 32.33".
4. 18 consecutive months Jul 1938 - Dec 1939, Rainfall Total of 29.78". This total is -2.55" Inches less than 32.33".

I've heard and read about the past year (2020) being the second lowest annual rainfall total since the 1930s. When looking at the annual rainfall total on a calendar year basis you see the following data:

Year	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
DEC	YEARLY TOTAL										
1923	5.60	1.44	0.00	6.10	0.06	0.67	0.30	0.00	0.78	0.42	
0.87	2.85	19.09									
1929	1.65	4.63	1.84	2.93	0.00	2.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
0.00	5.74	19.06									
2013	1.26	0.81	1.41	1.63	0.06	1.72	0.00	0.03	1.11	0.02	
1.46	1.17	10.68									
2020	4.45	0.01	2.93	2.03	2.37	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.00	
3.05	4.89	20.08									
2021	6.26	2.28	3.31	0.36	0.00	0.04					
0.00						12.25					

The data show 2020 had the 4th not the 2nd lowest annual rainfall total in the past 100 years. Rather than selecting data only from the fiscal years, the MMWD should publish both Fiscal & Calendar year data. This provides a more accurate picture of rainfall.

There is no doubt the lower amount of rainfall over the past 2 years presents an understandable cause for concern. But publishing inaccurate and frankly false information is inexcusable. The MarinIJ consistently publishes bad information with shamefully inaccurate headlines with incorrect conclusions. Compounding the problem of inaccurate reporting, the MarinIJ when notified about their errors refuses to correct the record.

I hope MMWD has the integrity to admit to publishing inaccurate information about the rainfall totals and corrects the record quickly.

In addition, it would be helpful to understand what the district, county, and state may be facing in the coming years. Perhaps MMWD could publish an article on the long-term rainfall history of California such as the article "California drought: Past dry periods have lasted more than 200 years, scientists say" By Paul Rogers | progers@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group
PUBLISHED: January 25, 2014 at 9:23 a.m. | UPDATED: August 12, 2016 at 10:26 a.m.. A graph (source: E.R. Cook et al, Earth-Science Reviews - from their paper "North American drought: Reconstructions, causes, and consequences" page 110) in that article depicts the American West rainfall from 800 A.D. to 2000. In the past, there have been extended periods of drought. If that is where we are headed in California and Marin, desalination plants will be needed.

I welcome a phone call to discuss the rainfall data and reporting issue.

Sincerely,
Roy Wolford
(415) 924-8357

P.S. The information I provided comes from analyzing the MMWD data for rainfall at Lagunitas Lake as noted previously.

And as I'm writing this email, I received the MMWD water bill and the publication "on the WaterFront". That publication has the same "140 years" rainfall misinformation printed in it. Please correct this misinformation as your data says differently than your mailed publications.

From: [Steve Isaacs](#)
To: opinion@marinij.com; [Larry Bragman](#)
Subject: Water and the MMWD
Date: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 11:48:50 AM

To the editors and Director Bragman,

A water shortage has been declared for the Colorado River. It will affect multiple states in the West, including eventually Southern California. It's further evidence of the severity of the drought and it highlights the potentially disastrous strategy employed by the MMWD.

They expect conservation and importing water from other sources will help solve our water shortage.

The question the MMWD Board needs to answer is "what happens when they can't get enough water to import since those other sources are experiencing a severe drought too?" Clearly, pinning their hopes on other sources may sound appealing, but is perilous.

Their approach may not be a short term and is certainly no long term solution for Marin.

We need more supply, which means desalination. Is it expensive? Yes. Is it a temporary and permanent solution? YES.

The elected Board members need the public to let them know their strategy is foolhardy.

--

Stephen Isaacs
330 Via La Paz
Greenbrae, Ca. 94904



Sender notified by
[Mailtrack](#)