



ACTION MINUTES

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 22, 2014, 4:00 p.m.

Markham Vineyards

2812 St. Helena Hwy North, St. Helena, CA

- NOTE SPECIAL LOCATION -

Board of Directors

Susan Boswell
Tosha Comendant
Diane Dillon
Marita Dorenbecher
Michael Haley
Gary Kraus
Jason Lauritsen
Kenneth Leary
Mark Luce
Gretchen Stranzl
McCann
Marc Pandone
Matt Pope
Jeff Reichel
Scott Sedgley
Pamela Smithers
Rita Steiner
Peter White

Alternate

Keith Caldwell

Staff

Patrick Lowe,
Secretary
Natural Resources
Conservation
Manager,
Dept. Public Works

Jeff Sharp,
Principal Planner,
Dept. Public Works

Robert C. Martin,
Legal Counsel
Deputy Counsel,
County Counsel's
Office

804 First Street,
Napa, CA
94559-2623

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info@napawatersheds.org

1. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** (Chair) *Peter White, as Vice Chair, conducted the meeting.*

Members Present: Susan Boswell, Tosha Comendant, Diane Dillon, Marita Dorenbecher, Michael Haley, Jason Lauritsen, Jeff Reichel, Pamela Smithers, Rita Steiner, Peter White

Members excused: Kenneth Leary, Mark Luce, Gretchen Stranzl McCann, Marc Pandone, Scott Sedgley

Members absent: Gary Kraus, Matt Pope

Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

Welcome to **Tosha Comendant**, newly appointed Public at Large member, followed by roundtable of introductions by the Board.

Introductions were given after Item 5 below.

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of March 27, 2014 (Chair) (2 min)

Approved as presented

SB	TC	DD	MD	MH	GK	JL	KL	ML	GSMC	MP1	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
					A		X	X	X	X	A		X				

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda.

Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chair)

None presented.

4. **UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

- a) Report on **May 2014 Watershed Awareness Month** events and activities (WICC Staff; Frances Knapczyk, Napa Co. Resource Conservation Dist.) (10 min)

(cont.)

Jeff Sharp introduced Ms. Knapczyk and provided background on watershed awareness month. The Board of Supervisors issued a proclamation recognizing May 2014 as Watershed Awareness Month on April 22, 2014. Ms. Knapczyk noted that this year highlighted many events throughout the month and included a self-guided tour of watershed projects. 95 folks participated in the watershed tour.

- b) Report on Napa County **Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee's** (GRAC) presentation and final report to Napa Co. Board of Supervisors (WICC Staff) (5 min)

Patrick Lowe provided the report. The GRAC concluded their work on February 27, 2014. The GRAC's final report and recommendations were provided to the Napa County Board of Supervisors on April 8, 2014. The GRAC report included a recommendation that the WICC provide the community with information and updates on the County's groundwater monitoring program and groundwater level conditions.

- c) Update on **Napa County water supplies**, status of drought conditions and drought preparedness planning (Phil Miller, Napa Co. Flood Control and Water Conservation Dist.) (10 min)

Phil Miller updated the Board on drought conditions at the County level. Mr. Miller reported on expected supplies from the State Water Project (SWP) via the North Bay Aqueduct. Mr. Miller presented various state-level drought maps, precipitation charts, and reservoir diagrams illustrating the impacts of the drought across the state. He also pointed out a number of online resources that are available. At this time local and SWP supplies are adequate for expected demand, however conservation is needed to ensure lasting supply through the summer months.

- d) Update on **Integrated Regional Water Management Planning** (IRWMP), 2014 expedited drought solicitation, regional and sub-regional project submittals, and other grant and funding updates (WICC Staff) (5 min)

Jeff Sharp provided an update on the availability of drought preparedness funds through the State Dept of Water Resources (DWR) (\$400M statewide). Final guidelines for the funding program are due out in June and applications will be due in July. Final awards are expected in September 2014. Regionally, projects will be developed from adopted IRWM Plans in both the SF Bay Area and Westside Sac River planning areas. Mr. Sharp noted that the SF Bay IRWM coordinating committee will meet on May 28th to consider a number of projects (\$32M) for the expedited drought funding solicitation. The Westside Sac River drought projects (\$10M) are located in Lake and Yolo counties. DWR estimates that Round 3 IRWM funds may be available sometime in 2015, providing Prop 84 funds remains accessible.

- e) Report on **MCE Clean Energy program** and analysis to potentially expand into the unincorporated areas of Napa County to offer residences and businesses cleaner energy options (WICC Staff) (10 min)

Steve Lederer reported on the Marin Clean Energy (MCE) program and the possible expansion of that program into Napa County. A recent program study determined that joining the program would result in a 3% decrease in energy rates for those eligible. On June 3rd the County Board of Supervisors will consider whether or not to join the program. There may be opportunities in the future for the Cities and Town to also join the program. The idea is to grow the program slowly overtime to ensure there is adequate administrative capacity to run the program effectively.

- f) Report on pending **AB 2193 Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act** intended to streamline the permitting of small-scale environmental restoration projects (WICC Staff) (5 min)

Jeff Sharp provided some background on the origination of the bill (by Sustainable Conservation), its intent and current status. An upcoming appropriations hearing is scheduled for April 30th. Local support for the legislation is encouraged to support restoration efforts throughout Napa County.

- g) Other reports and updates (WICC Staff, Board)

None presented.

5. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Discussion on **WICC Strategic Plan Update** and input on planning topics, schedule and meeting dates (WICC Staff, Board) (10 min)

Jeff Sharp reported that a strategic planning consultant has been contracted. Potential dates and locations for a half-day facilitated workshop with the Board are being discussed. The workshop will likely be take place in the morning and will run until lunchtime. Possible dates will be sent to the Board in the next few weeks to check schedules. As part of the planning process, an online survey will be emailed to the Board in advance of the workshop to gain input early in the process.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Presentation on **Evaluating Groundwater and Surface Water Resources: Benefits of an Integrated Approach for Napa County**, an overview of Napa County's MikeSHE integrated water resources model, potential refinements and application to better understand water resources throughout the County (Bob Prucha and Jesper Kjelds, DHI-US Water & Environment) (20 min)

Patrick Lowe provided background of the County's prior modeling efforts and use of hydrologic models. Jesper Kjelds introduced the presentation and use of MikeSHE models locally and elsewhere across the globe. Bob Prucha reviewed what information and data is needed to run hydrology models and how model results can help communities make better water management decisions. Patrick Lowe noted that the prior DHI model was used during the 2008 General Plan Update. Future scoping to update the 2008 model is possible, but would depend on County interest/need/data and funding.

- b) Presentation on the potential of **truffle cultivation as a salmon-friendly crop**, a carbon sink to mitigate climate impacts and a financial incentive for the restoration of riparian vegetation that provides wildlife migration corridors, stream bank stabilization, and other ecosystem benefits. The presentation will provide an overview of existing case studies where truffles are generating financial returns beneath trees either planted or set aside for the benefit of the natural environment and explores a range of possibilities for further research. (Charles Lefevre, President, New World Truffieres) (20 min)

Patrick Lowe introduced the topic of truffle cultivation and possible incorporation of the practice into oak woodland restoration areas in Napa County. Charles Lefevre provided a presentation on his work and use of truffles in restoration projects in Oregon and elsewhere. If implemented carefully the cultivation practice could provide landowners a means of collecting some level of income from lands that would otherwise be left as unmanaged natural areas.

7. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Exchange of **informational announcements and events** (WICC Staff, Board, and Public) (10 min)

Jeff Sharp announced that the 2015 Watershed Education Calendar will be designed using photo submissions provided by the public. A public "request for photos" will be sent out in the next few weeks.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion of possible **items for future agendas** (Board, WICC Staff) (5 min)

- Report on WICC supported watershed education programs and events
- Presentation on North Bay climate change research and modeling

No others presented.

9. NEXT MEETING (Chair)

Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: **July 24, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.**

(cont.)

10. ADJOURNMENT (Chair)

Motion and approval to adjourn

SB	TC	DD	MD	MH	GK	JL	KL	ML	GSMC	MP1	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
					A		X	X	X	X	A		X				

Note: If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Jeff Sharp at 707-259-5936, 804 First St., Napa CA 94559-2623.



Voting Key

If not unanimous, votes will be tallied (N = No; A = Abstained, X = Excused) using the following Board Member abbreviations: SB = Susan Boswell; Tosha Comendant = TC, DD = Diane Dillon; MD = Marita Dorenbecher, MH = Michael Haley; GK = Gary Kraus; JL = Jason Lauritsen; KL = Kenneth Leary; ML = Mark Luce; GSMC = Gretchen Stranzl McCann; MP1 = Marc Pandone; MP2 = Matt Pope; JR = Jeff Reichel; SS = Scott Sedgley; PS = Pamela Smithers; RS = Rita Steiner; PW = Peter White; KC = Keith Caldwell (alternate)

Example Key:

SB	TC	DD	MD	MH	GK	JL	KL	ML	GSMC	MP1	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
X			A				N				A						