

Members

Diane Dillon
Mark Luce
Eric Sklar
Steven Rosa
Mark Van Gorder
Karen Slusser
Leon Garcia
David Graves
Jeff Reichel
Phill Blake
Don Gasser
Kate Dargan
Jeffrey Redding
Robert Steinhauer
Charles Slutzkin
Marc Pandone
Richard Camera

Alternates

Harold Moskowitz

- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, August 24, 2006 at 4:00 p.m.

2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,
1125 Third Street, Napa CA

Staff Representatives

Patrick Lowe,
Secretary
Deputy Director,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Jeff Sharp,
Watershed Coordinator
Planner III,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Laura Anderson,
Counsel
Attorney IV,
County Counsel's Office

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chairman)

Members Present: Diane Dillon, Mark Luce, Steven Rosa, Karen Slusser, Jeff Reichel, Phill Blake, Don Gasser, Kate Dargan, Jeffrey Redding Robert Steinhauer, Charles Slutzkin, Marc Pandone, Richard Camera

Members Absent Excused: David Graves

Members Absent: Eric Sklar, Mark Van Gorder, Leon Garcia,

Staff Present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp, Krishan Chopra (for Laura Anderson)

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Regular meeting of March 23, 2006, April 27, 2006 and May 25, 2006 (Chairman)

Outcome: Approved with corrections to May 25, 2006 minutes.

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. (Chairman)

Outcome: None presented.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS (Board/Staff)

- a. **Article on WICC WebCenter published in InfoTEXT**, a newsletter for the Information Technology Division of the American Planning Association (Staff)

Outcome: Informational.

- b. CalFed Ecosystem Restoration Program **Selection Panel recommends \$1,475,243 for local projects** in Napa County (Staff)

Outcome: *Informational.*

- c. **Napa County Baseline Data Report (BDR) receives another award** – California Chapter of the American Planning Association recognizes the BDR for “Innovative use of Technology Award” (Staff)

Outcome: *Informational. National award now pending.*

- d. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: *Informational. Staff informed the Board that Senator Diane Feinstein was noted in Congressional Record for introducing the North Bay Water Reuse Act of 2006 which, if enacted, would initiate a program for meeting future water needs of urban and agricultural users in the North Bay region of California. Don Gasser expressed his concern that there was not enough time during the last meeting to discuss the TMDL matter and requested that future presentations be shorter so that more could be discussed as a group. Charles Slutzkin additionally recommended that items be arranged on the agenda based upon their relative importance to ensure those matters are adequately addressed. Diane Dillon received a call from a RWQCB staff member who expressed their apologies for the lengthy staff presentation.*

5. **UPDATES/REPORTS:**

- a. Update on County **General Plan Update** process, community workshops and General Plan **Steering Committee activities** (Board/Staff)

Outcome: *Informational. Staff and Diane Dillon provided the Board with an update on a recent meeting in Angwin (175 in attendance); future community meetings are planned for September 13th in Yountville and September 21st in Pope Valley (both having an economic focus).*

- b. **Board Member terms of office** and review of position notification, application and Board of Supervisor’s nomination process (Board/Staff)

Outcome: *Informational. Staff requested that those members whose terms are expiring and who wish to continue their service should notify staff and the Officer of Committees and Commissions in the County Executive Office of their interest in reapplying. Staff also mentioned that the public at large position coming available will be publicly noticed and those interested should apply. Karen Slusser mentioned that the outcome of the November election will determine her ability to serve on the Board. It was also noted that David Graves has resigned from the Planning Commission and that a new Planning Commission representative will be appointed as soon as possible. Kate Dargan expressed her interest in reapplying for the public at large position, but informed the board that she may not be able to make all the meetings.*

- c. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: *None presented*

6. **UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING THE NORTH COAST INSTREAM FLOW POLICY, THE STREAM AND WETLAND SYSTEM PROTECTION POLICY AND THE NAPA RIVER SEDIMENT TMDL PROCESS:**

Update, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding: 1) policy under development by the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Rights to protect and manage instream flow for Northern California Coastal streams, 2) policy being developed by the San Francisco Bay and North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Boards to protect streams and wetlands systems by improving regulatory

consistency by amending the region(s) Water Quality Control Plan(s), and 3) Napa River sediment TMDL developments, including Napa County comments and next steps in the TMDL/Basin Planning Processes (Staff)

Outcome: Informational/Update. Staff provided the Board with a timeline (chart) that graphically shows the progression of the three policies and the expected dates of completion. Staff also updated the Board on the Instream Flow policy by providing materials received at a scoping meeting in Santa Rosa. Additional materials outlining the Stream and Wetland Protection policy were also distributed. The Board thought that these three seemingly parallel efforts are redundant and should be consolidated. Kate Dargan mentioned that the State Board of Forestry also felt that elements of the policy efforts were superfluous. Jeff Redding noted that the effort (related to Instream Flow policy) is a result of hundreds of water rights permits pending state approval. Staff will continue to update the Board as these policies evolve.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING THE WICC'S ROLE AS AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AUTHORITY TO SUPPORT WATERSHED GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS, AND POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF A POLICY BY WHICH TO GAUGE VARIOUS LEVELS OF WICC SUPPORT:

Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding the WICC Board's role as an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors, the Board's authority in that capacity to support various projects, grants and activities undertaken by watershed groups and organizations, and the potential for the development of a Board policy to uniformly determine various levels of WICC support (Staff/Counsel)

Outcome: Direction. Charles Slutzkin informed the Board that it serves as an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors. Charles read language from the WICC's creating resolution that outlined the WICC Board's role and responsibility, noting that the Board does not have the authority to write letters of support on its own behalf. Charles said that he has reviewed the WICC's four-plus years of history and was pleased to report that the WICC was fulfilling its role as an advisory committee. Charles presented the Board with eight letters of support written by the Board of Supervisors based upon the WICC Board recommendations. All of the letters were in support of coalitions or government organizations (stewardships, RCD and others), and not individual entities. Charles noted that he, as chairman, has signed four letters, none of which concerned funding recommendations. Those four letters consisted of two letters of appreciation and two letters to planning associations nominating the BDR for awards of recognition. In light of that, Charles still believes a WICC policy should be explored to help facilitate Board of Supervisor support for those requesting it, especially with regards to the tight timelines associated with many grant funding opportunities. Staff noted the difficulty in making timelines for Supervisor approval and the frustration the Board may feel in this regard, and further reminded the Board of future possibilities associated with the Board's planned independence. Staff presented the Board with a draft policy outline/checklist for discussion. The Board's annual Strategic Planning Retreat was also mentioned as a good time to discuss that presented and other policies the Board may wish to consider. Staff requested comments on the outline/checklist and mentioned that this and other versions will be on a future agenda for the Board's consideration. Charles recommended that a general letter to the Wildlife Commission be drafted for the Board consideration and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that requests the Commission fund certain types of proposals that support the WICC's mission/Strategic Plan. Chris Malan added that ICARE is collaborating in the community on many different levels (High Schools, Flood and Water Conservation, Pacific Union College, Dept of Fish and Game).

8. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO STAFF ON THE DEVELOPMENT, FUNDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE BOARD'S WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM, AND PRESENTATION OF LOCAL ASSESSMENT EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF MONITORING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Update, discussion and possible recommendation to staff on the current development, long-term funding requirements and infrastructure needed to support and implement the WICC Board's Watershed

Monitoring Program, and presentation of local examples of assessment and monitoring efforts underway that support the Monitoring Program's goals and objectives (Staff/SFEI)

Outcome: Informational/Update. Staff presented the Board with a progress report on the monitoring program and draft set of program's goals and objectives. Staff also pointed out the need to develop an institutional structure along with the program in order to ensure its success over the near and long term (i.e., providing the community with meaningful/useful management information). Staff also gave an update on current activities of the Board's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) relating to the program's development (e.g., review of management goals, assessment questions and indicators). Next steps include; prioritization of monitoring indicators, program design options (under both full and limited funding), assessment of current community monitoring activities, and determination of an organizational structure capable of managing and implementing the program. Staff introduced Rainer Hoenicke from SFEI. Rainer provided the Board with an example of monitoring data collection needs based upon various draft management objectives and assessment questions, as well as a partial list/table of who is currently doing watershed assessment work in Napa County. Rainer noted that it's useful to be mindful of and leverage existing efforts when designing a monitoring program; to determine where data gaps may exist and where efficiencies can be made.

9. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Board/Staff)

- a. Milliken Creek flooding evaluation and restoration proposal (Staff)
- b. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Continue discussion of WICC advisory role and letters of support; Draft letter to Wildlife Conservation Commission; Continued water/TMDL policy developments at the State level, including TMDL comment letters sent to the RWQCB by others in Napa County: Board of Supervisor's, NRCS's and others.

10. **NEXT MEETING:**

Regular Board Meeting of September 28, 2006 – 4:00 PM
Hall of Justice Building, 2nd floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa

11. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chairman)

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, 1195 Third St., Suite 210, Napa CA 94559) to request alternative formats.

