

Watershed Information Center & Conservancy OF NAPA COUNTY

Members

Diane Dillon
Mark Luce
Michael Novak*
Steven Rosa
Mark Van Gorder
Gary Kraus
Leon Garcia
Jim King
Jeff Reichel
Phill Blake
Don Gasser
Kate Dargan
Jeffrey Redding
Robert Steinhauer
Charles Slutzkin
Marc Pandone
Chris Sauer
**pending confirmation*

Alternate

Harold Moskowite

- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**Thursday, June 28, 2007
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)

Welcome and introduction of **Chris Sauer**, newly appointed public at large member.

Members Present: Mark Luce, Steven Rosa, Mark Van Gorder, Gary Kraus, Leon Garcia, Jim King, Jeff Reichel, Don Gasser, Jeffrey Redding, Robert Steinhauer, Charles Slutzkin, Marc Pandone, Chris Sauer

Members Absent Excused: Phill Blake, Kate Dargan

Members Absent: Diane Dillon

Staff Present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of **March 22, 2007** and **April 26, 2007** (Chairman)

Outcome: Approved as presented.

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. **Department of Water Resources accepts Napa County's application** for CalFed Watershed Program funding; award decisions expected by September 1, 2007 (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff announced the submittal of a grant to the California Department of Water Resources for funding through the Calfed Watershed Program. Notification of funding is expected by September 1, 2007.

- b. Napa County Resource Conservation District completes **2006 Salmon Spawning Report** for the Napa River (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff announced the completion of a 2006 Salmon Spawning Report by the Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) and posting of the report on the WICC WebCenter. The Board requested an overview/presentation of the report by Jonathan Kohler, the RCD's Fisheries Biologist.

- c. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Bob Steinhauer announced the recent health challenges/condition of Tom Shelton, former WICC Board member. The Board sends its best wishes to Tom and his family and hopes for a speedy and full recovery.

5. UPDATES/REPORTS:

- a. Update on the County **General Plan Update** process and timeline, and **Steering Committee activities** (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Jeff Reichel, Committee Member, presented the Board with an update on the Update process. The Steering Committee has received the comments submitted by public on the Plan and Draft EIR. The Committee remains "split" on some land use issues (2/3 vote required) and is forwarding some technical and sensitive decisions to the Commission and Board in order to keep the Committee moving and on track. Debora Dommen, Committee Member, noted that some of the motions presented at the last meeting were at times confusing and votes on matters failed "for" and "against" in some cases. Jim King, Planning Commissioner, expressed his appreciation of the Committee's hard work. Hillary Gitelman, planning director, noted the volume of public comments received (well over 200 letters) on the Draft Plan and EIR, adding that many of the comments were very informative and will result in a better plan for the County.

- b. Update on **Coordinated Permitting**, agency meetings and efforts to simplify streambank restoration and enhancement projects in the Napa River watershed (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff noted that the coordinated permitting effort is moving along. A recent fieldtrip with permitting agencies was conducted to visit six Napa River pilot sites and showcase the restoration techniques that would be employed at each site. The trip also offered a good opportunity to dialog with agency staff regarding a wide range of resource issues related to the Napa River. Overall the fieldtrip was productive and encouraging. Charles Slutzkin requested that this topic be placed on next month's agenda for follow-up.

- c. Update on Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission activities and upcoming grant application period (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff gave an update on the Commission's recent meeting and fieldtrip (tour of Napa River). It was also mentioned that the Commission's grant cycle is now open. An additional \$130,000 in funds will be attributed to the Commission's account next year as a result of recently levied violations (to be available in the Commission's 2008 grant cycle). Typically the Commission awards around \$12,000 annually, using funds acquired from locally collected Fish and Game violations/fines.

- d. Update on Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area (BRBNA) partnership activities (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff overviewed a few items that were discussed at a recent BRBNA meeting; including Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) release of Concession Prospectus to solicit perspective visitor service providers for Lake Berryessa, and discussions between BOR and the Napa County Parks and Open Space District on possible educational and recreational opportunities relating to changes in operations of the Boy Scout Camp located off Knoxville Road just north of Putah Creek bridge.

- e. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: None provided.

6. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF:

- a. Update, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding pending **State Board approval of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)** for the Napa River, the **Regional Water Quality Control Board's Basin Planning** process, and other State and Regional water quality policy developments (Staff)

Outcome: Update and discussion. Staff reported on the State Water Resources Control Board's call for comments on the Pathogen TMDL for the Napa River. Comments are due to the State Board by August 3, 2007.

Staff attended a Strategic Planning Workshop offered by the Regional Water Board in support of the State Board's effort to elicit comments to update the State Water Board's Strategic Plan. The Workshop offered a good opportunity to meet various Regional and State Board officials and officers and to voice/discuss various water resource related issues in Napa County (pollution control, regulation, water rights, and permitting timeline/consistency). Robert Steinhauer requested an update on the Pathogen TMDL and what implementation will mean for Napa County (septic tank inspections, sewer line leak detection, etc.). Staff mentioned that the implementation plan will first focus on "hot-spot" areas currently identified in the State's Pathogen Report and that there is also a large coordinated education component intended to educate the public on the proper use and care of septic systems. Staff also overviewed State and Regional policy timelines using a spreadsheet illustrating recent planning efforts, dates, milestones and associated web-links. Marc Pandone and others appreciated the timeline layout and assimilation of the information onto one sheet.

- b. **WICC Sub-committee Report** on the County's **Draft General Plan Update and EIR** for consideration, discussion, and possible direction to authorize the Chair to submit comments relating to watershed management and water quality (Sub-committee Members/Staff)

Outcome: Report, discussion and direction: Marc Pandone presented the Board with draft comments for the Board's review. Marc outlined the sub-committee's approach and highlighted a few key items in the suggested comments. It was noted that the comment deadline on the DEIR has past, and that these comments are focused on the General Plan and not the EIR. The intent is that these comments would be forwarded to the Planning Dept. for possible consideration by the Steering Committee and/or Board of Supervisors. In discussion amongst themselves (and with input from the public), the Board felt they needed more time to review the comments presented and requested that any action on draft comments be continued to the Board's July meeting.

- c. **WICC Sub-committee Report** on **Strategic Plan Update** for Goal #3 and revised WICC Organizational Chart for discussion, direction and possible approval of the Strategic Plan (Sub-committee Members/Staff)

Outcome: Report, discussion and direction: Jeff Redding provided the Board with a report on the sub-committee's work. Jeff explained the revisions made to Goal #3 and highlighted the importance of "communication" explicitly expressed in the goal. The sub-committee focused on interrelationships of the County's Cities and Town and how they play an important role in the overall "watershed effort." Jeff read the proposed goal and presented the Board with revised diagrams relating to the proposed organizational chart. Mark Van Gorder suggested annual WICC reports to each of the City/Town Councils would be helpful in establishing/building communication. Jim King and others concurred and suggested that action items be crafted in the Strategic Plan to support (at minimum) annual reports/presentations to each of the County's Cities and Town. Mark Luce added that the sub-committee felt "involvement" was an important term in the goal statement. After further discussion the Board accepted the revised goal and associated organizational charts and directed staff to add specific action items in the Strategic Plan (under OFS and CCP) to include annual WICC updates to the County's Cities and Town councils.

7. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION – ACORN SOUPE’S MISSION, YOUTH PROGRAMS, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND MORE:**

A presentation by the Executive Director of Acorn Soupe (<http://www.acornsoupe.org/>) and how their works to fulfill its mission to “**connect children and our community to nature through hands-on education**” (Acorn Soupe/Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Laurie Davis, Executive Director of Acorn Soupe, presented the Board with an overview of Acorn Soupe’s operations, educational programs, projects and activities. The Board asked questions about the organization’s structure and staffing, and about Acorn Soupe’s 10 year history and long-term goals and accomplishments.

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

a. **Napa Firewise** presentation scheduled for July meeting (Napa County Fire/CDF)

b. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Coordinated Permitting follow-up, Continue sub-committee report on draft General Plan comments,

9. **NEXT MEETING:**

Regular Board Meeting: July 26, 2007 – 4:00 PM

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

10. **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.

