

Watershed Information Center & Conservancy OF NAPA COUNTY

Members

Diane Dillon
Mark Luce
Michael Novak
Steven Rosa
Gary Kraus
James Krider
Leon Garcia
Jim King
Jeff Reichel
Phill Blake
Don Gasser
Jeffrey Redding
Robert Steinhauer
Charles Slutzkin
Marc Pandone
Chris Sauer
Alexander Pader

Alternate

Harold Moskowitz

Action Summary/Minutes

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**Thursday, November 20, 2008
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
Principal Planner,
Conservation Div., CDPD

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

Melissa Grey,
Admin. Assistant
Admin. Secretary II,
CDPD

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** (Chair)

Welcome **Alexander Pader**, Public at Large member, appointed by the Board of Supervisors on October 21, 2008 (Staff)

Members present: James Krider, Leon Garcia, Jim King, Phill Blake, Don Gasser, Robert Steinhauer, Charles Slutzkin, Chris Sauer, Alexander Pader, Gary Kraus

Members excused: Diane Dillon, Steven Rosa, Jeff Reichel, Marc Pandone

Members absent: Mark Luce, Michael Novak, Jeff Redding

Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp, Melissa Gray, Sharon Borunda

The Board welcomed Mr. Pader and provided a round-table of introductions.

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of October 23, 2008 (Chair)

Minutes were approved as presented.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None provided.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

a. Announcement of **Board Member terms** and pending **City/Town nominations for 2009** (Staff)
Jeff Sharp gave the update on terms of office and the pending nominations from the cities with the coming new year. Gary Kraus noted that he expects Calistoga to re-nominate him to serve on the WICC for 2009.

b. Others (Board/Staff/Public)

Don Gasser provided the Board with a booklet titled "Protection Communities and Saving Forests" published by the Forest Foundation.

5. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:

Presentation and discussion - an “**Overview of Suisun Creek/Wooden Valley Watershed Restoration Project**” (Laurel Marcus, Principal of Laurel Marcus and Associates)

Laurel Marcus with the California Land Stewardship Inst. provided an overview of an assessment and restoration project located in the Suisun basin of Napa County. The project started when a group of watershed owners contacted Laurel and the California Sport Fishing alliance and formed the group know as Save Suisun Creek. Suisun Creek is in the top 5 creeks in the Bay Area for the restoration of the Bay’s Steelhead fishery. Laurel and her team have been collecting information on the creek since 2001. The data will aide in increasing fish habitat and population within the creek system (increasing shading and removal of invasive plants – arundo). The group received funding from the State Coastal Conservancy and created a Suisun Creek Enhancement Plan. The group has done a number of riparian and vegetation projects, and conducted workshops, and monitoring. In 2005 the group received \$580,000.00 to implement the plan and an additional \$350,000.00 for another set of projects on the creek. The project lies in both Solano and Napa counties.

6. REPORTS, UDATES AND DISCUSSION:

- a. Report and discussion on various **Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)** and **State Water Resources Control Board water quality control plans and policies** affecting Napa County’s watersheds, including proposed revisions to (303d) list of water quality impaired waters in Napa County, and possible future Regional Board hearing on the revised Napa River Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) (Staff)

Jeff Sharp gave a report that directly related to the presentation given by Laurel Marcus on Suisun creek. The San Francisco Bay Regional Board is planning to amend the 303(d) list (a listing required by the Environmental Protection Agency, listing of water bodies that are water quality impaired or polluted) by adding (among other waterways) Suisun Creek as impaired (polluted), based upon high temperature and elevated levels of dissolved oxygen (DO).

Patrick Lowe reported that they have been meeting with RWQCB staff (Mike Napolitano) for updates on policies affecting the Napa River basin. The RWQCB was tentatively planning a meeting in December for the Regional Board to re-address the Napa River sediment TMDL, but the meeting has been delayed until the early part of 2009.

- b. Update on **Zinfandel Lane Bridge** fish passage project (Jonathan Koehler, Napa County Resource Conservation District)

Jonathon Koehler reported that the RCD put out a request to 12 firms asking for proposals and cost estimates to fix the fish passage barrier identified at Zinfandel Lane Bridge. The firm Winzler & Kelly was selected and they are currently working on obtaining County Measure A funds, so that the work can begin as soon as possible.

- c. Update on efforts towards development of a locally based **Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)** for Napa County (Staff)

Jeff Sharp gave an update on a recent meeting on the IRWMP process hosted by the Dept. of Water Resources. The Dept. provided updates on allocated monies from prop 84 and prop 1E approved by the voters, and the status of that money through appropriations. Local IRWM planning staff are looking forward to coordinating with all of the cities, agencies and stakeholders in the county to develop a locally integrated water management plan that dovetails into various regional efforts, including the Bay Area/North Bay Area and Sacramento IRWMP Funding Areas.

- d. Update on **North Bay and Delta Watershed Assessment Framework (WAF) Grant** project and recent Technical Advisory Committee meeting (Staff)

Jeff Sharp reported that the WAF Technical Advisory Committee's first meeting was a success with a large number in attendance. A broad range of stakeholders from Marin to Solano County and into the Delta, Advocates for Environmental Justice, Scientist Agency representatives, and Watershed group leaders participated. The group put together a large list of watershed goals for the region and compiled a list of 900+ indicators of watershed health. The committee plans to link the indicators to the derived set of goals. The grant was received from the Department of Water Resources through the Cal Fed Watershed program and runs through June 2010.

- e. Report and discussion on **Draft 2009 WICC Board Meeting Calendar** (Staff/Board)
Staff presented the Board with a draft meeting calendar for 2009 and noted that the Board's May meeting may be cancelled do to scheduling the Napa County Watershed Symposium occurring on that day.

- f. Others (Board/Staff)
None presented.

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

Patrick Lowe reported that he will bring a list of some of the implementation items underway from the General Plan that the WICC Board is involved with, or may be interested in.

8. **NEXT MEETING** (Chairman)

Regular Board Meeting: January 22, 2009 – 4:00 PM

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

Note: No meeting in December due to holidays

9. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chairman)

Adjourned to the regular scheduled WICC meeting of January 22, 2009.

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.

