



## ACTION MINUTES

### REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 23, 2014, 4:00 p.m.

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

Board of Directors

Susan Boswell  
Diane Dillon  
Marita Dorenbecher  
Warren Flint  
Michael Haley  
Mitchell Klug  
Gary Kraus  
Jason Lauritsen  
Kenneth Leary  
Mark Luce  
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,  
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**1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** (Vice-Chair)

Welcome to **Pamela Smithers** and **Michael Haley**, newly appointed Public at Large representatives, followed by roundtable of introductions by the Board.

Members Present: *Diane Dillon, Warren Flint, Michael Haley, Gary Kraus, Jason Lauritsen, Kenneth Leary, Marc Pandone, Scott Sedgley, Pamela Smithers, Peter White, Keith Caldwell*

Members excused: *Susan Boswell, Marita Dorenbecher, Mitchell Klug, Mark Luce, Jeff Reichel, Rita Steiner*

Members absent: *Matt Pope*

Staff present: *Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp*

**2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of November 21, 2013 (Vice-Chair) (2 min)

*Approved as presented*

SB	DD	MD	WF	MH	MK	GK	JL	KL	ML	MP1	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
X		X			X				X		X	X			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. (Vice-Chair)

*None provided.*

**4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION:**

- a. **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair** for 2014 (per Bylaws§ II.A.) (Board; WICC Staff) (5 min)

*The Board nominated and appointed Marc Pandone as Chair and Peter White as Vice-Chair*

SB	DD	MD	WF	MH	MK	GK	JL	KL	ML	MP1	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
X		X			X				X		X	X			X		

(cont.)

- b. Discussion and **adoption of 2014 Meeting Calendar** (per Bylaws§ III.A.) (Board; WICC Staff) (5 min)

*The Board adopted the 2014 calendar as presented.*

SB	DD	MD	WF	MH	MK	GK	JL	KL	ML	MP1	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
X		X			X				X		X	X			X		

## 5. UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Update on Napa County **Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee** (GRAC) (WICC Staff) (5 min)

*Patrick Lowe provided the Board with a summary of the GRAC’s meetings, ad-hoc committee meetings, work-plan and volunteer well monitoring outreach efforts.*

- b) Report on Napa County water supplies, status of drought conditions and drought preparedness planning (Phil Miller, Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District) (10 min)

*Phil Miller provided the Board with a report on drought conditions and status of water allocations under the State Water Project. Napa County receives water from the State Water Project via the North Bay Aqueduct and pumps located in Barker Slough. The valley has ‘carry-over water’ in storage to meet demand for the year, but conservation will be necessary to meet reduction limits set by the Governor’s drought declaration and local jurisdictions response. Currently the State Water Project allocation is 5% of the contracted allotment; and will likely change over the coming months. This is the third year of the drought. Groundwater levels in the valley are monitored semi-annually and will be monitored again this spring. Historically groundwater in the valley floor has been relatively good and stable, with the exception of the Coombsville/MST area and some foothill areas on the valley’s edge, where the geology is less conducive to water storage and soils are not as deep.*

- c) Report on **county-wide water conservation programs** (Pat Costello, City of Napa Water Division) (10 min)

*Pat Costello provided an overview of many water conservation and rebate programs that the County, Cities and Town have to offer. He also mentioned rebate programs for rainwater harvesting and rainwater gardens. Mr. Costello provided information on upcoming workshops and training sessions available to professionals and the public to help them better understand their water use and how to effectively manage the resource. Outdoor water use is the focus for most of the programs due to the drought, but indoor programs also exist; such as clothes washer and toilet rebates, and shower/faucet flow devices. The WICC website will launch a new water conservation page in response to the drought on Feb 4<sup>th</sup>.*

- d) Update on **Integrated Regional Water Management Planning** (IRWMP), upcoming Prop. 84 Round 3 workshops, call for regional projects and grant funding deadlines (WICC Staff) (10 min)

*Jeff Sharp overviewed how Prop. 84 funding has been supporting many water resource programs in the County. Prop 84 Round 2 funding provides \$800,000 to St. Helena to remove York Creek dam, \$500,000 to County of Napa for Milliken Creek flood and habitat work, \$127,000 for Napa City/County water conservation programs, and additional funds for regional Bay Area fisheries monitoring and habitat enhancement projects. Round 3 funding guidelines will be out for review in July and final projects will be due in Nov. Projects in Round 3 will need to be regional in scope; so small projects will need to be coordinated and coupled in a regional/sub-regional fashion to be successful. Funding workshops are scheduled for Feb. \$18M may be possible for the North Bay.*

- e) Update on **Regional/State Water Board policy and regulatory programs**, including: Sediment TMDL and Vineyard Waiver, de-listing the Napa River for nutrient pollution, State Board workshop on groundwater to identify and prioritize statewide protection actions, and others (WICC Staff) (10 min)

*Jeff Sharp noted that a General Permit is being considered instead of a Waiver for vineyard operations in the valley. Waterboard members are planning to tour various vineyards next week. The Napa River is being proposed for de-listing of nutrient pollution, hearing scheduled on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. The State Water Resources Control Board has recently released documents to identify and prioritize groundwater protection statewide. Patrick Lowe mentioned that groundwater basins in the county are a 'medium' priority for the Department of Water Resources.*

- f) Update on **scoping of a watershed monitoring program** (WICC Staff) (5min)

*Jeff Sharp informed the Board that this work is still in process. Mr. Sharp is planning to meet with Warren Flint next week and is working on next year's WICC budget to include some funds to support the effort, along with the groundwater monitoring and reporting that was discussed as part of the GRAC report given by Patrick Lowe.*

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

*None presented.*

## 5. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Presentation on **Wildfire in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century California: New and Old Problems**; an overview of emergent wildfire issues, including changes in natural fire regimes, increasing human conflicts with modern era fire patterns, and managing for wildland health and ecosystem function in a complicated world (Dave Sapsis, CAL FIRE, Fire and Resource Assessment Program) (20 min)

*Dave Sapsis provided the Board with the presentation. Mr. Sapsis reviewed fire history across California with a focus on Napa County. He stressed the importance of fire and how fire suppression has changed the frequency and intensity of today's fire events. Mr. Sapsis also provided some examples of forest/fuel management approaches that help control fire intensity and support better functioning ecosystems. He noted that many challenges remain, including climate change, continued rural development, and State budget constraints.*

- b) Presentation on **Napa River Spawning Gravel Study**; a pilot monitoring project to assess spawning conditions for steelhead and salmon, focusing on streambed scour and gravel permeability - two indicators of conditions needed for incubating eggs and measured objectives in the Sediment TMDL (Jonathan Koehler, Senior Biologist, Napa County Resource Conservation District) (20 min)

*Jonathan Koehler provided the Board with the presentation. Mr. Koehler reviewed the study's intent and the reason for the pilot project in support of a Napa River Sediment TMDL monitoring plan. Mr. Koehler reviewed the process/technique for determining streambed scour and gravel permeability and why these measurements are important to determine a healthy environment for spawning. He presented initial results of the pilot study and the challenges that arose. At this time, the monitoring is expensive and time-consuming. Mr. Koehler hopes to work with the resource agencies involved to revise and refine the procedures so that the measurements can continue and become more meaningful indicators of watershed condition overtime.*

## 6. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Exchange of **informational announcements and events** (WICC staff, Board, and Public) (5-10 min)

- a) **2014 North Bay Watershed Association Conference** – Water Resources Management: What, Where and How; Friday, April 11, 2014

*Jeff Sharp encouraged Board members to attend the Conference.*

- b) Other announcements and events

*American Canyon Crab Feed, March 1<sup>st</sup>, supporting high school scholarship fund*

*Year in Afghanistan – Phil Blake, Sierra Club Membership Outreach, Napa Library, Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>*

*Drought and Fish – Jonathan Koehler, Feb 5<sup>th</sup> at Napa Book Mine*

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

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

*None provided*

**8. NEXT MEETING** (Chair)

Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: **March 27, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.**

**9. ADJOURNMENT** (Chair)

*Motion and approval to adjourn*

SB	DD	MD	WF	MH	MK	GK	JL	KL	ML	MP1	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
X		X			X				X		X	X			X		

**Voting Key**

If not unanimous, votes will be tallied (N = No; A = Abstained, X = Excused) using the following Board Member abbreviations:

SB = Susan Boswell; DD = Diane Dillon; MD = Marita Dorenbecher, WF = Warren Flint; MH = Michael Haley; MK = Mitchell Klug; GK = Gary Kraus; JL = Jason Lauritsen; KL = Kenneth Leary; ML = Mark Luce; 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	DD	MD	WF	MH	MK	GK	JL	KL	ML	MP1	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
X			A				N				A						

**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.

