



**Board of Directors**

Diane Dillon  
Mark Luce  
Peter White  
Gary Kraus  
James Krider  
Belia Bennett  
Marita Dorenbecher  
Mike Basayne  
Jeff Reichel  
Rita Steiner  
Jeffrey Redding  
Susan Boswell  
Jim Lincoln  
Marc Pandone  
Chris Sauer  
Mitchell Klug  
Jason Lauritsen

**Alternate**

Keith Caldwell

**Staff**

**Representatives**

Patrick Lowe,  
**Secretary**  
Deputy Director,  
CDPD

Jeff Sharp,  
**Watershed  
Coordinator**  
Principal Planner,  
CDPD

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

Sarah Minahen,  
**Admin. Assistant**  
Office Assistant II,  
CDPD

1195 Third Street,  
Suite 210  
Napa, CA  
94559

Tel: 707-253-4417  
Fax: 707-253-4336

www.napawatersheds.org

**- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, March 22, 2012, 4:00 p.m.

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

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

*Members present: Diane Dillon, Peter White, Belia Bennett, Mike Basayne, Jeff Reichel, Rita Steiner, Jim Lincoln, Marc Pandone, Chris Sauer, Mitchell Klug, Marita Dorenbecher*

*Members excused: Marc Luce, Gary Kraus, Jeffrey Redding, Susan Boswell,*

*Members absent: James Krider, Jason Lauritsen*

*Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp, Sarah Minahen*

*Introduction of Marita Dorenbecher as new representative for the Town of Yountville.*

**2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of January 26, 2012 (Chair)

*Approved as amended.*

**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)

*Warren Flint, 5Es, sustainability specialist spoke. He attended the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Workshop in Yountville, was pleased with the overall work being done throughout the area. He was struck by emphasis of integration. He noted that the Napa River Watershed would be very adaptable to sustainability indices given the data already being collected. He believes that getting the public more involved would be beneficial.*

**4. UPDATES, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISCUSSION:**

- a. Update on 2012 fisheries monitoring efforts in the Napa River basin (Jonathan Koehler, Fisheries Biologist, Napa Co. Resource Conservation Dist.)

*Johnathan Koehler presented the item. He reported on the operation of the RCD's rotary screw trap in the Napa River to collect population data on steelhead & salmon migration. They are in their fourth year of data collection. The CA Dept. of Fish & Game funded additional monitoring for years 2012-13. This extra funding was applied towards the use of "fyke nets" placed in Milliken Creek and Napa Creek. So far this season, catch in those watersheds has been very light. 2012 monitoring 'season' is still underway and results will be reported later in the year.*

- b. Announcement of Napa Valley Historical Ecology Atlas publication release (Robin Grossinger, Dir. of Historical Ecology, San Francisco Estuary Inst.)

*Robin Grossinger passed out the published atlas and described its layout. He noted that historical information opens the door for a look into the future of the Napa Valley. Ms. Beller, Napa Valley Arts and Lectures, spoke about the outreach efforts underway to get the word out about the book. A formal release/celebration of the publication is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, May 24, 7:00 p.m. Theater at Copia – free to public.*

*Patrick Lowe introduced the topic of re-oaking the Napa Valley, a companion effort resulting from the historical ecology work behind the publication. The Board discussed the idea and prospects of the re-oaking project.*

**5. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:**

Presentation and overview of San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board programs focusing on Napa River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation, including status report on the grazing waiver enrollment, resources available for developing ranch plans and compliance, and work to date on the vineyard waiver development, stakeholder process, draft waiver contents and schedule (Sandi Potter, Engineering Geologist, and Rico Duazo, Wastewater Engineer, SF Bay RWQCB)

*Sandi Potter discussed regulation of water quality in California and other Water Board policies that may affect Napa: She noted that the North Coast Instream Flow Policy could have a major impact on farmers; and that a Statewide Stream and Wetland Policy is currently under development. The SF Bay RWQCB operates out of their offices in Oakland. Main divisions that may involve WICC activities include the Planning and TMDL division and the Watershed division – handout of contacts list.*

*Progress of developing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the pollutants in Napa River Watershed - Napa River was listed as being impaired by sediments, pathogens and nutrients. The listing resulted in the development of the sediment TMDL (State Board adoption 20010) – now in pending litigation and the Pathogen TMDL (completed). The sediment and pathogen TMDLs were developed to address nutrients, so it is unlikely another regulation will be developed to address nutrients at this time. It is the Sediment TMDL that specifically calls for developing regulations/actions to reduce fine sediment and protect habitat. The goal is to control the production and movement of sediment off properties and to prevent erosion at the receiving waters for those properties along creeks, streams and rivers.*

*The Sediment TMDL Vineyard Waiver has been in progress almost two years. California's non-point source policy of State Water Board directs control of pollution either by issuing a general waste*

*discharge requirement (“WDR”), or by issuing individual WDRs. The State Board implemented a fee last year due to State budget cuts for actions taken to review and approve WDRs. The State encourages the formation of coalitions or third party groups to allow similar dischargers or trade organizations to come together and apply for coverage under a group WDR waiver program and to conduct group monitoring and reporting to limit compliance costs. The Vineyard Waiver Stakeholder Advisory Group recently met on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Water Board staff is continuing to work with the stakeholders to refine the language and conditions of the draft waiver to effectively implement the program. October 2014 is the deadline to file the NOI (notice of intent) to come under the waiver or submit a report of waste discharge as prescribed under the State Water Code. The target of the TMDL is to reduce manmade sediment by half.*

*Rico Duazo discussed the grazing waiver and explained how the waiver has many similar elements as the vineyard waiver. He noted that the grazing waiver is roughly one year ahead of the vineyard waiver. 30 ranchers have already submitted NOIs. The goal of the grazing waiver is to have all eligible ranchers in the program (estimated at around 50 in the Napa River watershed). Rico mentioned that the Water Board reserves the right to individual enforcement, but the goal is to get people into the program. Workshops are available to help develop individual and group ranch plans. Links to resources are available on the Water Board’s website.*

*Leigh Sharp from Resource Conservation District mentioned that individual grants are not available to assist with ranch plans, but the Natural Resources Conservation Service has a cost share program available to individual land owners.*

*Ranch plan fees – Currently, the Water Board is not requesting fees for the grazing waiver.*

*Sandi Potter discussed the fees for the Vineyard Waiver: If you come in as an individual, there is a “per acre” fee; as a group, there is a much reduced acreage fee (\$.50/ac). Water Board staff is still trying to figure out the subtleties of how to calculate total fees for the program.*

*Jim Lincoln – mentioned that previously the stakeholder group was frustrated with the waiver process and didn’t feel like they were being utilized as an advisory group. He noted that the March meeting was better and was successful in opening dialogue with the stakeholder group. Since then discussions have been more productive.*

## **6. UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:**

Informational reports and updates for discussion - presented by staff, members of the board and invited public.

- a. Report on **Napa River TMDL Implementation Grant** to Napa County by U.S. EPA totaling \$3,265,000 in total funding to conduct five interrelated sub-projects to reduce fine sediment and polluted runoff within the Napa River watershed and to restore habitat and beneficial uses (Rick Thomasser, Watershed and Flood Control Op. Manager, Napa Co. Public Works/Fld. Dist.)

*In 2011, the Flood District applied to the EPA for a grant. The grant is being funded incrementally. Currently four projects have been funded (handout provided):*

- *\$450,000 for support of the Rutherford Reach River Restoration Project*
- *\$720,000 for Oak Knoll Reach Design.*
- *\$155,000 to assist in Ranch Water Quality Plans (grazing waiver support).*
- *\$200,000 towards rural roads assessment (roads TMDL support)*

*\$ 220,000 is still pending to develop a TMDL tracking and accounting system to document that we are complying with the TMDL regulatory program.*

- b. Report on **Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (IRWMP)** in the Napa River, Suisun Creek and Putah Creek basins, planning and plan update processes, timeline, stakeholder outreach meetings and project database (WICC staff, Fld. Dist. staff)

*Rick Thomasser and Jeff Sharp reported on an outreach meeting was held February 21<sup>st</sup> in Yountville. The meeting was well attended and was the first public outreach effort to bring the general public up to speed with Prop 84 (IRWMP) grant opportunities. A project database tool was developed and discussed, and stakeholders are being asked to work together and sponsor potential projects. Round 2 Prop 84 (IRWMP) grants are coming up and there is a need to determine if Napa County has projects to serve up to the Bay Area IRWM plan update process. The State will set guidelines and priorities by which projects across the region will be assessed. Across the North Bay are there efforts to coordinate these projects and put them into categories that make sense for particular funding sources.*

*Draft Round 2 implementations guidelines will be out in July 2012, final guidelines in Oct. Applications will be due in March 2013. There is \$47 million left to give out in the Bay Area and \$10 million to distribute to the Sacramento funding area. The outreach effort has kicked off with numerous community meetings over the past few months. Stay tuned to the WICC website for meeting announcements.*

- c. Update on County **Groundwater Resource Advisory Committee (GRAC)** (WICC staff)

*Patrick Lowe reported on the variety of presentations and information presented at the last GRAC meeting, including a presentation from Dr. Harter from UC Davis on foundational, "groundwater 101" terminology, Sonoma County's overview on their experience with groundwater management, representatives from the State discussed details on statewide monitoring efforts, Deputy Director Phil Miller lead a discussion on monitoring and the confidentiality involved with well data, and Rick Thomasser and Patrick Lowe introduced an outline for use in developing a local groundwater monitoring plan. A sub-committee of the GRAC is working on communication and education outreach plan. A joint WICC/GRAC meeting is planned for July.*

*Contact Phil Miller, Rick Thomasser or Patrick Lowe for questions regarding the GRAC.*

- d. Other reports and updates (WICC Staff, Board, Public)

*None.*

## **7. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION:**

- a. Presentation and discussion on Selby Creek Streambank Restoration and Riparian Enhancement Project (BioEngineering Associates)

*Chris Anderson from BioEngineering Associates reported on the restoration efforts along Selby Creek near Larkmead Lane. Massive erosion has occurred on the site, making the stream bank unstable in many areas. To address the erosion, soil was added strategically along a 5 mile stretch and planted with native plants/grasses. A series of rock deflectors were added to control velocities, concentrate water into the channel and create meandering. In total, plantings included*

*about 5000 Oak and Ash trees, creating more shade and habitat. The project also remove invasive species (blackberries, etc.).*

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Informational announcements presented by staff, members of the board and public (WICC Staff; Board, Others)

- a. Announcement of Board Member terms of office expirations in August 2012 (WICC staff)

*Jeff Sharp reported on the terms about to expire.*

- b. Other announcements (WICC staff, Board, Public)

*Jeff Sharp reported on World Water Day (flyer provided); North Bay Watershed Association conference - April 13, 2012, Petaluma, and WICC booth at Earth Day – Saturday, April 25, 2012, in downtown Napa.*

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Board; WICC Staff)**

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

*None*

**10. NEXT MEETINGS (Chair)**

Regular Scheduled Board Meetings:

April 26, 2012 – 4:00 PM (*No meeting*)

**May 24, 2012 – 4:00 PM** (*Save the date*)

July 26, 2012 - Joint meeting with Napa County Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee

**11. ADJOURNMENT (Chair)**

*Motion to adjourn approved.*

