

Watershed Information Center & Conservancy

of Napa County

Board of Directors

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

<u>Alternate</u>

Keith Caldwell

<u>Staff</u> <u>Representatives</u>

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

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- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 26, 2011, 4:00 p.m.

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

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chair)

<u>Members present:</u> Mark Luce, Peter White, Gary Kraus, Belia Bennett, Jim Lincoln, Marc Pandone, Mitchell Klug, Jason Lauritsen, Keith Caldwell <u>Members excused</u>: Diane Dillon, James Krider, Richard Hall, Mike Basayne, Jeff Reichel, Rita Steiner, Jeffrey Redding, Chris Sauer <u>Members absent</u>: Susan Boswell Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp, Sarah Minahen

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of March 24, 2011 (Chair)

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. (Chair)

None provided.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION:

Discussion and possible recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding the purpose and composition of a Napa County Groundwater Resource Advisory Committee (GRAC)

Patrick Lowe reported. Mr. Lowe provided an overview of recent groundwater work conducted by the County and a groundwater workshop held with the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on 2/14/11. Mr. Lowe also outlined the process and draft schedule for creating the GRAC. The BOS is scheduled to consider a resolution creating the GRAC on June 28, 2011. The County's Executive Office will recruit for the committee through the end of July and the BOS could appoint committee members as early as mid September. It is anticipated that the first meeting of the GRAC would occur in late October. Mr. Lowe requested comments, suggestions and recommendations from the WICC Board on the GRACs creating resolution and by-laws.

<u>Outcome</u>: Mr. Lowe took comments from the Board and addressed questions regarding application process and appointment to the committee. The WICC Board liked the way the resolution was framed and stressed the need to keep the GRAC focused within the bounds and tasks outlined in the draft resolution and not crossover into additional regulations or ordinances (beyond pump test standards mentioned). The WICC also thought the GRACs timeframe (until 2014) is appropriate. The WICC recommended that information regarding the GRAC's work be periodically shared with the public and the WICC Board/WebCenter. It was recognized that appointment of GRAC members from each of the groundwater basins and sub-areas of the county could be difficult. The WICC Board recommended that GRAC membership priority be given to those areas, but other appointments outside of those areas may be necessary to adequately fulfill the GRAC's membership/stakeholder representation. Mr. Lowe noted that one representative may fulfill multiple appointment categories (BOS district, groundwater basin, sub-area, stakeholder group, ...).

WICC Board voted unanimously, recommending the BOS approve the draft resolution creating the GRAC, keep the narrow focus of the defined work tasks, prioritize the selection of GARC appointments to those individuals residing within DWR defined groundwater basins as much as possible, and that the GRAC provide regular updates to the public and WICC Board regarding its activities and actions.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION:

Presentation and discussion on the Corona and Twin Peaks Mine Drainage Treatment Project and overview of legacy mining issues in and around Napa County - a proposed project to treat drainage waters from three mines in Napa County. (Bob Schneider, Senior Policy Director, Tuleyome; Stephen McCord, Senior Engineer, Larry Walker Associates.; Leif Bryant, Watershed Assistant, NCFCWCD)

Bob Schneider, Stephen McCord and Leif Bryant Bryant presenting. Presenters reported on the status of various mining activities in the region and the impact the mining legacy has had on creeks and water quality. The presenters discussed possible means to stabilize these mining sites in ways that manage runoff (stormwater and groundwater) and prevent the contamination of nearby waterways. It was noted that if pollution from these areas could be addressed it would reduce the fiscal liabilities associated with these properties to levels where public agencies, special districts, or possibly even the County could assume ownership to promote various public benefits (open space, recreation, conservation, ...). A grant request in the amount of \$1.4 million was submitted to the California Dept. of Fish & Game to assist in cleanup

efforts and pilot project associated with the drainage treatment of the Corona and Twin Peaks mercury mines.

<u>Outcome</u>: Discussion of WICC letter of support and potential action item at next WICC meeting.

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

Informational reports and updates for discussion, presented by staff, members of the board and invited public (WICC Staff; Board, Others) (40 min.)

a. Update on the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's development of a vineyard facilities waste discharge requirement (WDR) waiver program for the Napa River watershed to assist vineyard owner compliance with the Napa River Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), and establishment of a Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) (WICC Staff) (10 *min*)

Jeff Sharp reported. A sediment TMDL (pollution reduction plan) for the Napa River basin was approved by the State Water Board (10/5/10). Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) staff is currently developing a report of waste discharge waiver program for vineyard owners and managers as an optional means to comply with the TMDL. The waiver program(s) would assess and recognize certain management activities on vineyard properties in order to catalog and account for actions that address excessive sediment transport to waters of the state. RWQCB staff is organizing a stakeholder advisory group (SAG) to assist in the development of the waiver program. RWQCB staff will solicit additional community input on the waiver program as it develops. June 10, 2011 is the first scheduled SAG meeting. RWQCB staff anticipates holding around four SAG meetings before formally releasing (in late fall or winter 2011) a draft waiver program for public comment.

b. Report on Earth Day Celebration attendance and Napa River Clean-up held April 23rd (WICC Staff/Napa Co RCD)

Jeff Sharp and Francis Knapczyk, RCD Education Coordinator, reported. The WICC participated in the event and displayed water and watershed related items and information. The event was well attended and many stopped by the WICC booth.

c. Report on Board of Supervisors' May 10th proclamation, designating May 2011 as Watershed Awareness Month in Napa County (WICC Staff; Chris Sauer, Vice Chair)

Jeff Sharp reported. Chris Sauer received the proclamation on the behalf of the WICC Board.

d. Report on the Napa County 2011 Watershed Symposium, held May 19th (WICC Staff/Napa Co RCD)

Francis Knapczyk, RCD Education Coordinator reported. About 140 people attended. The event was very well received and there was a better than expected turnout. Samples of event posters were presented. The next symposium will likely take place in May 2013.

e. Update on Integrated Regional Water Management Planning, report on completed Napa County Integrated Water Resource Management Planning Framework, and launch of online project database (WICC Staff, FCWCD) (10 min)

Jeff Sharp reported. A Napa County (local) Integrated Water Management Planning Framework was presented to the Flood Board on 5/3/11. The framework will help guide local water and water resource planning/projects to better coordinate with, and participate in, larger regional IRWMP funding efforts (Bay Area & Sacramento River Area). The framework names the WICC Board as a stakeholder and an important part of local coordination efforts. An executive summary of the framework was presented to the Board. Recent IRWMP funding efforts have resulted in \$30 million dollars allocated to the SF Bay Area. In Napa County, that amounts to \$500,000 for recycled water line to Napa State Hospital, \$250,000 for Napa Valley rainwater harvesting project, and \$330,000 for Napa City/County water conservation program.

a. Report on recent grant agreements and contracts in support of project construction for the Zinfandel Lane Bridge Fish Passage Project and the Rutherford Reach Restoration Project (WICC Staff, Public Works)

Jeff Sharp reported. Project agreements were signed by the Board of Supervisors on 5/17/11 and \$400,000 was accepted from the State Coastal Conservancy to help offset Measure A costs. Work is expected to start summer 2011.

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

Jeff Sharp reported. The Rutherford Reach Restoration Project received \approx \$400,000 *from the Environmental Protection Agency to offset project costs.*

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

Patrick Lowe reported. Fraser Shilling (UC Davis researcher) complemented the WICC and the Symposium on the level of positive community dialogue that is occurring Napa County

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Board; WICC Staff)

- a. Presentation on Marin County's watershed programs by Chris Choo, Marin County Dept. of Public Works (WICC Staff)
- b. Other items (WICC Staff, Board)

None provided.

9. NEXT MEETINGS (Chair)

Regular Scheduled Board Meetings:

June 23, 2011 – 4:00 PM (*Postponed*) July 28, 2011 – 4:00 PM (*Save the date*)

Location:

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

10. ADJOURNMENT (Chair)

Motion to adjourn approved.

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