

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

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

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- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 17, 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> Marc Pandone, Richard Hall, Mitchell Klug, Jeff Reichel, Rita Steiner, Peter White, Jeffrey Redding, Jason Lauritsen, Diane Dillon, Belia Bennett

Members excused: Mark Luce, Gary Kraus, Mike Basayne, Chris Sauer, Susan Boswell, Jim Lincoln

Members absent: James Krider

Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp, Sarah Minahen

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of September 29, 2011 (Chair)

Approved as presented. Jeffrey Redding abstained.

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:

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

Note: Item (b) was heard before item (a) below.

a. Report on Climate Action Plan (CAP) for the unincorporated areas of Napa County (Hillary Gitelman, CDPD Director) (15 min)

Hillary Gitelman reported. The Climate Action Plan is intended to define baseline levels of greenhouse gas emissions and reduce them to required State standards. A revised plan was circulated on October 31st and will be presented at the January 18th Planning Commission meeting. The Planning Commission will decide whether to forward the plan to the board, and whether to implement the use of the checklist. The goal is to get something in place so there's a reasonable expectation for applicants, and so that the Planning Department can begin applying emission reduction standards on discretionary projects. The current plan allows applicants to choose from several options to reduce emissions to target of 15% below the 2005 numbers. Once plan is in place efforts will begin on developing a local market for carbon credit offsets.

b. Update on the Napa County Groundwater Resource Advisory Committee (GRAC) (WICC staff) (10 min)

Patrick Lowe reported. The County has selected Luhdorff/Scalmanini as their consultant. GRAC meetings will be held monthly, with a joint meeting between the WICC and GRAC planned for July 2012.

c. Report on the 2012 Watershed Education Calendar - "Historical Ecology of the Napa County" (Stephanie Turnipseed, RCD Education Coordinator) (5 min)

Leigh Sharp (RCD Executive Director) reported for Stephanie Turnipseed regarding the content and circulation of this year's calendar. Calendars were also provided to the WICC Board Members.

d. Update on Napa County Voluntary Oak Woodland Management Plan implementation – 'Re-Oaking the Valley' educational outreach: *Valley Oaks: An Ecological Journey Through Time* planetarium program at Cal Academy (WICC Staff) (5 min)

Patrick Lowe reported. The California Academy of Science (CAS) is looking for new types of programs to engage the public. CAS staff became interested in the re-oaking concept and came to Napa Valley to photograph large oaks and formulate how this concept would play out in a new planetarium (show) setting. CAS staff are working on storyboard for the show and are comparing efforts with the Santa Clara Valley. A new touring planetarium show that highlights the importance of oaks is in the planning stages and could visit the Napa Valley in the near future.

e. Update on Regional and State Water Board policy/regulatory programs, including: Renewal of Napa County's Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit requirements, Statewide General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for industrial activities (Industrial General Permit), and pending statewide regulations on septic systems (Onsite Wastewater Treatment System, OWTS) (WICC Staff) (15 min)

Jeff Sharp reported. The Board of Supervisors has asked the WICC to monitor State and Regional Water Board policies and regulations affecting Napa County. To fulfill this responsibility, the WICC hears regular reports on State and Regional Board activities.

New NPDES Phase II Permit - (still in draft, final yet to be released for comment). The State Water Board has put out some drafts, but they were a little too arduous for folks to understand it and comply with it, so the draft permit is being re-worked to address comments received by the public and interest groups. The new permit will direct the county-wide storm water program (including all municipalities) to comply with more stringent State stormwater quality regulations.

General Industrial Permit - (governs water pollution/quality from industrial operations, including wineries). The Regional Counsel of Rural Counties (with Diane Dillon, current Chair) staff are closely monitoring these proposed regulations to see how they may impact rural counties such as Napa. The State Water Board has received a huge backlash across the state about this permit and associated requirements. This permit is also being re-worked by State Board staff to become more practical. No matter what its final form, this permit will likely affect all winery operations in the County at some level.

Vineyard waiver program - (addresses courses of actions vineyard owners and managers will have to follow to remain in compliance with the Napa River sediment TMDL). The development effort has been passed on to another Regional Water Board employee, Sandy Potter. Mrs. Potter will try to attend our next WICC meeting in January to report how the program is shaping up. Regional Board staff are expecting to have several technical advisory committee and stakeholder advisory meetings over the coming months. Mrs. Potter will advise WICC staff of meeting times/dates when confirmed.

Legislation AB885: - (State has been working on a statewide program to address septic systems and their potential pollution to adjacent water bodies or ground water). Many feel that a statewide approach will be burdensome and will not consider local efforts and programs. Diane Dillon reported. She attended State Water Board hearing on November 2, the fourth of eight hearings being held throughout the State. The current regulations are improved from three years ago, but there are still problems with them with respect to local program implementation. Comments and alternative program ideas were presented at the hearing. It is unknown how much of the proposed changes will be included in the re-write of the regulations.

Jeff Sharp reported that the State may provide financial assistance in the form of planning and monitoring grants coming out of Proposition 84. Stay tuned for more on this.

f. Update on Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (IRWMP) efforts in the Putah Creek/Berryessa (Westside Sacramento River) area and Napa River/Suisun Creek (S.F. Bay) area funding regions (WICC Staff, Flood Control Dist.) (5 min)

Jeff Sharp reported. There was a planning kickoff meeting of the Westside Sac River Funding Area on October 31. The planning committee is working on an integrated planning effort across 5 separate counties. The Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District is matching the planning endeavor with \$50,000 in match. Consulting firm, Kennedy-Jenks is now on board to implement the planning effort and develop a regional plan for the area.

Bay Area IRWMP efforts: The Suisun Creek and Napa River Basin is getting their feet under them. It may be early next year when they finalize the planning grant agreement with the State Dept. of

Water Resources. The North Bay Watershed Association is prepared to spearhead the coordination of the 4 North Bay counties in support of the planning (update) effort.

The Department of Water Resources has come to realize that the process of integrated regional water management planning is cumbersome. As a result, they are having workshops throughout the state this winter to hear comments and recommendations on improving the process. A local workshop is planned for on December 20th in Sacramento.

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

None provided.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION:

a. Presentation and discussion on Measure A Project Accomplishments and Expenses Forecast through 2018, including update on Rutherford Reach and Oakville to Oak Knoll river restoration projects, Napa Creek/City flood management project, and other Measure A funded efforts (Rick Thomasser, Watershed Operations Manager, Public Works) (20 min)

Rick Thomasser and Phil Miller (Deputy Director, Public Works) reported. The presentation showed status of Measure A projects and breakdown of funded recipients and levels of expected remaining funds.

Deborah Elliott (Water Conservation Specialist, Public Works) gave an update on the water conservation programs funded by Measure A. The water conservation program began receiving Measure A funds in 2009. Various workshops have and are planned to been held. Day-long workshop is coming up December 1st (info in packet). There has been a lot of outreach to community: landscape trainings, tours, gardening workshops, and newsletters. The program recently received Prop 84 funding for water conservation rebates (washers, toilets, ...).

b. Presentation and discussion on Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District Projects and Future Projections (John Woodbury, District General Manager) (20 min)

John Woodbury reported. Mr. Woodbury presented an overview of NCRPOSD's development since January 2007, projects and project statuses, volunteer support and financial status.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

Jeff Sharp reported. North Bay Watershed Association Climate Change Conference April 13th, focusing on climate change adaptation.

Jeff Sharp reported. Warren Flint spoke at the last meeting about a Sustainable Water Resources meeting in Davis. This meeting might be full, but potentially interesting. The meeting's agenda was circulated.

Belia Bennett reported. Mrs. Bennett highlighted the Clark West Ranch visioning process in happening in the City of American Canyon. The meeting will take place on December 10th at 9:00 a.m..

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Board; WICC Staff)

None provided.

8. **NEXT MEETINGS** (Chair)

Regular Scheduled Board Meetings:

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January 26, 2012 – 4:00 PM (Save the date)

Tentative Location: Hall of Justice Building, 1st Floor Main St. Conference Room, 1125 Third St., Napa

Entrance is via Main St. across from the Riverfront development archway. This is a tentative location change to be confirmed a week before the meeting.

Next meeting to be held in downstairs conference room in Corrections/Sheriff's Department.

9. ADJOURNMENT (Chair)

Motion to adjourn approved.

