

Watershed Information Center & Conservancy

of Napa County

Board of Directors

Diane Dillon Mark Luce **Del Britton** Gary Kraus James Krider Leon Garcia Marjorie Mohler Mike Basayne **Jeff Reichel** Phill Blake Don Gasser Jeffrey Redding Susan Boswell Jim Lincoln Marc Pandone Chris Sauer Alexander Pader

<u>Alternate</u>

Keith Caldwell

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

Patrick Lowe, Secretary to the Board Deputy Director, CDPD

Jeff Sharp, Watershed Coordinator Principal Planner, CDPD

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

Sharon Borunda, Admin. Assistant Office Assistant II, CDPD

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- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, February 25, 2010, 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> Diane Dillon, Mark Luce, Gary Kraus, Marjorie Mohler, Mike Basayne, Jeff Reichel, Don Gasser, Jeff Redding, Susan Boswell, Jim Lincoln, Marc Pandone, Chris Sauer, Alexander Pader <u>Members excused</u>: Del Britton, Phil Blake, <u>Members absent:</u> James Krider, Leon Garcia Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp, Sharon Borunda

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of November 19, 2009 (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

4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION:

 a. Election of new Chair and Vice-Chair for year 2010 (per Bylaws§ II.A.) (Board; WICC Staff)

Marc Pandone was re-elected as Chair. Phil Blake re-elected as Vice-Chair b. Discussion and **adoption of 2010 Meeting Calendar** (per Bylaws§ III.A.) (Board; WICC Staff) Jeff Reading mentioned that it was discussed at the last meeting to meet every other month with the option to keep alternate meetings open. Staff responded that there may be a situation where monthly meetings may be need, and that the Board's bylaws provide for monthly meetings. All voted to keep monthly meetings reserved and skip/cancel meetings as appropriate. Motion and approval to accept the Calendar as written.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Distribution of 6th annual **Watershed Education Calendar 2010** (WICC Staff; RCD Staff) Francis Knapczyk (RCD Staff) announced that the 6th annual Watershed Education Calendar 2010 features wildlife in Napa County, and that 4000 copies were distributed around the community.
- b. North Bay Water Association 2010 "Greening our Water Infrastructure" Conference, April 9th (WICC Staff)
 Jeff Sharp reported on the conference, noted that it is held every two yrs, and encouraged WICC Board Members to attend.
- c. Water Conservation and Frost Protection Workshop Tuesday, March 9th (WICC Staff; Public Works Staff)

Deborah Elliot (Napa Co. Dept. of Public Works) announced that the workshop will be held at the Yountville Community Hall and encouraged those interested to attend. She also mentioned that there is a chance that it will be broadcasted on channel 28.

d. Others (Board; WICC Staff; Public)

Jim Lincoln reported that the Los Carneros Water District has contracted with Corolla Engineers to conduct a feasibility study on bringing recycled water out to the Carneros region. It is known that the Carneros area is groundwater limited/deficient. A 50/50 grant was obtained from the State Water Board to help cover the costs. The feasibility study is underway and is expected to be complete by September 1, 2010.

Jeff Sharp announced WICC will have a booth at the 2010 Earth Day Celebration on April 24, 2010, reminded the Board of the required Form 700 with a filing deadline of April 1, 2010.

Patrick Lowe announced the Wildlife Rescue Center's Annual Benefit, "All My friends are Wild," will be at the Hatt Marketplace, Sunday April 18, 2010. Look for a posting of details on the WICC website.

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

a. Update and discussion on Napa River Pathogen Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation, Napa River Sediment TMDL and other Regional Water Quality Control Board and State Water Resources Control Board water quality control plans and policies affecting Napa County's watersheds (WICC Staff; CDPD; Environmental Mgmt.)

Jeff Sharp reported that the Sediment TMDL for Sonoma Creek is moving to the State Water Resources Control Board for approval and comments due by March 22nd. *Links to the TMDL and comment request are posted on the WICC website.*

Patrick Lowe reported that he and others are meeting with Regional Water Quality Control Board staff (RWQCB) in regards to the Napa River Sediment TMDL and proposed vineyard waiver program. He also reported that the Napa River Sediment TMDL adoption by the State Board is still pending and is expected soon. In spite of the Water Board's inaction the development process

of the vineyard waiver will be moving forward even if changes may be needed pending the State Board's approval of the final TMDL. The RWQCB is putting together a Technical Advisory committee to assist in the vineyard waiver's development. A larger Community Stakeholders Advisory Committee, is also being put together to assist in the waiver's development and to hear recommendations from the Technical Advisory Committee. These efforts will be done jointly for both Napa River and Sonoma Creek waiver programs. RWQCB staff is scheduled to attend the WICC's April 2010 meeting. RWQCB staff will likely be looking for public testimony and input by spring 2011.

Steve Lederer reported on the status and implementation of the Napa River Pathogen TMDL. After several years of sampling and GIS analysis, three creeks have been identified as having low levels of pathogen contamination. Two are in the city of Napa and include Browns Valley Creek and the drainage ditch along Highway 29 that leads to Salvador Creek. Both have low level of contaminants, most likely from general urban contaminants, such as domestic pet waste. Investigation on those two creeks is complete and focus is now on the third creek, Murphy Creek in the Coombsville area. The next steps will focus on education to prevent further pathogen contamination in these areas. The Dept. of Environmental Management will be hosting a seminar on April 17, 2010, at Mt. George Elementary School or the Middle school in the area that will focus on septic systems and how to take care of failures, and will also address fertilizers, livestock and general domestic issues.

Jeff Sharp reported on the State Board's North Coast Instream Flow Policy, on-stream dam and reservoir bypass flow requirements intended to protect and manage instream water for rare and threatened fish species. A draft policy was developed and comments were solicited. A revised version of the policy is now complete and out for public review. A public hearing is being planned for late April.

Jeff Sharp announced that the SF Bay RWQCB has added more water bodies to their list of 'unnamed water bodies' and has designated beneficial uses for those waters. The beneficial use is what CA EPA and the State Board uses to assess and develop needed water quality, standards to protect the waters from degradation. Staff at the RWQCB will be adding both lakes and rivers to the list. Patrick Lowe mentioned that a broad public request has been sent to stakeholders looking for people to submit any streams or lakes that they think would be candidate water bodies in need of protection.

b. Update and discussion on Napa County Resource Conservation District award of **\$367,500** (of the \$1.5M to North Bay) to implement projects that reduce potential sources of fine sediment and pathogens from entering the Napa River. (WICC Staff; Napa County RCD)

Francis Knapczyk (RCD Staff) reported that this is a collaborative project from agencies in Napa, Marin and Sonoma counties. The main focus is on reducing sediment in local waterways. In Napa County, a large portion of the funds will target road improvements in the Sulfur Creek watershed with left over funding being used for the smaller projects throughout the Napa River basin.

c. Report on **Carneros Creek road improvement** and **Scott Creek channel restoration** projects (WICC Staff; Napa County RCD)

Francis Knapczyk (RCD Staff) reported that funding and support for the project was received from various sources, including the State Water Board and mitigation funds. The project included the removal of approximately 3,000 yards of potential sediment that would have entered Carneros Creek. As part of the restoration project, the stream bank and the channel were engineered and reshaped, then planted with native vegetation in order to stabilize the area and to create improved habitat. The Natural Resource Conservation Service assisted with the re-vegetation plan that included the placement of 1500 trees and shrubs along the channel's banks. Harvest Middle school helped plant 1000 trees and shrubs last fall in the area.

d. Update and discussion on Voluntary Oak Woodlands Management Plan (WICC Staff; CDPD)

Patrick Lowe reported that development of the Plan was an implementation item listed in the recent General Plan Update. A working draft of the plan has been developed and a final draft of the Plan will ultimately go to the Planning Commission and then on to the Board of Supervisors for adoption. Presently the Sierra Club, Vintners, Farm Bureau, Grape Growers, environmental/community groups and others are reviewing the initial draft and are providing their comments and suggestions. It is hoped that the process and the Plan will go a long way toward meeting the community's goals for Oak Woodland conservation and restoration. The San Francisco Estuary Institute's historical ecology project has also helped to identify where oaks existed in the Napa Valley. That work mapped out portions of the valley floor back to the 1800's, identifying where oaks existed and how opportunities might exist to bring some of those resources back where appropriate.

e. Report on implementation of **State required Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance** (WELO) effective as of January 2010 (WICC Staff; CDPD)

Jeff Sharp reported that in 1993 California had irrigation requirements for landscapes of a certain size. That earlier regulation, however, was not effective, so the legislators recently passed additional laws to lower the amount of water applied on California's irrigated landscaped areas. The County and all of the cities are required to implement a Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance with the new standards. Adherence to the new lower water-use standards will be required, when applying for a building permit where new or rehabilitated landscaping is required and/or provided. The City of Napa will be considering a Green Building Ordinance in late spring, and will be incorporating the new WELO requirements at that time. Other jurisdictions in the county have reported that they are incorporating the new WELO requirements in their staff reports to their boards and councils

f. Update on **Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (IRWMP)** efforts underway including **local planning to integrate water resource planning** county-wide (WICC Staff; CDPD)

Jeff Sharp reported that a new IRWM Planning/Funding Area has been established that covers the Putah Creek/Berryessa Basin and has been approved by the State Dept. of Water Resources. Napa County is now participating in two IRWM Planning efforts: 1) the Bay Area IRWMP, which includes the Napa River, Suisun Basins (as well as the remainder of the Bay Area), and 2) the Westside Sacramento River IRWMP, which includes the Putah Creek/Berryessa Basin and portions of Yolo, Napa, Lake, Colusa and Solano counties. The new Westside Sacramento River IRWM group is coordinated by way of participation from each of the five counties. The Flood Control and Water Conservation District (via consulting from West Coast Watersheds) is developing a local IRWM Planning approach/framework to help the County and its municipalities participate effectively in each of the two planning/funding IRWM regions.

g. Update on **new WICC website** (WICC Staff; CDPD)

Jeff Sharp provided a demonstration of the new site and thanked the staff at the RCD for their assistance on the project. Patrick Lowe reported that the new website is much easier to navigate and move thru.

h. Others (Board; WICC Staff)

Jeff Redding requested an update on watershed group activities. Jeff Sharp suggested that each WICC meeting should highlight a group's activities/updates. Patrick Lowe reported that it is not known if there will be a Napa County Watershed Symposium this year due to budget constraints.

7. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:

a. Presentation and discussion on the **Napa Green Certified Winery Program** (WICC Staff; Susan Boswell, Napa Valley Vintners)

Susan Boswell, WICC Board Member and Chair of the Napa Green Certified Winery Program provided the Board with a presentation on the Napa Green Winery Program. The goals of the program are for preserving and enhancing the environment, demonstrating our commitment, and to provide leadership for the wine industry. The Program focuses on energy use, water conservation, soil, and air pollution. Participants work with Napa Co. Dept. of Environmental Management and Bay Area Green Business Program (BAGBP) to move through the certification process.

b. Presentation and discussion of **2009 Phase 1 Rutherford Reach Restoration Project before/after photos**, future construction plans, phasing and funding strategy (WICC Staff; Gretchen Hayes, Rutherford Project Coordinator)

Gretchen Hayes provided the Board with a presentation on the monitoring and tracking of the Rutherford Reach Restoration Project. The project seeks to control erosion, create habitat, and protect property along the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River. Photos past and present were presented showing various areas of the project. Patrick Lowe reported on the Zinfandel Bridge project, the upper boundary of the Rutherford Reach Restoration Project.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Board; WICC Staff)

Request for a presentation on the activities of various watershed stewardship groups; request for an update on vineyard development projects (by Brian Bordona, CDPD); and a speaker on Oaks and Oak Woodlands

9. NEXT MEETING (Chair)

Regular Board Meeting: **March 25, 2010 – 4:00 PM** Hall of Justice Building, 2nd floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa

(Note: Possible postponement to April 22, 2010)

10. ADJOURNMENT (Chair)

Motion and approval to adjourn.

<u>Note</u>: 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.

