

**Members**

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

**Alternate**

Keith Caldwell

**- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, August 27, 2009  
4:00 p.m.**

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

**Staff Representatives**

Patrick Lowe,  
**Secretary**  
Deputy Director,  
Conservation Div., CDPD

Jeff Sharp,  
**Watershed Coordinator**  
Principal Planner,  
Conservation Div., CDPD

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

Sharon Borunda,  
**Admin. Assistant**  
Office Assistant II,  
CDPD

**1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chairman)**

*Members present: Mark Luce, Gary Kraus, James Krider, Marjorie Mohler, Phil Blake, Don Gasser, Susan Boswell, Jim Lincoln, Marc Pandone, Chris Sauer, Alexander Pader*

*Members excused: Diane Dillon, Del Britton, Mike Basayne*

*Members absent: Leon Garcia, Jeff Reichel, Jeffrey Redding*

*Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp, Sharon Borunda*

*The Board welcomed Jim Lincoln and Susan Boswell, as the newly appointed Public at Large members, and congratulated Jeffrey Redding and Marc Pandone on their re-appointments.*

**2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of June 25, 2009 (Chairman)

*Minutes were approved as presented. Jim Lincoln and Susan Boswell 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*

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

a. Announcement of River Festival 2009, 17<sup>th</sup> Annual River Festival, Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 p.m. to 9:30p.m., at Veterans Park (Bernhard Krevet, FONR President)

*Bernhard Krevet provided some background on the festival and current efforts to make this year's festival the best yet. Bernhard recognized and thanked Target for being this year's major sponsor. The festival is a fundraiser, and invited everyone to enjoy the music, wine, food and auction. He handed out flyers and left posters.*

b. Announcement of 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Coastal Clean-up Day, Saturday, September 19, 2009 (Staff/RCD)  
*Jeff Sharp reported that the cleanup event is statewide and that there are a number of local sites needing volunteers. Jeff distributed fliers for the event.*

c. Others (Board/Staff/Public)

*Marc Pandone distributed a flier/newsletter from Berryessa Trails and Conservation group and highlighted the group's efforts relating to clean-ups, trail restoration and invasive plant removal in the Lake Berryessa area. Marc encouraged those interested to join up and lend a hand with the group's activities.*

*Phil Blake reported on a number of programs (through the Farm Bill) being offered by the NRCS/USDA. Phill reported that 14 agreements were recently worked up with Napa County land owners for conservation work amounting to \$340,000. Phill also noted that a new Conservation Stewardship Program has just been announced with a 30-day sign-up deadline.*

*Patrick Lowe reported on the upcoming San Francisco Estuary Conference and noted that the WICC will participate in this year's conference to announce what is happening in Napa County.*

## 5. REPORTS, UPDATES AND DISCUSSION:

*Note: Item 5d was heard first in this list to accommodate presenter*

a. Report and update on Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District Master Plan (John Woodbury, District General Manager)

*John Woodbury reported that the District's Master Plan was adopted last fall and is available on-line. The planning effort established a series of guiding principles for the District. The plan includes 61 projects that were developed to take advantage of funding opportunities that may come up in the future. John also reported on the District's newly acquired Moore Creek property. John noted that the Dist. is developing a volunteer program to help with the Moore Creek project. The Dist. is also currently working to construct a new trail, donated by the Amman Family, and a trail to run from American Canyon to the Napa River Trail. John also mentioned that the Dist. is working with the Bureau of Reclamation on Camp Berryessa (which was closed in 2002) as BOR is looking for a local partner to re-open the site. Finally John mentioned the 2009 Omnibus Zoning Amendment in process that will create a parks designation for Skyline Park, to bring the zoning into compliance with the General Plan. This change will be going to the Planning Commission very shortly.*

b. Update on Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission grant funding recommendations for new projects (Staff/WCC)

*Patrick Lowe reported that some emergency grants were issued by the WCC last year to fill the gap left by the State's bond freeze. Patrick also noted that currently, there is a significant amount of funding in the WCC budget for this year's (regular) grant funding cycle (due impart to efficient/increased enforcement action by Dept. of Fish & Game staff and local fines levied by the District Attorney's Office).*

c. Update on County General Plan Implementation action items currently underway (Staff).

*Patrick Lowe reported that the Planning Department is working on a number of action items outlined in the approved General Plan, including a water efficient landscaping ordinance (required by State law), a protective buffer around domestic reservoir intake structures to safeguard municipal drinking water supplies from possible contamination (per State recommended guidelines), and a voluntary oak woodlands management plan to help address direct and indirect impacts to local oak woodlands and to guide planning and identification of priority oak conservation/ restoration areas.*

d. Report and update on the Napa River Smolt Monitoring effort and 2009 report on steelhead and salmon in the Napa River (Jonathan Koehler, RCD Fisheries Biologist)

*Jonathan Koehler gave an update and presentation on the RCD's Rotary Screw Trap used to monitor out-migrating fish species. He reported that the 2009 monitoring effort (69 days) was a success. The*

*monitoring team (which included many trained volunteers) caught and released 22 fish species (about ½ native and ½ exotic). The effort counted 119 steelhead smolts and 1 Chinook smolt and 949 (young of year) steelhead fry (these numbers of fry in the lower reach of the watershed have not been previously documented, making this effort the first of its kind in the basin to document steelhead spawning in the lower reaches). Last year was noted as a very low Chinook return run. The average size of the steelhead smolts (over 150 mm) reflects a high likelihood of ocean survival rate and a promising outlook for return run in the Napa River. Jonathan also reported on Pacific Lamp-ray species, Western Pond Turtles, frogs and others. The RCD hopes to continue the monitoring as funds and resources allow. Jonathan encouraged folks that are interested in seeing the Trap should contact him. Jeff Sharp reported that this monitoring effort is downstream of the Rutherford Restoration project and if the monitoring is continued, it could serve to document the project's objectives towards creating and improving fisheries habitat in the area.*

- e. Update and discussion on Regional Water Quality Control Board and State Water Resources Control Board Water quality control plans and policies affecting Napa County's watersheds (Staff).

*Jeff Sharp provided the Board with a new policy tracking table and reported that RWQCB will hear and consider adoption of the Napa River Sediment TMDL on 9/9/09. Jeff Sharp and Diane Dillon are planning to attend the adoption hearing. Jeff also reported on upcoming Stream and Wetland Protection Policy mtgs. held by the State and a new policy under development by the Central Valley RWQCB (Region 5 - Putah Creek basin) involving a Groundwater Beneficial Use Study, to examine the relationship/connection of groundwater and surface water flows.*

*Jeff also reported that the State Water Resources Control Board is looking to increase regulation of construction site run-off and will be working to adopt new guidelines for construction sites in Napa County. Jack Betourne, the County's Stormwater Program Manager, reported that the new regulations are expected to go in to effect this winter and contractor's will need to be trained for the new on-site regulation changes.*

- f. Report and discussion on the State's budget and potential impacts to Napa County and WICC for fiscal year 09-10 (Staff)

*Jeff Sharp reported that State funding for a number of bond funded projects (including the County's Watershed Assessment Framework Grant) is still frozen. Patrick Lowe added that some State funding is partially coming available in limited amounts and for short periods of time, mentioning that one grant held by the RCD has only seen partial funding restored. Patrick also reported that many groups are exploring other options to fill the funding gap created by the State.*

- g. Others (Board/Staff)

*None*

## **6. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION:**

Presentation, discussion and possible recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in support of using Measure A funding to complete two projects benefitting current and planned restoration efforts underway in the Napa River watershed. The two projects include:

*Rick Thomasser gave an update on the status and funding shortfall of SFEI's Historical Ecology Atlas project and the Oakville to Oak Knoll River Restoration project. Rick explained the importance of and local reliance on these projects for river restoration work and that there is a need to continue them with local funding should the State of California not make its grant obligations.*

- a. Completion and publication of a Historical Ecology Atlas for the Napa River, to document patterns of the river channel, the distribution of floodplain wetlands, and the characteristics riparian woodlands, to contribute to the design and adaptive management of river restoration efforts (San Francisco Estuary Institute)

*Rick Thomasser introduced Robin Grossinger from SFEI who provided a project overview and status report. Rick noted that Robin's work is important in that it helps to inform the approach and design of*

*current and future river restoration projects along the Napa River. Robin stressed the inefficiencies of starting and stopping work and the scientific value of historical ecology to inform river restoration efforts. Robin also demonstrated similar efforts around the San Francisco Bay funded at the local level with public dollars.*

b. Completion of restoration planning for the Oakville Cross Rd. to Oak Knoll Ave. Napa River Restoration Project, to support landowner involvement, hydraulic modeling, geographical mapping, formulation of alternatives, and concept plan development (California Land Stewardship Institute)

*Rick provided an overview of the project and where it stands today. \$500,000 for the project was acquired from the State and \$250,000 was provided by the County. The project is 85% complete, but the bond freeze has stalled the project. Rick explained the importance of this project in relationship to other work in the area and the fact that this project is heavily dependant upon landowner trust and cooperation.*

The two projects have been delayed due to frozen State Bond sales. Should state funding for the projects be restored, funding equal to the State's contribution will be applied to offset Measure A expenditures. (Rick Thomasser, Flood District Operations Manager)

*Rick requested that the Board make a motion in support of additional funding for these projects should there be a need (after 30-days) to preserve the County's investment in the projects. The WICC's recommendation for support would assist the County Board of Supervisors (acting as the Flood Authority) in their decision for additional funding to fill the gap left by the State's in ability to pay its obligations.*

*The Board discussed, motioned and approved support for the projects should the need arise and that the recipients repay the County if the State makes good with their portion of the frozen (bond) funds.*

#### **7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (BOARD/STAFF):**

*Overview of erosion control plans on file with County Planning*

*Presentation of Oaks in Napa County*

*Presentation on Napa Green Land and Winery program*

#### **8. NEXT MEETING (CHAIRMAN)**

Regular Board Meeting: **September 24, 2009 – 4:00 PM** (possible postponement to October 22, 2009)  
Hall of Justice Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT (CHAIRMAN)**

*Motion passed to adjourn*

**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, 1195 Third St., Suite 210, Napa CA 94559 to request alternative formats.**

