



## AGENDA

### REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, September 26, 2013, 4:00 p.m.

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

#### Board of Directors

Susan Boswell  
Diane Dillon  
Marita Dorenbecher  
Warren Flint  
Mitchell Klug  
Gary Kraus  
Jason Lauritsen  
Kenneth Leary  
Jim Lincoln  
Mark Luce  
Marc Pandone  
Matt Pope  
Jeffrey Redding  
Jeff Reichel  
Scott Sedgley  
Rita Steiner  
Peter White

#### Alternate

Keith Caldwell

#### Staff

Patrick Lowe,  
Secretary  
Natural Resources  
Conservation  
Manager,  
Dept. Public Works

Jeff Sharp,  
Principal Planner,  
Dept. Public Works

Robert C. Martin,  
Legal Counsel  
Deputy Counsel,  
County Counsel's  
Office

804 First Street,  
Napa, CA  
94559-2623

Tel: 707-259-8600

[info@napawatersheds.org](mailto:info@napawatersheds.org)

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chair)

#### 2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of March 28, 2013 and Joint GRAC/WICC Meeting of July 25, 2013 (Chair) (5 min)

#### 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)

#### 4. UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Update on WICC Board Membership and terms of office (WICC staff) (5 min)
- b. Update on the **Napa County Climate Action Plan (CAP)** (Hillary Gitelman, Director, Planning, Building and Environmental Services Dept.) (5-10 min)
- c. Update on **Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (IRWMP)** and Round 2 implementation grants for the Bay Area and Sacramento River funding areas (WICC staff, Flood District staff) (5 min)
- d. Update on Napa County **Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC)** (WICC staff) (5 min)
- e. Report on **Coastal Clean-up Day** results of local efforts removing trash from our waterways, rivers and lakes (Steph Turnipseed, Creek to Bay Clean-up Day Coordinator, Napa County RCD) (5 min)

(cont.)

- f. Report on the publication of the **2014 Watershed Education Calendar** – “Slow it, Spread it, Sink it” (Steph Turnipseed, Education Coordinator, Napa County RCD) (5 min)
- g. Update on City of Napa supported water conservation programs - **Water-wise Landscaping Classes, Garden Tours and Cash for Grass** (Pat Costello, City of Napa Water Division) (5-10 min)
- h. Report on Napa County’s **Rainwater Harvesting Program** and Vintage High School’s rain garden installation (Deborah Elliott, Water Resources Specialist, Napa County Public Works) (10 min)
- i. Other reports and updates (WICC staff, Board, Public)

## 5. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Presentation on the **Removal of a Fish Passage Barrier on Murphy Creek**; which included the removal of a concrete weir spanning the channel in order to provide 0.64 mi. of additional habitat suitable for steelhead spawning and rearing (Lisa Godfrey, Senior Geomorphologist, California Land Stewardship Institute) (10 min)
- b) Presentation on the **Napa River Spawning Gravel Assessment**; a presentation the findings from the first year of a pilot study examining streambed scour and permeability in the Napa River watershed, in an effort to provide data on whether the target values of the Napa River Sediment TMDL are being met or not (Jonathan Koehler, Biologist, Napa County RCD) (15 min)
- c) Presentations on **Agroforestry Opportunities In Napa Valley** – Combining environmental restoration, agriculture and forestry management for multiple benefits (WICC staff introduction)
  - i. **An Agroforestry Model for the Napa Valley** – Where Napa River restoration meets agriculture (Shaun Horne, Flood District) (10 min)
  - ii. **Agroforestry in Napa with Truffles**, Use of truffle cultivation as an agroforestry practice in Napa (Robert Chang, Managing Director, American Truffle Company) (30 min)

## 6. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

**Report by WICC Ad-hoc Subcommittee** on recommendations for opportunities to leverage monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts, and review and comment on indicators of watershed health/condition (Ad-hoc Committee, WICC staff, Board) (20 min)

## 7. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Exchange of **informational announcements and events** (WICC staff, Board, and Public) (5-10 min)

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Discussion of possible **items for future agendas** (Board, WICC Staff) (5 min)

- a. **Presentation on Boater Outreach Efforts at Lake Berryessa**, preventing invasive species and protecting water quality, Marianne Butler, Solano County RCD
- b. **Other possible agenda items** (WICC staff, Board)

9. **NEXT MEETING** (Chair)

Regular Scheduled Board Meeting: **November 21, 2013 – 4:00 PM**

10. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chair)

**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, 804 First St., Napa CA 94559-2623.





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**ACTION MINUTES**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, March 28, 2013, 4:00 p.m.

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

*Members Present: Susan Boswell, Diane Dillon, Marita Dorenbecher, Warren Flint, Mitchell Klug, Jason Lauritsen, Kenneth Leary, Jim Lincoln, Marc Pandone, Jeffrey Redding, Jeff Reichel, Scott Sedgley, Rita Steiner, Peter White, Keith Caldwell*

*Members excused: Gary Kraus, Mark Luce,*

*Members absent: Matt Pope,*

*Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp*

**1. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of January 24, 2013 (Chair) (5 min)

*Approved as presented*

SB	DD	MD	WF	MK	GK	JL1	KL	JL2	ML	MP1	MP2	JR1	JR2	SS	RS	PW	KC
					X				X			A					

**2. 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*

**3. UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

- a. Update on Napa County **Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee** (GRAC) (WICC staff) (5 min)

*Patrick Lowe provided an update and mentioned upcoming joint WICC/GRAC meeting on July 25, 2013 in Yountville.*

- b. Update on **Integrated Regional Water Management Planning** (IRWMP) in the Bay Area and Sacramento River funding areas, planning and plan update processes, Round 2 implementation grant applications and projects (WICC staff, Flood District staff) (5 min)

*Jeff Sharp announced that the Westside Sac River IRWMP plan will be released for public comment on May 10, 2013. A Round 2 Implantation Grant for that plan was submitted totaling over \$9M in project funding. Rick Thomasser announced the Bay Area plan update is underway and a full plan for review is expected in the Fall. A Bay Area Round 2 Implementation Grant was also submitted and included two projects in the Napa River watershed. Round 2 funding should be announced by DWR in the late Fall.*

- c. Update on status of the **Napa River Sediment TMDL** and withdrawal of **Vineyard Conditional Waiver** of Waste Discharge Requirements by the Water Board (Leigh Sharp, Executive Director, Napa County RCD) (5-10 min)

*Leigh Sharp provided an update on the waiver's development. The waiver has been withdrawn by the RWQCB do to public comment. It is likely a General Order, which does not expire, will be developed in place of the waiver, and an EIR will be prepared to support its adoption. The RWQCB's goal is to have some kind of a program up and running by the Oct 2014 deadline stated in the TMDL.*

- d. Update on the **Oakville to Oak Knoll River Restoration** project (Shaun Horne, Flood District Staff) (10 min)

*Shaun Horne provided a presentation and overview of the Oakville to Oak Knoll project and the studies and steps planned to initiate project construction. The reach includes 73 parcels and 34 landowners. The project would cost roughly \$32M if fully implemented. \$10M is expected to come from Measure A and \$22M will be sought in grants to complete the project in a phased manner.*

- e. Other reports and updates (WICC staff, Board, Public)

*None provided*

## 5. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Presentation on "**Napa Green Certified Land and Winery Programs: Spring 2013 Overview**" – Michelle Novi, Industry Relations Manager, Napa Valley Vintners, working on environmental and regulatory issues facing the wine industry, including helping oversee the enrollment, certification, and promotion of vineyards and wineries within Napa Green (15 min)

*Michelle Novi provided a presentation and overview of the Napa Green Land and Winery Programs. Third party program certification was highlighted as an important part of each program. 55,000 acres are enrolled, 26,000 are certified 15,700 are vineyards. The winery program is founded based on the Bay Area Green Business Program with a winery specific checklist. A new website has been launched to support the programs.*

- b. Presentation on **“Environmental Planning and Compliance for Stream and Road Maintenance Projects, an overview of the regulatory permitting process related to routine stream and road maintenance activities”** – Jill Sunahara, Senior Associate, Horizon Water and Environment, will provide an overview of the regulatory permitting process related to routine stream and road maintenance activities. She will review the 5-W’s of permitting: 1) Who are the regulatory agencies; 2) What the permits cover; 3) Where regulatory jurisdiction applies; 4) When/how long it takes; and 5) Why a programmatic permitting approach may make sense (20 min)

*Jill Sunahara provided a presentation and examples of projects that could benefit from a streamlined permitting process.*

- c. Presentation on **“Increasing Restoration on Private Lands through Programmatic Permitting – Local Vs Statewide Approach”** – Erika Lovejoy, Associate Director of Restoration on Private Lands, Sustainable Conservation, will provide an overview of the Partners in Restoration (PIR) consolidated permitting program, developed by Sustainable Conservation in partnership with local Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs), and will follow with a summary of Sustainable Conservation’s new Statewide Programmatic Permitting effort, designed to promote implementation of restoration projects on private lands throughout California (20 min)

*Erika Lovejoy provided a presentation on Sustainable Conservation’s program, the partners involved and the types of projects it supports. Sustainable Conservation is now turning their focus towards working directly with state agencies and state legislature to facilitate some level of programmatic/coordinated permitting state-wide.*

*There was interest from the Board to further explore ways in which the WICC could help support a local programmatic permitting approach.*

## 6. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Update on the status of the **Napa River Sediment TMDL Implementation Tracking & Accounting System (ITAS)** project (WICC staff) (5 min)

*Jeff Sharp provided an update on the status of the project and some of the draft metrics under consideration that will be used to track and account for TMDL implementation.*

- b. Review of **Napa River Watershed Assessment Framework (WAF) Pilot Study** (WICC staff) (5 min), and

*Jeff Sharp provided an overview of the project (completed 2010) and the pilot study to apply the State’s framework in the Napa River watershed. A preliminary score card for the watershed was developed. Warren Flint provided additional input on the use of indicators and value of reporting on the condition of our watershed in order for the community to know if we are meeting our goals. Further work is needed to refine the WAF indicators/metrics and scorecard to reflect current watershed needs and condition.*

- c. Discussion and **possible action to appoint an Ad-Hoc Committee** of the WICC Board to:
  - i) Discuss opportunities for leveraging monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts,
  - ii) Review and comment on indicators of watershed health/condition proposed in the ITAS and WAF projects and other possible key indicators for consideration as part of the ITAS, and
  - iii) Report Ad-Hoc Committee recommendations to the WICC Board for consideration (WICC staff, Board) (10 min)

*The Board discussed the scope of the committee’s work and timeline to report back (September). Susan Boswell, Jason Lauritsen, Jeff Reichel and Warren Flint were appointed to serve on the ad-hoc subcommittee.*

SB	DD	MD	WF	MK	GK	JL1	KL	JL2	ML	MP1	MP2	JR1	JR2	SS	RS	PW	KC
					X				X								

**7. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Presentation of **informational announcements and events** (WICC staff, Board, and Public) (5-10 min)

- a. **WICC website enhancements** – new design, simplified navigation, mobile support (WICC Staff)

*Jeff Sharp referenced the site screen-shots provided in the agenda materials and provided an overview of the enhancements and expected site-launch at the Watershed Symposium in May.*

- b. **Earth Day** – visit the WICC booth, April 20<sup>th</sup>, downtown Napa (WICC Staff)

*Jeff Sharp announced WICC’s participation in Earth Day and urge Board members to stop by the booth.*

- c. **2013 Napa County Watershed Symposium**, May 23, Copia Theatre (WICC Staff)

*Jeff Sharp highlighted the event, noted confirmed speakers to date and encouraged Board members to attend.*

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

*Rotary Screw Trap (RST) Open House on March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 6<sup>th</sup>, 9-10AM, details on the Napa County RCD website (The RST is an out- migrant fisheries monitoring station)*

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Discussion of possible **items for future agendas** (Board, WICC Staff) (5 min)

*None provided*

9. **NEXT MEETING** (Chair)

Regular Scheduled Board Meeting:

**May 23, 2013 – 4:00 PM** (*Cancellation due to Watershed Symposium*)

**July 25, 2013 – 4:00 PM** (*Joint Mtg. with Napa County GRAC, Yountville Community Center*)

10. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chair)

*Motion and approval 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, 804 First St., Napa CA 94559-2623.



**Voting Key**

If not unanimous, votes will be tallied (N = No; A = Abstained, X = Excused) using the following Board Member abbreviations:

SB = Susan Boswell; DD = Diane Dillon; MD = Marita Dorenbecher, WF = Warren Flint, MK = Mitchell Klug; GK = Gary Kraus; JL1 = Jason Lauritsen; KL = Kenneth Leary; JL2 = Jim Lincoln; ML = Mark Luce; MP1 = Marc Pandone; MP2 = Matt Pope; JR1 = Jeffrey Redding; JR2 = Jeff Reichel; SS = Scott Sedgley; RS = Rita Steiner; PW = Peter White; KC = Keith Caldwell (alternate)

Example Key:

SB	DD	MD	WF	MK	GK	JL1	KL	JL2	ML	MP1	MP2	JR1	JR2	SS	RS	PW	KC
X			A			N					A						





Board of Directors

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## ACTION MINUTES

### SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

WATERSHED INFORMATION CENTER & CONSERVANCY (WICC) BOARD  
NAPA COUNTY GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (GRAC)

Thursday, July 25, 2012, 4:00 p.m.

Yountville Community Center, 6516 Washington St., Yountville, CA

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

*Members Present: Warren Flint, Mitchell Klug, Jason Lauritsen, Kenneth Leary, Jim Lincoln, Marc Pandone, Matt Pope, Jeff Reichel, Rita Steiner, Peter White, Keith Caldwell*

*Members excused: Susan Boswell, Diane Dillon, Marita Dorenbecher, Gary Kraus, Mark Luce, Scott Sedgley*

*Members absent: Jeffrey Redding*

*Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp*

#### 2. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

*Steve Lederer, Director, Public Works, provided opening comments.*

#### 3. UPDATES FROM THE WICC

*Jeff Sharp, Principal Watershed Resources Planner, Public Works, gave an update on WICC and staff activities since March. The WICC participated in Earth Day on April 20th by staffing an informational booth about the WICC and other Napa County water resources programs. At their first meeting in May, the Board of Supervisors proclaimed May 2013 as Watershed Awareness Month in Napa County. The WICC website posted a number of events that provided recreational and stewardship opportunities involving the watersheds of the county. May concluded with the Napa County Watershed Symposium being held at the Copia Theater on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The symposium was well received with over 100 people attending and coincided with the launch of the redesigned WICC website. The new website utilizes modern web services and tools to provide a more user-friendly experience. A connect tab at the top of the home page lets users enter their email address to receive the latest news, calendar of events and site updates. A new mapping structure on the site highlights Napa County's three main watersheds and provides a variety of information, such as soils, faults, streams and sub-watershed locations.*

(Cont.)

*A task for WICC staff for the new fiscal year is to provide more information through the improved mapping features. Mr. Sharp gave an update on the Napa River Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) regulations mandated by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board). County staff is following the development of an agricultural waiver of waste discharge reporting process related to the TMDL. The agricultural waiver was pulled back by the Regional Water Board due to public comments received. It is likely the permit for vineyards will return in the form of a general permit along the lines of the County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. There is a compliance deadline of October 2014 mentioned in the TMDL. The County is researching if the deadline can be extended or if the Regional Water Board will use their discretion to delay enforcement. In relation to compliance, the County is developing a system to track TMDL implementation through a web-based tool that would catalog the County's efforts and report its progress in simple terms. The County is meeting with the Regional Water Board early next month to show the schematic of the design and to get their input and concurrence that the tool will be a local mechanism to track and document TMDL compliance. Mr. Sharp reported on the progress of Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) planning, which is the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) effort to manage California's water in an integrated fashion. DWR funding allows agencies to develop IRWM plans and projects across jurisdictional boundaries. Napa County is split by two separate IRWM planning efforts: the Bay Area IRWM Plan, which includes the Napa River and Suisun basins, and the Westside Sacramento IRWM Plan, which covers the Putah Creek basin. The Westside Sacramento IRWM Plan was just completed and adopted by the Flood Board on July 9<sup>th</sup>. A Round 2 IRWM implementation grant submittal requested \$2 million to support some of the water districts around Lake Berryessa and fund a regional water conservation program for the Putah Creek area. The Bay Area IRWM Plan is nearing completion with only a few draft chapters still open for public comment. Comments can still be submitted at the Bay Area IRWM website. There will be a final public comment period on the whole plan. Both the Westside Sacramento and Bay Area IRWM Plans must be adopted by local agencies in order to obtain DWR funding. The Westside Sacramento IRWM Plan will go before the Board of Supervisors on August 6<sup>th</sup> for adoption, as well as the Lake Berryessa and Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement Districts. The next WICC meeting will be held Thursday, September 26. One of the presentations will be on the results of a pilot project conducted by the RCD that monitored streambed scour and gravel permeability funded by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. There will also be a presentation on a new concept of agro-forestry in which truffles could be farmed under oak trees and a possible presentation on fire ecology.*

#### 4. UPDATES FROM THE GRAC

*Michelle Benvenuto, GRAC Vice-Chair, presented a PowerPoint presentation on Napa County's Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program. Groundwater in Napa County has been monitored since the mid-1900s. Groundwater levels throughout the Napa Valley Floor are stable with the exception of the Milliken-Sarco-Tulucay (MST) area, but even in that area recent stabilization has been shown. Overall, Napa County's groundwater resource is in pretty good shape. Groundwater quality is generally good with the exception of Calistoga and in southern Napa County (the MST Subarea in the east, south of Soscol Avenue, Carneros and the Napa River marshes near Jameson Canyon). Groundwater recharge potential is also good. There is a need to find out more about the aquifers – what their state is, and what the interaction is between groundwater and surface water. Additional monitoring will help answer these questions. The Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program addresses the County's resources goals in the General Plan, coordinates data with other State and federal agencies and addresses monitoring data gaps that have been identified in a couple of past studies. Priority monitoring areas were determined by looking at groundwater basins, sub-basins, subareas, identifying groundwater level and quality data gaps. 18 areas of interest have been identified where additional monitoring wells are needed to fully understand the groundwater resource(s). The objectives of the Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program will be fulfilled if one well can be located in each of the 18 priority areas. Wells and well owners have been identified in the areas of interest, and the GRAC has begun outreach efforts. Well owners are asked if their wells can be monitored twice a year – in the spring and fall. If*

*a well owner agrees to participate, they are given a form to complete, which is then routed to County staff for follow-up. In addition to ongoing public outreach, the GRAC will be reviewing the County's draft Groundwater Ordinance and permit process, as well as developing a set of sustainability objectives next month (a sustainability sub-committee of the GRAC met earlier this month). The GRAC's work will culminate with their recommendations being provided to the Board of Supervisors. GRAC outreach is being planned for the agricultural industry, environmental groups (this joint meeting), community events and public speaking engagements. The GRAC members and staff are willing to present to any group upon request. Groundwater sustainability ties directly to the County's General Plan goals and actions and is also an action item for the GRAC as directed in the in the Board of Supervisors. There is no universally accepted definition of groundwater sustainability, but the goal for Napa County is to maintain a stable, long-term supply of groundwater. Although groundwater levels are currently stable in most areas, additional monitoring will help maintain stability, which has been recently demonstrated in the MST.*

*Steve Lederer, Director, Public Works, reported on the current status of the Groundwater Ordinance and the Water Availability Analysis (WAA) report. Both documents are being updated by staff and the County's groundwater consultant, Vicki Kretsinger Grabert, Principal Hydrologist, LSCE, with input from the GRAC. The Ordinance, originally passed in 1999, was primarily in response to the MST groundwater decline. The GRAC has seen a draft of the ordinance and will review an updated draft in August. The WAA is also known as Phase 1 analysis or fair share amount. Since 1990, the County has adopted standards for groundwater use related to discretionary permits. If you use less than one acre foot of water per acre on the Napa Valley floor, less than 0.5 acre foot of water per acre in the hills or less than 0.3 acre foot of water per acre in the MST, it is assumed you are under your fair share. This has worked well over the years as a general standard. There are other sections of the WAA, such as the Phase 2 and 3 standards, which require additional pumping and other tests, that don't work very well. Staff and Ms. Kretsinger Grabert are working on improving the WAA by incorporating more specifics and scientific justification/data and will bring a revised draft of the WAA to the GRAC's August meeting for review and comment.*

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

*None provided.*

## 6. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Michael Haley, GRAC member, mentioned the sign-up sheets available for any well owners present who might be interested in participating in the Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program. Jeff Sharp, Principal Watershed Resources Planner, Public Works, also asked those present if they knew any well owners in the areas of interest who might be interested in participating in the Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program to contact staff and they will refer a GRAC member for follow-up.*

*Marilee Talley mentioned the Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program, which the WICC will eventually inherit, doesn't monitor just water levels but also water quality and is supported by an enriched database and the updated hydrogeologic conceptualization of the County (LSCE, 2013).*

*Mr. Sharp mentioned the groundwater basin maps developed as part of LSCE's work are on the WICC mapping site, and staff hopes to add to the website a simplified map of the geologic conceptualization (all the information underneath that isn't visible).*

7. ADJOURNMENT to the NEXT MEETING

*Motion and approval to adjourn.*



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

**County Executive Office**

1195 Third Street, Suite 310  
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[www.countyofnapa.org](http://www.countyofnapa.org)

Main: (707) 253-4421  
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**Nancy Watt**  
County Executive Officer

**Contact:**

**Nadine Willoughby**, Administrative Support Technician  
Committees & Commissions

(707) 253-4421

[nadine.willoughby@countyofnapa.org](mailto:nadine.willoughby@countyofnapa.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 28, 2013**

**Applicants sought for Watershed Information Center  
and Conservancy (WICC) Board of Napa County**

(Napa, CA--) The County Executive Officer announces the existence of **four (4) Public At Large** openings on the Board of Directors of the **Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Board of Napa County** due to expiring terms. The term of office commences immediately upon appointment and expires August 2017.

The WICC Board serves as an advisory committee to Napa County Board of Supervisors. The WICC's role is to assist the Board of Supervisors in their decision-making process and serve as a conduit for citizen input by gathering, analyzing and recommending options related to the management of watershed resources. In that capacity, the WICC has a responsibility to publicly evaluate and discuss matters that they have been requested to review and comment upon by the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors has charged the WICC with making recommendations on matters relating to watershed restoration projects and resource protection activities, coordination of land acquisition, and development of a long-term watershed resource management program that provides public outreach and education, monitoring coordination, inventory and assessment, and data management. The WICC was created by the Board of Supervisors in May 2002. The WICC Board encourages collaboration, cooperation and consistency among those working in Napa County's watersheds by coordinating and facilitating partnerships among individuals, agencies and organizations involved in improving watershed health; supporting watershed research activities and

## 2-2-2-2

### Applicants sought for Watershed Information Center and Conservancy of Napa County

providing watershed information and education. The WICC Board meets the fourth Thursday every other month at 4:00 p.m. in the Hall of Justice, 1125 Third Street, Napa, CA 94559.

The Board consists of seventeen members and one alternate member as follows: one (1) member nominated by the Napa County Land Trust from among the Land Trust's Board of Directors; one (1) director or associate director nominated by the Napa County Resource Conservation District; one (1) representative from the Natural Resource Conservation Service; two (2) members and one (1) alternate of the Napa County Board of Supervisors; one (1) member of the Napa County Conservation, Development and Planning Commission; one (1) council representative from each city or town in Napa County nominated by their respective city or town council; and six (6) Napa County residents from the public at large representing environmental, agricultural, development and community interests.

Anyone interested in consideration for appointment must submit a completed application form and apply directly to the County Executive Office, 1195 Third Street, Suite 310, Napa, 94559, telephone 253-4421 no later than **5:00 p.m. on September 20, 2013**. The application form is available on the County website at [www.countyofnapa.org](http://www.countyofnapa.org). Go to the main County page and click on the Committees and Commissions link in the left-hand navigation under County Info. To submit an application directly online, click "application for appointment" and follow the application instructions.

*The Board of Supervisors and staff of Napa County are dedicated to preserving and sustaining Napa County for present and future generations as a community with generous open space, a thriving agricultural industry and a quality human and natural environment. Visit us on the Web at [www.countyofnapa.org](http://www.countyofnapa.org).*

###



# Fall 2013

## Water-Wise Landscaping Workshop Series

**Mondays 6:30-8:30 pm**

Vintage High School Little Theater

**Saturdays 10-11:30 am**

Vintage High School Rain Garden  
and Water-Wise Landscape

**All workshops are FREE!**

*Water-saving tools, door prizes.*

*Hands-on practice.*

*Learn about water-wise rebates.*



**September 16**

**Irrigating Smartly**



**September 23**

**Preparing Your Site**

**September 28**



**Lose Your Lawn**



**September 30**

**Capturing the Rain**

**October 5**



**Lay the Groundwork**



**October 7**

**Choosing the Right Plants**

**To Register:  
Call 252-4188 ext. 116 or  
Email [frances@naparc.org](mailto:frances@naparc.org)**



**CITY of NAPA**



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service



## RAINWATER HARVESTING INCENTIVES

Available to residents and businesses  
located in the Napa River Watershed

**THE NAPA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT** is offering rebates for rain barrels or cisterns and reimbursement for rain gardens in an effort to increase water conservation and reduce stormwater runoff.

- Rain gardens and rain barrels/cisterns are two simple approaches to slow, spread and sink stormwater before it has a chance to impact local creeks.
- Rain gardens are designed to capture and treat rainwater that runs off roof and paved surfaces.
- Rain barrels/cisterns can be installed to capture stormwater runoff from rooftops and stored for later use.
- Visit [www.napawatersheds.org/rainwater](http://www.napawatersheds.org/rainwater) for application forms and additional information.



### Napa River Watershed Rain Barrel/Cistern Rebates\*

- Rebate of 75% of the cost of materials, subject to maximum of \$2/gallon of barrel/cistern capacity.
- Rain barrels/cisterns must have a minimum capacity of 40 gallons.
- Maximum rebate per household is \$500. Maximum rebate per business is \$1,000.

### Napa River Watershed Rain Garden Reimbursement\*



- 75% reimbursement for approved expenses up to \$5/ft<sup>2</sup> of rain garden installed, including contract labor (applicant labor not eligible).
- Rain gardens must be minimum of 25ft<sup>2</sup>.
- Maximum rebate per household is \$1,500. Maximum rebate per business is \$5,000.

For additional information, visit  
[WWW.NAPAWATERSHEDS.ORG/RAINWATER](http://WWW.NAPAWATERSHEDS.ORG/RAINWATER)  
or call (707)259-5969

\*Subject to additional requirements, please see application forms.

Barrels/cisterns/rain gardens purchased or installed before January 1, 2013 are not eligible.



Funding for these rebates comes from the State of California water bond measure, Proposition 84-Safe Drinking Water Bond Act, administered by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), and is subject to funding availability.





September 19, 2013

**ITEM 6:**

**Report by WICC Ad-hoc Subcommittee** on recommendations for opportunities to leverage monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts, and review and comment on indicators of watershed health/condition (Ad-hoc Committee, WICC staff, Board) (20 min)

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**WICC Ad-Hoc Committee Report**

On March 28, 2013 the WICC Board heard updates on the ITAS and WAF projects. Following the updates and discussion, the WICC Board appointed four of its members (Susan Boswell, Jeff Reichel, Jason Lauritsen and Warren Flint) to serve on an Ad-Hoc Subcommittee to:

- i) Discuss opportunities for leveraging monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts,
- ii) Review and comment on indicators of watershed health/condition proposed in the *Napa River Sediment TMDL Implementation Tracking & Accounting System (ITAS)* and *Napa River Watershed Assessment Framework (WAF) Pilot Study* projects and other possible key indicators for consideration as part of the ITAS and
- iii) Report Ad-Hoc Committee recommendations to the WICC Board for consideration.

The Subcommittee met on June 11<sup>th</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup> and further communicated via email. Their review and discussions resulted in the following findings and recommendations:

**DEVELOPMENT:**

Successful development of a watershed monitoring program requires public participation and engagement to effectively determine the vision, goals, objectives, criteria, indicators, metrics and baseline. Community involvement also serves to identify overall program strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Napa County and its communities have a long history of undertaking environmental measures and practices to protect and preserve natural resources. A monitoring and assessment program that speaks to effectiveness of these long-standing efforts would be informative and valuable.

**INDICATORS:**

The Subcommittee reviewed and discussed various potential indicators of watershed health/condition and sustainability. The role of an indicator is to make complex systems understandable and perceptible/tangible). Picking indicators that are relevant and attractive to the local media will gain support and popularity for the monitoring program. Good indicators are responsive to cause and affect, function as early warning signals, and identify how far we are from chosen targets or community values. Below is a list of important indicator properties:

- Important to Sustainability
- Reference or Threshold Values
- Understandable
- Chosen by the community who'll use the information
- Usable in practice
- Statistically measurable
- Logically or scientifically defensible
- Reliable
- Sensitive to Change in Time
- Reflective of community values
- Attractive to the local media
- Provides early warning of changes
- Outcome (results) oriented
- Integrative
- Unbiased

“Key indicators” are those that inform several key areas of interest and cut cross the boundaries of environment, social well-being, and economic health, and other community values and/or goals.

A high-quality indicator will effectively support the implementation of Adaptive Management, a decision-making process and implementation strategy built upon the premise that people learn from their successes, as well as their mistakes. An adaptive, learn-as-you-go, approach to the practice of watershed management implies constant attention and evaluation (monitoring) of the success and failure of activities and actions taken in order to continually improve current understanding and future action (or inaction). Good indicators inform adaptive management steps to plan, do, check and act.

Below is a summary, organized by category, of suggested criteria to develop and monitor indicators for:

**1) Water Supply, Quality and Conservation:**

Surface water, groundwater, imported water, and conservation program savings by use/sector

**2) Natural Resources Assessment and Conservation:**

Key animal and plant resource assessment, and natural/native habitat improvement, restoration and resource protection, consumer and natural resource recycling and composting

**3) Climate and Green House Gas (GHG) Reduction:**

Local climate change assessment/tracking, GHG reduction targets/levels, climate plan/adaptation actions and programs

**4) Energy Use, Efficiency and Reduction:**

Community energy use (per-capita), adoption of conservation by sector, alternative generation, off-set demand, and local program(s) performance

**5) Socio-Economic:**

Tourism, taxes, home ownership, employment, wages, school and community support program enrollments, recreational values, watershed/water education programs, sustenance fishing, institutional capacity, expenditures for watershed protection

**6) Public Health:**

Air and water quality, recreation opportunity, community/worker health, healthcare and protection, contaminated site remediation, hazardous waste disposal

**FUNDING:**

To facilitate and effectively implement long-term monitoring, reliable program funding is needed. Continued funding and resource support by local government entities is essential. Supplemental funding could be acquired by creating a non-profit arm or mechanism (i.e., foundation) of the WICC to receive additional funds and hold collected data. Sources of funding could include voluntary contributions from a variety of sources (State, Federal, local government, and greater community – businesses, organizations, individuals, and targeted philanthropy). Funding support will require the application of good science and the development of new tools and technology to show results, manage data and maintain program relevance and transparency.

Annual program costs are not fully known at this time, but could be significant depending greatly on the program's final goals, objectives and selected indicators. Program costs would also be subject to current projects and related water resource programs, as well as current and future environmental regulatory programs. Examples of a few related efforts include: the TMDL implementation monitoring and tracking (ITAS) project, voluntary groundwater monitoring program by the Napa County Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC), city and County NPDES (stormwater pollution) monitoring, climate change monitoring, large-scale river restoration monitoring, along with many others.

Community buy-in for the program is critical in securing funding support. Financial backing hinges upon stakeholder needs and values being addressed. Community engagement, building off of current regulatory monitoring requirements, and coordinating with and consolidating related monitoring programs could leverage program development, incentivize participation and foster financial support.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Given the Subcommittee's review and discussions, opportunities do exist for leveraging local monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts. Based upon the Subcommittee's review of past and current processes to develop indicators of watershed health/condition, the following recommendations are offered for the WICC Board's consideration:

- 1) Given the foundation provided by past work on the WAF pilot study and current work on the Napa River TMDL ITAS and groundwater work being conducted by the County's Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee's (GRAC), it is advantageous to begin preliminary scoping for the development of a county-wide watershed monitoring program for future consideration by the WICC.
- 2) Program development should consider the monitoring elements of the ITAS project and the GRAC final recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, expected in 2014, to ensure that the final program runs in parallel with these efforts.
- 3) Program development should include a community outreach plan to ensure stakeholder involvement and participation in the development of meaningful indicators.
- 4) Program development should include a long-term funding plan that outlines challenges, opportunities and options.
- 5) Further discussion on program development and scoping should be brought back to the WICC in advance of County budgeting for FY13-14.