

Watershed Information Center & Conservancy OF NAPA COUNTY

Members

Diane Dillon
Mark Luce
Michael Novak*
Steven Rosa
Mark Van Gorder
Gary Kraus*
Leon Garcia
Jim King
Jeff Reichel
Phill Blake
Don Gasser
Kate Dargan
Jeffrey Redding
Robert Steinhauer
Charles Slutzkin
Marc Pandone
Richard Camera
**pending confirmation*

Alternate

Harold Moskowite

- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**Thursday, February 22, 2007
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
Planner III,
Conservation Div., CDPD

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

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

Members Present: Diane Dillon, Steven Rosa, Jim King, Jeff Reichel, Phill Blake, Don Gasser, Jeffrey Redding, Robert Steinhauer, Marc Pandone, Richard Camera

Members Absent Excused: Mark Luce, Mark Van Gorder, Charles Slutzkin

Members Absent: Leon Garcia, Kate Dargan

Staff Present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES** (Chairman)

Meetings of September 28, 2006, October 26, 2006, November 16, 2007 and December 28, 2007

Outcome: 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. (Chairman)

Outcome: None presented.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Board/Staff)

- a. **“Linking Water and Land Use in the San Francisco Bay Area”** a workshop hosted by the Local Government Commission and the Bay Area Water Forum, on Monday April 23, 2007 (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff provided an overview of the informational flier provided in the Board's Agenda Packet.

- b. **6th Annual Watershed Day at the Capital**, March 21, 2007, organized by the California Watershed Network (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff provided an overview of the informational items (webpage and agenda) provided in the Board's Agenda Packet.

- c. **25th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference**, March 7-10, 2007 in Santa Rosa coordinated by the Salmonid Restoration Federation (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff provided an overview of the Conference materials provided in the Board's Packet.

(Gary Kraus arrived, was introduced and invited to join the table (in a non-voting capacity until his appointment), Mr. Kraus' appointment to the WICC by the Board of Supervisors is expected February 27th)

- d. **WICC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** meeting, March 14, 2007; to review draft indicators in support Watershed Monitoring Program and draft results from Stillwater's steelhead study (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff announced the TAC meeting scheduled for March 14th, and outlined some of the topics that will be discussed.

- e. **WICC Board appointments re-scheduled** for Board of Supervisors February 27, 2007; City of Calistoga nomination, Gary Kraus, and a Public at Large member will be considered (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff announced the re-scheduling.

- f. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Phill Blake announced his work in the Putah Creek watershed related to (Region 5) Irrigated Lands Ag. Waiver Program; including meetings with growers, reporting on initial water quality monitoring, and development and distribution of best management practice information, intended to inform growers of options available to improve water quality. The work conducted and information developed will be hosted on the WICC WebCenter as it becomes available.

Phill Blake also announced a pilot incentive program under development with State permitting agencies to test a "coordinated permitting program" in the Napa River watershed. The test program will be applied to a select number of projects this summer.

Phill also announced that the Napa Sustainable Winegrowing Group recently hosted a workshop on rural roads to provide technical advice and practical application of various management options to address/meet upcoming sediment TMDL implementation requirements. He noted that the workshop was very successful.

5. **UPDATES/REPORTS:**

- a. Update and report on the **Zinfandel Lane Bridge fish barrier** assessment, proposed method for removing the barrier, expressed community interest and next steps for the project (Staff/RCD)

Outcome: Informational. Jonathan Koehler, RCD Fisheries Biologist, presented the Board with an overview of a report entitled the "Zinfandel Lane Bridge Fish Passage Assessment." The report, prepared for the Army Corps, was a first step in assessing the fish passage barrier and various options to correct its impact on fish migration. Further investigation of the barrier will continue this summer. Once a final restoration plan is developed, funding will be sought for implementation.

- b. Update on Napa County's **Parks and Open Space District** (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Staff updated the Board on the District's third meeting; which was focused mostly on establishing the District's structure, yet included some discussion of possible initial projects.

- c. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: None presented.

6. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF ON COUNTY GENERAL PLAN UPDATE PROCESS, DRAFT GENERAL PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Update, report and possible direction to staff regarding the County **General Plan Update** process, circulation of Draft **General Plan** and **Environmental Impact Report**, **Public Meeting Schedule**, and **60-day Public Review/Comment Period** (Planning Director/Staff)

Outcome: Direction. Hillary Gitelman, County Planning Director, provided the Board with two handouts on the Draft General Plan and Draft EIR. Ms. Gitelman reviewed the purpose and content of the Draft EIR and provided a sample copy of the document and its associated technical appendices. She noted the availability of the documents (paper, web, CD, library) and the Public Comment Period deadline of April 17, 2007. Some Board members expressed concerns regarding the public comment period based upon the amount of material available for public review. The Board directed staff to prepare a letter for the chair's signature requesting that the Board of Supervisors extend the Public Comment Period.

7. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD'S (RWQCB) STREAM AND WETLAND SYSTEM PROTECTION POLICY, BASIN PLANNING PROCESS AND OTHER STATE WATER BOARD POLICY DEVELOPMENTS:

Update, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding RWQCB's Stream and Wetland System Protection Policy and associated Basin Planning process, possible presentation on by RWQCB staff; and other State Water Resources Control Board policy developments (Staff)

Outcome: Direction. Staff overviewed the main-points captured during the RWQCB's Stream and Wetland System Protection Policy workshop on February 6th. The Board was presented with a synopsis of the workshop and a copy of the presentation that was given by RWQCB staff. To better inform the WICC Board and the community about the upcoming policy, WICC staff has arranged for a presentation by the RWQCB on the proposed policy during the WICC's May 24th meeting. Staff noted that the sediment and pathogen TMDLs are headed to the State Water Board for consideration. The pathogen TMDL will likely be before the State Board in 2-3 months and the sediment TMDL will follow roughly 6 months latter. Some members of the Board expressed their concerns about the implementation phase of the TMDL program(s); specifically the burden on landowners and local government, as well as the lack of regulatory staff and support from the State needed to ensure successful program(s). The Board directed staff to advise the Board of Supervisors that they send a letter to RWQCB staff commenting on the scope of the proposed Stream and Wetland System Protection Policy, expressing concern regarding the timing of such a policy (given recent TMDL developments) and the limited resources (at a state and local level) to support the policy's implementation.

8. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION – USING HISTORICAL LANDSCAPE CHANGES TO GUIDE FUTURE WATERSHED RESTORATION OPPORTUNITIES:

Presentation and discussion of research conducted to examine how historical changes in Napa Valley's landscape can be used to guide current and future watershed restoration opportunities, and inform watershed management and monitoring activities (SFEI/Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Director of the San Francisco Estuary Institute, presented the Board with an overview of work being conducted (in association with various grants) to establish a picture of the Napa River landscape before European-contact, assess how that landscape has changed, and what affect that change has had on watershed function. In his presentation, Mr. Hoenicke suggested that tracking changes in landscape condition overtime (i.e., watershed monitoring) helps to inform future watershed management actions, takes into account the human element that is now part of the "watershed equation," and provides a means to assess the effectiveness of watershed restoration and other investments.

9. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Board/Staff)

Outcome:

WICC Strategic Planning Retreat, (Special Meeting) morning of April 26th

10. **NEXT MEETING:**

Regular Board Meeting of March 22, 2007 – 4:00 PM

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

11. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chairman)

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.



www.napawatersheds.org

