

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, November 19, 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,
Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chairman)

Members present: Diane Dillon, Del Britton, Marjorie Mohler, Jeff Reichel, Don Gasser, Jeff Redding, Jim Lincoln, Marc Pandone, Chris Sauer, Alexander Pader

Members excused: Mark Luce, Gary Kraus, Mike Basayne, Phil Blake, Susan Boswell

Members absent: James Krider, Leon Garcia,

Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp, Sharon Borunda

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of June 25, 2009 (Chairman)

Minutes were approved as presented. Jeff 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

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. State Water Board Clean Water Act319(h) grant funding opportunity

Jeff Sharp reported that the State of California will have grant money available through the federal clean water act, for projects that are geared to addressing pollution in water bodies. He announced that the grant program is very competitive and that it's likely that some projects will be submitted to seek funding, for use in the Napa River Watershed basin.

b. 6th annual Watershed Education Calendar 2010

Jeff Sharp reported that this year the calendar topic will be wildlife in Napa County, and that the calendar will be distributed at the January 2010 meeting.

- c. Nominations and election of new Chair and Vice Chair at the January 28, 2010 meeting.

Jeff Sharp reminded the Board that elections for Chair and Vice Chair for the year 2010, will be held during the Board's January meeting.

- d. Others (Board/Staff/Public)

Jeff Sharp reported that all signs have been installed (circulated a map) but that 2 sets of watershed signs have already been stolen (Howell Mt Road and Chiles Pope Valley Road)

Jeff also announced that the Audubon Society will be hosting the 10th Annual Christmas Bird Count. This will be held from December 14, 2009 through January 5, 2010.

Mark Pandone recommended that WICC purchase the movies called "Rivers Of The Lost Coast" and "River of Renewal" to use and keeping the WICC/Napa County Public Library.

Mark Pandone announced that he will be participating in an environmental art exhibit at the Napa Valley Museum in January and February 2010.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION:

- Review, discussion and possible direction to Staff regarding DRAFT 2010 Meeting Calendar.

Jeff Sharp presented a draft calendar for 2010.

Jeff Redding suggested that the WICC Board consider changing the 2010 calendar to 6 scheduled meetings, and the other 6 be on an as needed basis. Patrick Lowe reported that the current schedule is in place to alert WICC Board Members ahead of time, to prepare their schedules in advance, but could anticipate an every other month schedule.

The WICC Board discussed the meeting schedule and directed staff to keep the presented calendar as per the bylaws, anticipating to hold/conduct meetings in January, March, May, July, September and November and as well as meetings in February, April, June and August and October on an needed basis, to discuss any items that arise and need to be handled. Jeff Sharp advised that the 2010 meeting calendar will come back to the Board at its January 2010 meeting for formal adoption.

Patrick Lowe reported that this year's Watershed Symposium is tentative at this time, due to staff and financial situations, and an update on the Symposium will be provided in the near future. Marjorie Mohler added that the Yountville Meeting Hall is opening up and holds up to 400 people and that it would be a nice venue for the Watershed Symposium.

6. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:

- a. Presentation and discussion on removal of a fish passage barrier in the Wing Canyon watershed, effort coordinated with cooperation from landowner, Napa River Steelhead, Napa Co., Resource Conservation District, Napa Co. Flood and Water Conservation District and others.

Mike Forte, (Napa County Fld. District) and Kevin Bradley (Napa River Steelhead, Acting President) explained the process of identification and removal of the barrier in the Wing Canyon watershed. They also explained the permitting process and coordination with the Flood District for the work. The project work included removal of logs, dispersal of debris and minimal hand work on the blocked sediment to assist in the natural downstream erosion and aggrading of the channel thereby opening up upstream passage by steelhead. The Napa River Steelhead Group is also closely involved with the RCD and their monitoring and operation of a rotary screw trap to count smolt migration in the Napa River, volunteering their time to help with daily monitoring tasks and trap maintenance.

7. REPORTS, UPDATES AND DISCUSSION:

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:

a. Update on Zinfandel Lane Bridge fish passage Project, and possible funding opportunity.

Rick Thomasser, Flood District, reported that they are working with Windsor & Kelly and Michael Levin Associates, to repair the deep scour pool on the downstream side of the bridge, for fish passage and safety measures to save and restore the bridge. They are applying for funding to use along with the County Measure "A," to fund this project in time for the centennial of the bridge. The design is on track to be completed in 2010. The bridge will be 100yrs old in 2013!

b. Update on Napa River Rutherford Reach Restoration Project.

Rick Thomasser, Flood District, reported that construction (for Reaches 1 & 2) started in July of 2009 after they were awarded a State Water Board grant, but the grant was frozen so they could only complete part of the work. With this in mind the project was divided into 2 work-phases (east and west bank). At present, work on the east bank will be completed during the summer of 2010. Additional funding was received from the stimulus bill for the project. That additional funding will be used to help complete work on the west bank during the summer of 2011. The project also received a 319(H) grant for reach 3 design and the hope is to start work on reach 3 in 2011. Reach 4 will be a larger project and much more expensive. The project has applied for a couple of grants for Reach 4 and are waiting to hear back from the funding sources.

The WICC Board received the updates and provided no direction or recommendations at this time.

c. 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 – sediment TMDL being prepared for State Board approval, new wetland definition under consideration, and others.

Jeff Sharp reported that he spoke with Mike Napolitano (SF Bay RWQCB) regarding the status of the Napa River Sediment TMDL. Jeff said Mike informed him that the project could go before the State Board in Feb or Mar 2010 for approval.

Jeff also reported that the State Board is working on a new definition to define California wetlands. He handed out updated information regarding the definition and the breadth of waters that the definition may cover. If approved, the currently proposed definition will broaden areas currently delineated as "wetlands" under the Federal definition. Jeff will report back as the Sate wetland definition takes shape.

d. Report on State legislated Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance in effect January 2010.

Patrick Lowe (along with Pat Costello, City of Napa) reported that a task force has been working since 2006 to complete an updated water conservation ordinance for landscaping. Patrick reported that the new water conservation requirements will be law on January 2010. Local jurisdictions can adopt the model ordinance or one that is at least as effective. At this point in time, Napa County will be implementing the State regulations (as required). The County is also planning to supply hand-outs and applications as needed to ensure that new State regulations are being followed by new in-coming projects.

e. Report on development of a Water Conservation Program for the unincorporated areas of Napa County
Deborah Elliot (Napa County Public Works) presented the Board with an informational handout and reported on the County's efforts to launch a water conservation program for the unincorporated areas of Napa County. Initial efforts of the program will be focused on those areas in the County that are known to have limited groundwater availability. The program will also participate in 3-5 outreach events per year and is planning a number of workshops to help transfer water conservation best management practices to County residents and agricultural operators.

f. Update on development of a voluntary Oak Woodlands Management Plan (OWMP)

Patrick Lowe gave an update on the effort. Development of the plan is noted as an action item in the County's General Plan and will serve as a source of project funding through the State Wildlife Conservation Board, which provides funding for anyone wishing to develop/implement project that conserve Oak Woodland areas. He reported that he will report back at the January 2010 meeting as more information on the plan develops and feedback comes in from stakeholder review of draft plan elements.

g. Update on the implementation of Rural Conservation Programs in Napa County including new Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and USDA programs (Phil Blake, NRCS)

No report at this time due to Phil Blake attending a conference in Lake Tahoe.

h. Update on Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (IRWMP) efforts underway including a development of a local plan to integrate water resource planning county-wide.

Jeff Sharp gave brief report on the status of the effort and provided an overview of the IRWMP funding areas in Napa County established by the State. A planning region that includes the Putah creek basin in Napa County has been recently approved by the State and the remainder of the county lies within the Bay Area planning region. A local approach/plan to developing projects and participate in the two larger planning IRWM efforts that affect Napa County is being developed with assistance from the County, Flood Dist. and each of the Cities and Town. The local planning approach should be completed in late February.

i. Update on new WICC website launch scheduled for January 2010.

Jeff Sharp handed out screen-shots (picture samples) of what the new site will look like.

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (BOARD/STAFF):**

None

9. **NEXT MEETING (CHAIRMAN)**

Regular Board Meeting: **January 28, 2010 – 4:00 PM**

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

10. **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.

