

Watershed Information Center & Conservancy

of Napa County

Board of Directors

Susan Boswell Tosha Comendant Diane Dillon Marita Dorenbecher Michael Haley Gary Kraus Jason Lauritsen Kenneth Leary Gretchen Stranzl McCann Marc Pandone Alfredo Pedroza Matt Pope Jeff Reichel Scott Sedgley Pamela Smithers **Rita Steiner** Peter White

Alternate

Keith Caldwell

<u>Staff</u>

Patrick Lowe, Secretary Natural Resources Conservation Mngr., Public Works

Jeff Sharp, Principal Planner, 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

AGENDA

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 26, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

NCTPA/NVTA Conference Room 625 Burnell Street, Napa CA 94559

- NOTE SPECIAL MEETING LOCATION -

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chair)

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of January 22, 2015 (Chair) (2 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. <u>No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time</u>. (Chair)

4. UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Update on **2015 Watershed Symposium on May 15, 2015**, at City Winery in Napa (Frances Knapczyk, Stewardship Facilitator, Napa County RCD) (*5 min*)
- b) Update on presentation of **2014 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Results** and **CA Groundwater Sustainability Legislation** to Board of Supervisors on March 3, 2015 (Staff) (*10 min*)
- c) Update on Napa County groundwater **Water Availability Analysis** (WAA) policy scheduled for County Planning Commission on April 1, 2015 (Staff) (*5 min*)
- d) Report on **WICC WebCenter improvements and enhancements** (Steve Kokotas, Dir. of Technology, MIG Inc.) (*10 min*)
- e) Other reports and updates (Board/Staff) (5-10 min)

(cont.)

5. REPORT, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

Report on Board of Supervisors' **acceptance of 2015 WICC Strategic Plan** on March 3, 2015 and possible action to **appoint an ad-hoc subcommittee** of the WICC Board to develop draft 2015/16 Annual Work Plan for the WICC Board's consideration (Staff) (*15 min*)

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Presentation on **Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Planning in the North Bay**, overview of projects funded through the statewide IRWM program(s) and upcoming funding opportunities under Prop 84 (Harry Seraydarian, Executive Director, North Bay Watershed Association) (*15 min*)
- b) Presentation on **Tuleyome Deep Home Place An overview of programs and activities** including update on the introduction of a Bill in the U.S. Congress to permanently protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain Region as a National Monument (Sara Husby, Executive Director, Tuleyome) (*15 min*)

7. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Exchange of informational announcements and events (Staff/Board/Public) (5-10 min)

- a) Earth Day Celebration, Downtown Napa, April 25, 2015
- b) 2015 Watershed Symposium, May 15, 2105
- c) Other announcements (Staff, Board, Public)

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion of possible items for future agendas (Board/Staff) (5 min)

9. NEXT MEETING (Chair)

Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: May 28, 2015 – 4:00 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT (Chair)

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





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-- ACTION MINUTES --

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 22, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

2741 Napa Valley Corporate Drive, Building 2 South County Campus, Large Conference Room C Napa, CA 94558

<u>UPDATED MEETING LOCATION</u> -

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chair)

<u>Members Present</u>: Susan Boswell, Tosha Comendant, Marita Dorenbecher, Gary Kraus, Gretchen Stranzl McCann, Marc Pandone, Alfredo Pedroza, Matt Pope, Jeff Reichel, Scott Sedgley, Pamela Smithers, Rita Steiner, Peter White <u>Members excused</u>: Diane Dillon, Michael Haley, Jason Lauritsen, Kenneth Leary, Keith Caldwell <u>Members absent</u>: None Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Leff Sharp

<u>Staff present</u>: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of **November 20, 2014** (Chair) (2 *min*) *Approved as presented*

SB	TC	DD	MD	MH	GK	JL	KL	GSMC MP	1 AP	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
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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. <u>No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time</u>. (Chair) *None provided*.

4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION:

a) **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair** for 2015 (per Bylaws§ II.A.) (Board) (5 min) *The Board elected Peter White as Chair and Matt Pope as Vice-Chair*

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(cont.)

b) Discussion and **adoption of 2015 Meeting Calendar** (per Bylaws§ III.A.) (Board) (5 min) *The Board adopted the 2015 Meeting Calendar as presented*

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5. UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

a) Report on **County water supplies and drought conditions** (Phil Miller, Deputy Director, Public Works) (*10 min*)

Phil Miller provided a report on water supplies and drought conditions. Current State Water Project allocation for north of delta providers (which includes municipal areas in Napa Valley) is set at 25% of contracted water. Rainfall is below average and temperatures are above average. Sierra snow pack is only 10-15% of normal. Predictive models show a warm spring and possible rains, but no "drought-busting" weather. Local reservoirs are full, but they only provide a portion of the water utilized by the cities and town. Most municipal water comes from the delta. Agriculture is primarily served by groundwater. Conservation will continue to be very important for all types of water users.

b) Update on **Napa County land use programs and projects** (David Morrison, Director, Planning, Building and Environmental Services) (*20 min*)

David Morison provided an overview of the PBES Department programs and projects. March 10th there will be a joint meeting of the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors to discuss future growth in the County. The unincorporated area provides roughly 20% of the housing and 20% of the employment, so the cities will have a role in future growth discussions. Over the next five years, the County will likely have some responsibilities to do more planning and management of groundwater under the new State Groundwater Sustainability Act, including preparation of a groundwater sustainability plan. LAFCO is looking to possibly enforce its ability to exercise oversight of trucking of water. Farm Water Quality Plan requirements are still be drafted by the State. Farm Water Quality Plan regulations could require the preparation of additional plans from vineyards over a certain threshold. Those plans (could be hundreds) would need to be reviewed by the County and approved by the State. State requirements under the new countywide stromwater permit (MS4 permit) are requiring monitoring and additional management of municipal drainage systems to protect water quality. The County is planning to restart the Climate Action Plan. Traffic is becoming more of an issue and challenge. The circulation element of the General Plan needs to be reassessed. New State regulations regarding onsite wastewater treatment will limit the placement and use of septic systems on small parcels and/or may require more engineering and pre-treatment. Other Department work efforts include examining land use in Angwin, Napa Pipe construction, and increasing code enforcement efforts. The Board asked several questions of Mr. Morison. Mark Pandone asked that more details be provided on the development of vineyards. More data/science is needed on vineyards related to Climate Action planning.

c) Update on the MCE Clean Energy Program for Napa County (Staff) (10 min)

Representatives from Marin Clean Energy provided a presentation and overview of the Clean Energy Program and what the program means for the unincorporated areas of Napa County. MCE provides electric energy from renewable sources of power (a community choice aggregated program for electricity). Under the program, MCE handles the 'generation' side and PG&E still 'delivers' the energy and handles the billing. The unincorporated area of Napa County will see the switch to MCE on their March bill (for energy used in February). The pricing/fees for electricity through MCE are comparable/competitive to PG&E and the generation source is renewable - more climate/GHG friendly. d) Update on Water Availability Analysis (WAA) Planning Commission meeting held January 7, 2015 (Staff) (5 min)
 Patrick Lowe provided an update on the WAA policy and the recommendations that came from the

GRAC that guided the policy update. In a few weeks the County will post a revised draft of the WAA along with responses to comments received. The next meeting on the WAA is planned for the March 18th County Planning Commission. Mr. Lowe also mentioned that presentations and updates on the 2014 Groundwater Monitoring Program, State Groundwater Sustainability Act and the WICC Strategic Plan will be provided to the Board of Supervisors on March 3rd.

e) Other reports and updates (Staff/Board) *None provided*

6. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Presentation on **Stormwater Resources in Contra Costa County** - A look at how the Contra Costa Watershed Forum, Flood Control District, and Contra Costa Clean Water Program are organized, funded, and work together on stormwater resource issues (Mitch Avalon, consultant for the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District) (*30 min*)

Mitch Avalon provided the Board with a presentation overviewing how the District provides Stormwater services (flood control, clean water program, watershed forum, and water agency). A challenge facing the District is the up-keep with its aging facilities/structures. The District has a 50yr plan to convert concrete channels to natural stream systems (a re-design of creekside communities). The District has been looking at ways of generating funds. It recently attempted a rate increase and lost the vote. Now, along with work of a statewide coalition, the idea is to develop a Stormwater funding initiative, allowing the ability to develop a Stormwater Utility; which would not require a vote under Prop 218 regulations. The hope is to put the initiative on the 2016 statewide ballot.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF 2015 WICC BOARD STRATEGIC PLAN

Board discussion, possible adoption, and recommendation that the Napa County Board of Supervisors accept the **2015 WICC Board Strategic Plan** (Board/Staff) (*15 min*)

Jeff Sharp presented the final strategic plan and discussed plan adoption and near-term implementation actions with the Board. The Board unanimously adopted the 2015 WICC Board Strategic Plan. The plan will be presented the Board of Supervisors on March 3rd.

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8. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Exchange of **informational announcements and events** (Staff/Board/Public) (5-10 min) Amy Garden announced the showing of "Clean Bin" on February 25th at Napa Valley College

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion of possible **items for future agendas** (Board/Staff) (5 min) Mark Pandone requested that David Morison return to the WICC and talk in more detail about vineyard development projects in the County.

Tosha Comendant, through Napa Learns, visited Redwood Middle School to talk about the WICC and help the kids develop water info-graphics. Napa Learns is looking to develop more 'project based learning' opportunities around water.

10. NEXT MEETING (Chair)

Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: March 26, 2015 - 4:00 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT (Chair)

Motion and vote to adjourn

SB	TC	DD	MD	MH	GK	JL	KL	GSMC 1	MP1	AP	MP2	JR	SS	PS	RS	PW	KC
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Voting Key

If not unanimous, votes will be tallied (N = No; A = Abstained, $\overline{X} = Excused$) using the following Board Member abbreviations: SB = Susan Boswell; Tosha Comendant = TC, DD = Diane Dillon; MD = Marita Dorenbecher, MH = Michael Haley; GK = Gary Kraus; JL = Jason Lauritsen; KL = Kenneth Leary; GSMC = Gretchen Stranzl McCann; AP = Alfredo Pedroza; MP1 = Marc Pandone; MP2 = Matt Pope; JR = Jeff Reichel; SS = Scott Sedgley; PS = Pamela Smithers; RS = Rita Steiner; PW = Peter White; KC = Keith Caldwell (alternate)

Exam	ple Key	v:															
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Register now! \$35 fee, refreshments and lunch included

Visit napawatersheds.org for event details

2015 NAPA COUNTY WATERSHED SYMPOSIUM

Friday, May 15 9am - 4pm, doors open at 8:30am City Winery, 1030 Main St, Napa

"Building Resiliency in our Watersheds"

Keynote address by Lois Wolk, State Senator, 3rd District

Featured Sessions:

 Large scale restoration in the Napa River and Lake Berryessa watersheds
 Shaun Horne and Jeremy Sarrow, Napa Co Flood Control District

Shaun Horne and Jeremy Sarrow, Napa Co Flood Control District Chris Lee, Solano Co Water Agency

- Tracking watershed health now and in the future
 Paul Blank, Napa Co Resource Conservation District
 Jonathon Koehler, Napa Co Resource Conservation District
 Vicki Kretsinger,Luhdorff & Scalmanini
 Dyan Whyte, SF Bay Water Quality Control Board
- Rethinking water supply and demand to improve watershed resiliency
 Keith Caldwell, Napa County Board of Supervisors, invited
 Pat Costello, City of Napa Water Division
 Jamison Crosby, Napa Co Flood Control District
 Jim Verhey, Premiere Viticultural Services
- Moving from watershed plans to watershed actions Lisa Micheli, North Bay Climate Action Initiative David Morrison, County of Napa
- Exploring new ways to fund watershed projects Mitch Avalon, Contra Costa County Public Works Steve Moore, State Water Resource Control Board Vern Goehring, California Urban Streams Council Harry Seraydarian, North Bay Watershed Association Rick Thomasser, Napa County Flood Control District









Agenda Date: 3/3/2015 Agenda Placement: 9E Set Time: 9:30 AM Estimated Report Time: 1 Hour

A Tradition of Stewardship A Commitment to Service

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

то:	Board of Supervisors
FROM:	Steven Lederer - Director of Public Works Public Works
REPORT BY:	Patrick Lowe, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION MGR - 259-5937
SUBJECT:	Napa County Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program 2014 Annual Report and CASGEM Update

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Public Works requests that the Board receive a presentation and accept the First Annual Report: Napa County Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program 2014 Annual Report and California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Update.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the first Annual Report – Napa County Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program 2014 Annual Report and CASGEM Update. In addition to providing an update on groundwater level conditions and monitoring program modifications, this Report summarizes available background information in order to serve as a common reference for future annual reports. This is a technical report, Groundwater policy will be discussed in separate agenda items.

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Staff Report
- 2. Public Comment
- 3. Motion, second, discussion and vote on the item.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Groundwater and surface water are highly important natural resources in Napa County. Together, the County and other municipalities, water districts, commercial and industrial operations, the agricultural community, and the general public, are stewards of the available water resources. Everyone living and working in Napa County has a stake in protecting the County's groundwater resources, including groundwater supplies, quality, and associated watersheds (GRAC, 2014).

Long-term, systematic monitoring programs are essential to provide data that allow for improved evaluation of water resources conditions and to facilitate effective water resources planning. For this reason, Napa County embarked on a countywide project referred to as the "Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program, Data Review, and Policy Recommendations for Napa County's Groundwater Resources" (Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program) in 2009, to meet action items identified in the 2008 General Plan update. The program emphasizes developing a sound understanding of groundwater conditions and implementing an expanded groundwater monitoring and data management program as a foundation for future coordinated, integrated water resources planning and dissemination of water resources information.

The Napa County Groundwater Monitoring Plan 2013 (Plan) was prepared to formalize and augment groundwater monitoring efforts conducted as part of the Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program. The Plan recommended annual reports on groundwater conditions and modifications to the countywide groundwater monitoring program as needed. Additionally, the Plan recommended a comprehensive triennial report.

This report is the first Annual Report – Napa County Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program 2014 Annual Report and CASGEM Update (Attachment A). In addition to providing an update on groundwater level conditions and monitoring program modifications, this Report summarizes available background information in order to serve as a common reference for future annual reports.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . GW Monitoring Program Annual Report-CASGEM Update

CEO Recommendation: Approve Reviewed By: Molly Rattigan NOTE: Slides Excerpted from 3/3/15 Presentation



Napa County Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program 2014 Annual Report and CASGEM Update

March 3, 2015

By Vicki Kretsinger Grabert

LUHDORFF & SCALMANINI CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Overview

- Updated hydrogeologic work
- Expanded groundwater monitoring program
- Highlights 2014
 Annual Report
- Recommendations



Napa County Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program 2014 Annual Report and CASGEM Update

February 2015



What We Have Learned

- Regional geology affects groundwater availability
- Groundwater conditions were broadly stable through 2014 in Napa Valley
- Data gaps identified
- SW/GW interaction needed further evaluation



Summary

- GW level trends stable majority of wells Napa Valley Floor
 - Year-to-year declines observed in a few wells (southeast St. Helena area; southwest Yountville area; northeast Napa area)
- Many wells responded to drought conditions
- Recent GW levels generally higher than for same wells in 1976-1977
- GW level declines in MST moderated some wells since 2008; some WLs still declining







Agenda Date: 3/3/2015 Agenda Placement: 9F Set Time: 10:30 AM Estimated Report Time: 30 Minutes

A Tradition of Stewardship A Commitment to Service

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

то:	Board of Supervisors
FROM:	Steven Lederer - Director of Public Works Public Works
REPORT BY:	Patrick Lowe, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION MGR - 259-5937
SUBJECT:	Update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Local Implementation

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Public Works requests the following:

- 1. Receive staff report/presentation regarding the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA); and
- 2. Board discussion and possible direction to staff regarding local implementation of the SGMA, including:
 - a. Groundwater Sustainability Agency Formation vs Sustainable Groundwater Management Alternative Plan Development;
 - b. DHI Groundwater Model update;
 - c. Annual Napa County Groundwater Monitoring Report and CASGEM update; and
 - d. Continued development of Groundwater Sustainability/Monitoring Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Act) is a three-bill package that collectively creates a new structure for sustainable management of California's groundwater basins. It represents a significant change in the State's history of water management, providing the framework and authority at the local and State level to advance groundwater management planning. A central feature of the Act is the recognition that groundwater management in California is best accomplished locally. The Act establishes a definition of sustainable groundwater management, provides local agencies with the ability to develop plans and implementation strategies to sustainably manage groundwater resources, prioritizes basins with the greatest need, and sets a timeline for implementation. Governor Brown signed the Act on September 16, 2014 (effective January 1, 2015), which includes the provisions of Senate Bill (SB) 1168, Assembly Bill (AB) 1739, and SB 1319.

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Staff report
- 2. Public Comment
- 3. Direction to staff

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Act) is a three-bill package that collectively creates a new structure for sustainable management of California's groundwater basins. It represents a significant change in the State's history of water management, providing the framework and authority at the local and State level to advance groundwater management planning. A central feature of the Act is the recognition that groundwater management in California is best accomplished locally. The Act establishes a definition of sustainable groundwater management, provides local agencies with the ability to develop plans and implementation strategies to sustainably manage groundwater resources, prioritizes basins with the greatest need, and sets a timeline for implementation (Attachments A, B and C). Governor Brown signed the Act on September 16, 2014 (effective January 1, 2015), which includes the provisions of Senate Bill (SB) 1168, Assembly Bill (AB) 1739, and SB 1319. The Act builds upon the existing groundwater management provisions established by AB 3030 (1992), SB 1938 (2002), and AB 359 (2011), as well as SBX7 6 (2009) which established the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program

Definition of Sustainable Groundwater Management

The SGMA defines sustainable groundwater management as "the management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results." Undesirable results are defined as any of the following effects:

- Chronic lowering of groundwater levels (not including overdraft during a drought if a basin is otherwise managed).
- Significant and unreasonable reduction of groundwater storage.
- Significant and unreasonable seawater intrusion.
- Significant and unreasonable degraded water quality, including the migration of contaminant plumes that impair water supplies.
- Significant and unreasonable land subsidence that substantially interferes with surface land uses.
- Depletions of interconnected surface water that have significant and unreasonable adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water

Groundwater Sustainability Agencies

The Act promotes coordinated management of an entire groundwater basin and allows any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin to form a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) for the basin. A "local agency" is defined as "a local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin." A combination of local agencies may form a GSA by joint powers agreement or memorandum of agreement or other legal agreement. Local agencies in high- and medium-priority basins have until June 30, 2017 to form a GSA. An agency or agencies must notify DWR of the formation or establishment of a GSA within 30 days of final formation, and after 90 days the agency shall be the exclusive agency for that area of the basin provided no other agency notice was submitted. If an area over a basin is not within the management area of a GSA, the local county will be presumed to be the GSA for the area unless it opts out. The county shall notify DWR whether it will or will not be the GSA for the area.

A GSA must consider the interests of a variety of different stakeholders, including beneficial users of water, environmental interests, disadvantaged communities, tribes, and others. The agency must maintain a list of persons interested in receiving notices regarding plan preparation and other activities. The Act also provides GSAs with a broad array of new authorities, including the authority to conduct investigations, determine the sustainable yield of a groundwater basin, measure and limit extractions, impose fees for groundwater management, and enforce the terms of a GSP. Nothing in the Act is to be construed as authorizing a local agency to make binding determination of the water rights of any person or entity. In addition, the Act states that nothing in a GSP supersedes the land use authority of cities and counties.

Groundwater Sustainability Plans

A key element of the Act is the requirement that GSAs in high- and medium-priority basins develop Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP). The legislation also provides options for development of plans, to avoid a "one size fits all" approach, but each basin must be covered by a single plan developed by one or more agencies, or by multiple plans implemented by multiple GSAs and coordinated by a single coordination agreement that covers the entire basin. The Act requires the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to prioritize and publish by January 31, 2015, a list of all groundwater basins identified in DWR Bulletin No. 118 as being high, medium, low or very low priority based on the existence and severity of overdraft conditions. At this time, DWR has determined that the current California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) basin prioritizations are sufficient for this purpose, under which the Napa Valley subbasin (essentially the valley floor) is designated a medium priority basin. The local agency must adopt a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) and submit it to DWR by: (1) January 31, 2020, for all high or medium priority basins that are subject to critical conditions of overdraft, or (2) January 31, 2022, for all other high and medium priority basins unless the basin is legally adjudicated or the local agency establishes it is otherwise being sustainably managed. Napa County would be subject to the 2022 deadline. Low and very low priority basins are encouraged to adopt GSPs, but they are not required to do so.

DWR may grant up to two 5-year extensions if the agency demonstrates a need for the extension and has demonstrated progress towards its sustainability goal. Beginning on the first of April following the adoption of a GSP, the GSA is required to report to DWR annually regarding the condition of the basin. The annual reports shall include information such as aggregated data on groundwater extractions, total water use, and change in groundwater storage. The Act directs DWR to adopt regulations by June 1, 2016, regarding GSPs, coordination agreements, and alternative plans and documentation. The regulations shall guide plan evaluation and implementation, and shall identify the necessary plan components and other information that will assist GSAs in developing and implementing GSPs and coordination agreements. DWR is required to adopt these regulations, and any later adopted amendments to the regulations, as emergency regulations, which will remain in effect until amended by DWR.

Alternative Plan - Sustainably Managed Basins

Groundwater basins that have ongoing successful groundwater management programs do not need to create a GSA or develop a new GSP. A local agency or a GSA may elect to submit an alternative proposal that demonstrates that the groundwater basin is being managed in a manner that is consistent with the Act and meeting the long-term "sustainable yield." The alternative plan may be an "AB-3030" Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) previously prepared pursuant to Part 2.75 of the Water Code, an adjudication action, or an analysis of the basin prepared by a California-licensed Professional Engineer or Geologist demonstrating that the basin has operated within its sustainable yield for a period of at least 10 years. A local agency or GSA must submit an alternative plan to DWR for review by January 1, 2017 and every five years thereafter.

Land Use Planning

The Act is also intended to further strengthen the connection between land use planning and water management in California. It amends Planning and Zoning Law to require increased coordination between land use planning agencies and groundwater sustainability agencies. It requires that local planning agencies review and consider a GSP, GMP, Interim Plan, or adjudication action prior to adopting a substantial amendment to the agency's General Plan. The planning agency is required to provide a copy of the proposed amendment to the GSA with authority over the planning area. Likewise, the GSA is required to provide the planning agency with a copy of its GSP (or other applicable plan) and a report on the anticipated effect of the proposed planning amendment on the implementation of the GSP.

State Role – Review/Intervention/Assistance

The Act requires that DWR review groundwater sustainability plans and implementation, and authorizes State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) intervention under certain conditions. DWR is required to evaluate a GSP for conformance with the Act's requirements and whether it is likely to achieve the sustainability goal, and issue an assessment of the plan, within two years of submission. Thereafter, DWR is to evaluate each GSP or alternative at least every five years. In general, the SWRCB may designate a basin as "probationary" if it is found that a GSP has not been created, the plan is inadequate or the program is not being implemented in a way that will lead to sustainability. A GSA would have 180 days or up to one year to remedy the problem, depending on the nature of the deficiency, with additional time provided if the agency is making substantial progress toward remedying the problem. The conditions for SWRCB intervention and designation of probationary basin include:

- After June 30, 2017, if a basin is in a condition of long-term overdraft and there no agency has elected to be the GSA for the basin, the SWRCB may prepare an interim plan.
- After January 31, 2020, for high- and medium-priority basins in a critical condition of overdraft (currently 11 basins), if no GSP was completed, the GSP is inadequate, or not implemented to achieve sustainability, the SWRCB may prepare an interim plan.
- After January 31, 2022, in all other high- and medium-priority basins (excluding the 11 basins), if no GSP is completed, the GSP is inadequate, or not implemented to achieve sustainability and there is a condition of long-term overdraft, the SWRCB may prepare an interim plan.
- After January 31, 2025, in all other high and medium priority basins (excluding the 11 basins), if no agency has elected to be the GSA for the basin, the GSP is inadequate, or not implemented to achieve sustainability and the basin is in a condition where groundwater extractions are resulting in significant depletions of surface waters, the SWRCB may prepare an interim plan.

The SWRCB must exclude from probationary status any portion of a basin for which a GSA demonstrates compliance with the sustainability goal. The Act requires groundwater extraction reporting for probationary basins and basins without a GSA. It is the intent of the Act that state intervention under an "interim plan" continue only until a local GSA is able take over and manage the basin sustainably. The SWRCB can assess fees to recover costs incurred in administering an unmanaged area or a probationary basin, such as costs incurred with reporting

requirements, investigations, facilitation, monitoring, hearings, enforcement, and administrative costs in carrying out these actions.

Groundwater Data - Privacy Protections

The Act limits the public release of certain personal information related to individual groundwater pumpers, including water usage. However, aggregated information on groundwater withdrawals in a basin will be available along with information on the basin conditions and progress in meeting sustainability goals.

Technical and Financial Assistance

The Act directs DWR to provide technical assistance to local agencies in the implementation of this legislation and to develop best management practices. In addition, \$100 million in grant funding is included in the Water Bond (Proposition 1) to be used for development and implementation of groundwater management plans and projects.

Recommendations and Request for Board Direction

A. Groundwater Sustainability Agency Formation versus Sustainable Groundwater Management Alternative Plan Development

Any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin can form a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) for the basin. A "local agency" is defined as "a local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin." A combination of local agencies may form a GSA by joint powers agreement or memorandum of agreement or other legal agreement. Local agencies in high- and medium-priority basins have until June 30, 2017 to form a GSA (Attachment A). Creation of an Agency would afford the ability to assess fees on property owners to manage the program and provide regulatory authority.

Groundwater basins that have ongoing successful groundwater management programs do not need to create a GSA. A local agency may elect to prepare an Alternative Plan where they can show a basin is already being "sustainably managed". This is likely the fastest and least expensive path to compliance with the Act. Groundwater basins that have ongoing successful groundwater management programs do not need to create a GSA or develop a new GSP. A local agency or a GSA may elect to submit an alternative proposal that demonstrates that the groundwater basin is being managed in a manner that is consistent with the Act and meeting the long-term "sustainable yield." The Alternative Plan would be an analysis of the Napa Valley Basin prepared by a California-licensed Professional Engineer/Geologist demonstrating that the basin has operated within its sustainable yield for a period of at least 10 years. A local agency or GSA must submit an alternative plan to DWR for review by January 1, 2017 and every five years thereafter. At the request of staff, the County's on call consultant, LSCE, prepared a draft Scope of Work describing the tasks needed for development of the Alternative Plan/Basin Analysis (Attachment D).

Staff Recommendation: Staff analysis indicates that Napa County would have a strong likelihood of meeting the requirements for an "Alternative Plan," which would obviate the need to form a GSA at this time. Napa County has consistently committed resources to evaluating the Napa Valley sub-basin and has the data necessary to make a strong case for an Alternative Plan and demonstrate that the local management of the basin has been and will continue to be sustainable. While both options come with some cost, formation of a GSA would require the addition of staff and commitment to long-term ongoing expenses as well as the discussion of imposing fees on property owners to manage the program. The County currently budgets approximately \$242,000 annually for groundwater management efforts, in addition to grant supported efforts and anticipates the need for an additional \$75,000 in expenditures to complete the work necessary for development of an Alternative Plan. The preparation

and submittal of an Alternative Plan by the January 1, 2017 deadline also provides a more expeditious response in addressing the question of basin sutainability, rather than dedicating time to setting up an independent agency. Staff believes that an Alternative Plan is the least costly and less punitive way to proceed and therefore recommends beginning the process to develop an Alternative Plan for submittal to DWR by the January 1, 2017 deadline. This would not preclude the County from later deciding to create a GSA prior to the June 30, 2017 deadline, or to develop a GSP by the January 31, 2022 deadline. Staff currently has budget authority for consultant work that would begin the work for the preparation of an Alternative Plan and would request approximately \$75,000 in additional funds as part of the June budget process for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

B. Groundwater Model Update

The Board previously requested that staff look into the costs of updating the DHI groundwater model for use in the County's current groundwater sustainability efforts. The model was originally developed as a part of the Baseline Data Report (BDR) in support of the 2008 General Plan Update. Due to the recession, on-going model support was discontinued. A draft proposal to update the DHI Model is included in the attachments (Attachment E). Initial work would involve updating the model to reflect current information (groundwater, land use, geology, etc.), development of reporting capabilities, decision support tools, and other high priority needs. The model update may be supported by the Integrated Regional Waste Management and other DWR grant funding sources and could be developed in phases (Attachment E).

Staff Recommendation: Modeling support is optional at this time, though it could prove useful in preparing and defending a GSP or Alternative Plan and to inform future land use decisions. Staff recommends pursuing IRWM and DWR grant funding opportunities as they become available to help fund modeling.

C. Annual Napa County Groundwater Monitoring Report and CASGEM Update

Napa County's Groundwater Monitoring Plan 2013 recommended the preparation of an Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report and CASGEM Update. The purpose is to better understand the groundwater resources, regularly evaluate trends to identify changes that warrant further examination to ensure sustainable resources, and ensure County eligibility for DWR grant funding. This work involves analysis of well level data from the county and other sources to assess trends and movement of groundwater, CASGEM and County monitoring well network review and program updates, report preparation and presentation(s).

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends continuing the current funding for the analysis of groundwater monitoring data and development of the Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report and CASGEM Update to address local needs identified in the Napa County Groundwater Monitoring Plan 2013 and DWR/CASGEM requirements.

D. Continued Development of Groundwater Sustainability/Monitoring Program

Napa County's groundwater sustainability and monitoring program efforts are supported by the Water Resources Division/Natural Resources Conservation staff of the Public Works Department. This work has been carried out to date as a part of existing positions, and has included: providing management/oversight for program and consultant contracts, developing the hydrogeology/conditions update, monitoring network development/new wells, monitoring/reporting, database development/support, education/outreach including WICC Board and website development, and long-term integration with permit systems. For implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act additional staff support will ultimately be needed but can be phased in over time as needed. Current staff are already stretched in supporting growing monitoring and reporting requirements, consultant support, database development/support, permit system integration/development, and public outreach and information requests. Staff can continue program support for the short term utilizing extra help, interns and volunteers. In the future, staff would need to analyze necessary resources and how the need for those resources

would compare to other Departmental priorities.

Staff Recommendation: Staff is seeking direction and discussion. Staff would need time to review funding needs for this program and work through the current budget process to determine a phasing plan, how program implementation could be phased in, the need for resources and how the need for resources can be absorbed into the Department through a reallocation of resources or priorities.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- A. GW Legislation Timeline
- B. GW Legislation Implementation Fact Sheet
- C. Sustainable GW Management Act Legislation
- D. GW Sustainability Alt-Plan-Basin Analysis_Scope-Budget
- E. GW Sustainability Modeling-DHI

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Molly Rattigan

Groundwater Legislation Timeline



Jan 1, 2016

Jan 31, 2022

Board may hold a hearing to designate a high and medium priority basin as "probationary" if DWR, in consultation with the Board, determines that the GSP is inadequate or will not achieve sustainability.

Jan 31, 2025

Jan 31. 2022

2025

Board may designate a basin as "probationary" if DWR, in consultation with the Board, determines that the GSP is inadequate or not being implemented correctly, and the Board determines that the basin is in a condition where groundwater extractions result in significant depletion of interconnected surface waters.

Water Code § 10735.2(a)(5)(B)

<u>Citizen Portal</u> Your place to find Permits and Application Status

Water Availability Analysis

Water Availability Analysis

Update to Water Availability Analysis (WAA) Policy for Discretionary Groundwater Permit Applications

The proposed changes to the Water Availability Analysis (WAA) reflect the guidance staff received from the Board of Supervisors, the Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC) in April 2014, work by the County's groundwater consultant, Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers, and comments received at the January 7, 2015 County Planning Commission meeting. Plans are to return to the Planning Commission on April 1, 2015 with a revised update to the WAA Policy for the Commission's discussion and consideration.

A list of all comments received along with proposed responses and a revised draft of the WAA Policy with tracked changes from the previous public version are available via the Project Document links provided below.

Any further written comments received by March 24, 2015 will be included in the Planning Commission's April 1, 2015 agenda packet. Thank you for your input!

Please monitor this webpage for additional updates and upcoming hearing notices.

If you have questions, need additional information, or want to provide comments on the current working-draft of the Water Availability Analysis (WAA) update, please contact Steve Lederer at (707) 707-253-4351 (<u>steve.lederer@countyofnapa.org</u>) or Patrick Lowe at (707) 259-5937 (<u>patrick.lowe@countyofnapa.org</u>).

WAA Background & Application

Napa County is required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code 21000-21177 and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000-15387) to conduct an environmental analysis of all discretionary permits submitted for approval. CEQA requires analysis of dozens of environmental aspects; including: "Would the project substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?" The purpose of the Water Availability Analysis (WAA) Policy is to provide guidance and a procedure to assist applicants, neighbors, county staff, decision makers, and other interested parties to gather the information necessary to adequately answer that question. The WAA is not an ordinance, is not prescriptive, and project specific conditions may require more, less, or different analyses in order to meet the requirements of CEQA. The WAA Policy is used procedurally as the baseline to commence groundwater analysis of any given discretionary project.

A Water Availability Analysis is required for any discretionary project that may utilize groundwater or will increase the intensity of groundwater use of any parcel through an existing, improved, or new water supply system (Napa County Groundwater Conservation Ordinance, Section 13.15.010). As such, it is most commonly used for discretionary development applications using groundwater such as wineries and commercial uses. Since CEQA is not applicable to non-discretionary ("ministerial") projects, the WAA Policy does not apply to projects such as building permits, single family homes, track II replants, etc. While discretionary vineyard projects are welcome to borrow from the WAA, such vineyard projects, due to their size and scope, generally receive a much more exhaustive analysis under longstanding processes managed by the Conservation Division of the Planning Building & Environmental Services (PBES) Department. The WAA may also apply when a discretionary Groundwater Permit is required by the Groundwater Conservation Ordinance, Section 13.15.010 of the Napa County Code.

Project Information

Application: Related Applications: Parcel: Address: County Unincorperated, , Contact Information Patrick Lowe patrick.lowe@countyofnapa.org (707) 259-5937

Project Events

Project Events

Project Documents

Project Documents

Water Availability Analysis PC4115 FINAL March 2, 2015

Water Availability Analysis Response To Comments PC4115 FINAL March 2, 2015

Project Archive Documents

Project Archive Documents
Water Availably Analysis Meeting with Planning Commission Jan 7, 2015
2014-11-26 Water Availability Analysis Public Draft
2014-12-01 Water Availability Analysis FAQ-Comments Received

Related Links Documents

Project Related links

Return to Summary Page

- Web Accessibility
- Privacy Policy
- Contact the Web Master
- County Employees

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Reporting of Groundwater Conditions

Tracking of TMDL Compliance Actions

www.napawatersheds.org



Agenda Date: 3/3/2015 Agenda Placement: 9G Set Time: 11:00 AM Estimated Report Time: 30 Minutes

A Tradition of Stewardship A Commitment to Service

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

то:	Board of Supervisors
FROM:	Steven Lederer - Director of Public Works Public Works
REPORT BY:	Patrick Lowe, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION MGR - 259-5937
SUBJECT:	Presentation of the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Strategic Plan Update

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Public Works requests acceptance of the 2015 Update to the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Board's Strategic Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff of the Department of Public Works will provide the Board with a brief presentation regarding the WICC Board's 2015 Strategic Plan Update, including the refinement of the WICC's role, mission, and goals. Staff's presentation will provide background on the WICC Board, highlight its accomplishments, services and activities, and offer near-term actions for the Board of Supervisor's consideration. Following discussion and possible direction, the Director of Public Works requests acceptance of the WICC's 2015 Strategic Plan.

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Receive staff report/presentation
- 2. Public comments
- 3. Direction to staff
- 4. Motion, second, discussion and vote to accept Strategic Plan

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: General Rule. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility the proposed action may have a significant effect on the environment and therefore CEQA is not applicable. [See Guidelines For the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, 14 CCR 15061(b)(3)].

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Board of Napa County was created in 2002 to serve as an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors and as a conduit for citizen input regarding watershed resources. Comprised of 17 members, representing the cities/town, the county, agricultural interests, and environmental interests, the WICC supports data collection, analysis and monitoring, and community education efforts related to the health and conservation of Napa County's watersheds.

The WICC has a responsibility to publicly evaluate and discuss matters it has been requested to review and comment upon by the Board of Supervisors. The WICC has been charged with making recommendations on matters relating to watershed restoration projects, resource protection activities, coordination of land acquisition, development of a long-term watershed resource management program, watershed and groundwater public outreach and education, monitoring coordination, inventory and assessment, and data management, as well as providing monitoring, analysis and recommendations on State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Board(s) policy and regulatory developments.

To carryout its charge in an effective manner, the WICC Board developed a Strategic Plan. In June 2014, the WICC Board initiated a facilitated planning process to update its strategic plan to better reflect current water resource issues. It also takes advantage of opportunities provided by the re-organization of County departments, which resulted in the consolidation of water, watershed planning/management and related programs in Public Works under the Water Resources Division/Natural Resources Conservation.

On January 22, 2015, the WICC Board adopted the 2015 Strategic Plan Update. The update refines the role and mission of the WICC Board to better utilize its abilities and resources, and establishes five fundamental goals to guide and assess its efforts and actions. The 2015 Plan Strategic Plan Update is provided for the Board of Supervisor's review, consideration and acceptance.

The updated 2015 Strategic Plan offers the following refinements to the WICC Board's role, mission and goals:

Role - Inform, Engage, Partner:

- Improve the health of Napa County's watersheds by supporting projects, partnerships and community education that maintain and improve water quality, native plant and wildlife habitat, and ecological and natural processes.
- Collect, distill and disseminate the best possible information, tools and education, to help the community discover and understand their watersheds, and make well-informed decisions.
- Support collaboration and partnership among all organizations and individuals working to improve and maintain the health of Napa County's watersheds.
- Seek and facilitate funding for watershed projects in Napa County from foundations, individuals, organizations, and public agencies.
- Remain politically neutral, unbiased and non-regulatory.
- WICC members are responsible for: Being well-informed about issues pertaining to local water and watersheds; and sharing information with their respective jurisdictions, organizations, communities and peers to further watershed awareness and informed decision-making.

Mission: Improving the health of Napa County's watersheds by informing, engaging and fostering partnerships within the community.

Goals:

- 1. Coordinate and facilitate watershed planning, research, and monitoring efforts among Napa County organizations, agencies, landowners and citizens.
- 2. Strengthen and expand community understanding, connections and involvement to improve the health of Napa County's watersheds.
- 3. Support informed decision-making on topics that affect the health of Napa County's watersheds.
- 4. Improve WICC Board efficiency and effectiveness.
- 5. Explore additional funding opportunities to support the goals of the WICC.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . 2015 Watershed Information Center & Conservancy (WICC) Board Strategic Plan

CEO Recommendation: Approve Reviewed By: Molly Rattigan

NAPA WATERSHED INFORMATION CENTER AND CONSERVANCY (WICC) STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS AND SUBGOALS 2015

	STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS AND SUBGOALS 2015			
and whether they are exis Proposed activities are p completed with current partners to \$\$\$/Resource	Napa Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Strategic Plan. It identifies the goals and subgoals sting (E) or proposed (P). Existing (E) activities will be either maintained (M) or expanded (+) as funding permits. prioritized from 1 to 3 with 1 being the highest priority. Costs range from \$/Resources for activities that can be t WICC staff and partners and \$\$/Resources for those activities that require additional funding for staff and/or tes for those activities that require additional funding for staff, partners, and outside consultants/contractors. ecific activities to implement each subgoal are included in the body of the Strategic Plan.	Existing/Proposed	Priority/ Expand/ Maintain	Cost
Goal 1: Coordinate and facilitate watershed	Subgoal 1A: Support the development of watershed management and monitoring plans for Napa County's watersheds and secure the resources necessary to implement and maintain the monitoring program over the long-term.	P	1	\$\$\$
planning, research, and	Subgoal 1B: Serve as the local clearinghouse for groundwater resource data, mapping and monitoring.	Р	1	\$
monitoring efforts among Napa County organizations,	Subgoal 1C: Support ongoing fisheries and fish habitat monitoring of the Napa River and its tributaries.	Е	+	\$\$
agencies, landowners and citizens.	Subgoal 1D: Share opportunities for collaboration on and funding for watershed projects and programs that benefit multiple agencies, organizations and the community. Subgoal 1E: Define the WICC's role in informing the community about climate change and its effects on	E	+	\$ \$
	Napa County's watershed resources.	P	-	>
	Subgoal 2A: Maintain and enhance the WICC's website to educate community members with varying levels of interest and knowledge about Napa County's watersheds.	E	М	\$\$
Goal 2: Strengthen and expand community	Subgoal 2B: Expand the number of users and depth of use of the WICC website.	E	М	\$\$
understanding, connections	Subgoal 2C: Expand the watershed signage program to identify and interpret the county's watersheds.	Р	2	\$\$
and involvement to improve the health of Napa County's		Р	2	\$\$
watersheds.	Subgoal 2E: Annually identify the WICC's education and outreach priorities for the coming year.	E	+	\$
	Subgoal 2F: Expand the role of the WICC and the WICC website in local community education and student instruction.	Р	2	\$\$\$
Goal 3: Support informed decision-making on topics	Subgoal 3A: Assure that WICC Board Members are knowledgeable and well-informed spokespersons, able to effectively convey information about the WICC, its mission and watershed health to the community.	E	+	\$
that affect the health of	Subgoal 3B: Provide regular updates to agencies on the WICC's current activities.	Р	1	\$\$
Napa County's watersheds.	Subgoal 3C: Provide comments and recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors, as directed, on watershed related studies, reports, and legislation.	E	М	\$
	Subgoal 4A: Assure that WICC Board meetings allow Board Members to remain engaged and up-to-date on watershed issues affecting Napa County.	E	+	\$\$
	Subgoal 4B: Assure that new WICC Board members understand their roles and responsibilities.	Р	2	\$
Goal 4: Improve WICC Board efficiency and effectiveness.		Р	3	\$
	Subgoal 4D: Amend the WICC Bylaws and other guiding documents to incorporate the findings of the Strategic Plan.	E	М	\$
	Subgoal 4E: Review the WICC's accomplishments annually and determine priority activities for the coming year.	Р	2	\$
	Subgoal 5A: Strengthen relationships with existing and potential funding partners.	E	+	\$\$
Goal 5: Explore additional funding opportunities to support the goals of the	Subgoal 5B: Seek sponsorship for the proposed projects identified in the WICC Strategic Plan.	Р	2	\$\$
	Subgoal 5C: Evaluate possible ways that the WICC could accept private and non-profit donations for projects and programs.	Р	3	\$\$\$

