

**MINUTES OF JULY 23, 2007 OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF YOLO COUNTY**

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair, David Scheuring.

Board members present: David Scheuring-Yolo County Flood Control & WCD, WRA Chair
Duane Chamberlain – Yolo County
Sue Greenwald – City of Davis
William Marble – City of Woodland
Sid England – University of CA Davis, WRA Vice-chair
Regina Cherovsky – Reclamation District 2035

Alternate members present: Kurt Balasek – City of Winters, WRA Treasurer
Donita Hendrix –Dunnigan Water District
Doug Baxter – City of Woodland
Tim O’Halloran - Yolo County Flood Control & WCD

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

3. PUBLIC FORUM - There were no comments from the public.

4. CONSENT ITEMS:

- a. June 11, 2007 Board meeting minutes.*
- b. Financial Reports for June 2007*
- c. Request for Associate Membership –Cache Creek Conservancy*

The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the consent items.

5. INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRWMP)

a. Resolution to Adopt the Yolo County IRWMP (April 2007) – Each of the WRA member agencies have independently adopted the IRWMP. The WRA now needs to adopt the IRWMP. The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the adoption of the IRWMP. Sid England asked that the Technical Committee and Jacques DeBra as chair of the Committee and be acknowledged for his/their efforts of the past several years. The WRA Chair will send a letter of commendation. The IRWMP must be adopted prior to the August 1st Prop. 50 application deadline (see agenda item 5.b.).

b. Resolution in Support of Proposition 50 Grant Application – Steve Macauley, West Yost Associates, gave an update on preparing the grant application to apply for Round 2, Prop. 50 implementation grant funding. The WRA submitted a \$12.5 million application on August 1, 2007 for the projects described below. The following agencies coordinated to submit projects for the application that could move forward very quickly: YCFC&WCD, Cache Creek Conservancy, RD 2035, and Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee. The application was characterized as “Yolo County IRWMP Early Implementation: Water Supply, Drought Preparedness and Ecosystem Enhancement”. A local cost match is required for all the projects. Northern California could potentially receive approximately \$23 million. There is total of \$64 million remaining in Prop 50 funds and all of it could go to Southern California. The decision will be made by the Director of DWR and based on the quality of applications received statewide.

The representatives from each agency applying for project money gave a brief description of the projects:

RD 2035 Sacramento River Diversion and Conveyance Facilities (WS7): Existing unscreened intake replaced by new diversion facility to meet latest federal and state criteria for fish screen design, ensure reliable supply to agricultural users.

Capay Dam Reliability/Restoration (WS13)/Moore Siphon Reliability/Restoration Project (WS14): As part of Cache Creek Water Management Integrated Project, Moore Siphon and Capay Diversion Dam upgraded to ensure reliability in agricultural water delivery and dam stability.

Putah Creek and Cache Creek Exotic and Invasive Species Removal (AR7)/Replace Earthen Crossing of Putah Creek at Route 106A (AR37): As part of Putah Creek Integrated Project, remove channel choking exotic species and replace existing seasonal earthen crossing/dam with concrete ramp and box culvert.

Correll-Rodgers Wetland Project (AR21): As part of Cache Creek Flood Management Integrated Project, perform riparian restoration and seasonal wetland habitat enhancement.

A copy of the application will be available on the WRA's website. The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the resolution to apply for a Proposition 50 Implementation Grant, Round 2.

Steve added that Proposition 84 is slated to have \$73 million available in funding for the Sacramento Valley region. Competition for this regional money will be challenging. The best plan of action will be to coordinate in advance with other regional entities. Proposition 84 guidelines will be released later this year after the state budget is adopted. Go to DWR at (http://www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov/grants/irwm/integregio_news.cfm).

6. WINTERS PUTAH CREEK PARK MASTER PLAN PRESENTATION

Rich Marovich, Streamkeeper, Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee (LPCCC) began the presentation by discussing the ecological objectives for the Winters Putah Creek Park. This project is part of the IRWMP Putah Creek Integrated Action (AR 38, AR 48, and AR 7) The Winters Putah Creek Park project addresses three priority actions: removal of the Winters percolation dam, geomorphic restoration of Putah Creek and exotic/invasive species removal. The removal of the percolation dam is just the first phase of in restoration, which already has funding. Geomorphic restoration is divided into four areas along Putah Creek. Narrowing of the creek channel in certain locations would allow for faster moving, better quality water, addition of walking trails along the edge of the creek, and provide better shade over the creek to improve fish habitat. Rich's presentation included many historic aerial photographs illustrating changes to Winters Putah Creek Park area from the 1940's to the 1990's. About 25% of the park land area is covered with a variety of invasive weeds, primarily eucalyptus and blackberries. Rich distributed copies of the LPCCC's 2006 Report to the Community.

Cheryl Sullivan, Cunningham Engineering, presented information regarding updating of the 1995 Master Plan based on information obtained through grant funded studies under the LFCCC. Cheryl illustrated conceptual layouts of the creek incorporating proposed creek bed and habitat improvements, the proposed car bridge (to replace the existing concrete bridge), improvements at the Community Center and trestle bridge, and additional recreational opportunities and access points. The goal is to make trails and recreational features accessible so that many people have the opportunity to experience the Creek. These improvements may include trails, stream access points, accessible fishing pier, benches, signage, picnic areas and overlooks. It will also link the newly opened trestle to the park trails. The majority of the plan area is owned by the City of Winters with some areas held under private landownership. Prior to execution the plan, ownership issues would need to resolved. Additional funding still needs to be secured. The City of Winters is the lead agency with technical expertise and grant-writing supports provided by the LPCCC.

Cheryl and Rich answered questions from the Board.

7. CONAWAY RANCH UPDATE – Reclamation District 2035

Regina Cherovsky, General Manager, Reclamation District 2035 gave an update on planning for Conaway Ranch. RD 3035 has been working with Yolo County staff to achieve the goals established through the Conaway Ranch Settlement Agreement (9/7/06). Some of the collaborative strategies being developed are:

- addition of a conservation easement outside the bypass that's has the potential for development
- reduction of flood flow during in a peak event (100 to 200-year) by adding a new weir on the Sacramento River (north of I-5, north of RD 2035's existing pumping facility), the land outside of the bypass on Conaway Ranch could be utilized as excess storage capacity during the event that would also minimize impacts to levees downstream (potential storage capacity of 60-66,000 acre feet)
- removal or re-spanning of the Yolo Short Line trestle to widen and allow for additional flood flow
- addition of a Sacramento River water source, diversion into the canal (an early spring month diversion), ties into habitat restoration efforts

All of these strategies are consistent with the IRWMP. Regina was asked whether any of these strategies would have an impact on Cache Creek (positive or negative). Engineering studies would need to be conducted to determine impacts. Tim O'Halloran added that the Yolo County Flood Management Program (City of Woodland, YCFCWCD and Yolo County) will be including RD 2035 in flood issue discussions, along with other local, state and federal agencies.

RD 2035 has applied for a \$2.6 million grant to assist with further study of these strategies. There is a lot of existing technical data available regarding Conaway Ranch that will be helpful with future planning. Regina answered questions from the Board.

8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & INFORMATION

- a. The Executive Committee had nothing additional to report.
- b. The Administrative Coordinator report that she is in the process of gathering quotes for preparing a 2005-2007 audit of the Association's finances. Costs for an audit are anticipated to be higher than the 2003-05 audit due to several new auditing requirements.

9. MEMBERS' REPORTS:

The YCFC&WCD, Yolo County, Dunnigan Water District and the cities of Davis and Woodland gave brief updates on their agencies' recent activities. YCFCWCD distributed copies of their Annual Report 2006.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: November: Appoint Nominating Committee for 2008 Officer Elections

10. NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 19, 2007 from 3-5 pm.** Woodland. Location TBD. Board meetings will continue to be hosted rotationally through the member agencies. Yolo County was asked to host the next Board meeting in Woodland. Location to be determined.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna L. Gentile

Donna L. Gentile
WRA Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator