

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2016
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF YOLO COUNTY**

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

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

Board members present: Bill Marble - City of Woodland, Chair
Cecilia Curry - City of Winters, Vice-chair
Duane Chamberlain - Yolo County
Tom Barth - Yolo County Flood Control & WCD
Beverly Sandeen – City of West Sacramento
Roger Cornwell – Reclamation District 108

Alternate members present: Tim O’Halloran – Yolo County Flood Control & WCD, WRA Treasurer
Mabel Salon – University of California Davis
Kurt Balasek – City of Winters
Donita Hendrix – Dunnigan Water District
Jim Hilliard – City of Woodland

Associate members present: Kyle Lang – Reclamation District 1600 (and RD 537)
Denise Sagara – Yolo County Farm Bureau
Stan Lester – Yolo County Farm Bureau

Member agencies absent: City of Davis
Reclamation District 2035

Public & Agency Staff: Elisa Sabatini, Yolo County, WRA Technical Committee Chair
David Guy - Northern California Water Association (NCWA)
Kristin Sicke – Yolo County Flood Control & WCD
Max Stevenson - Yolo County Flood Control & WCD
Sarah Morgan - Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
Omar Carrillo - Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
Melinda Terry – North Delta Water Agency
Mary Fahey – Colusa County
Richard Tsai – City of Davis
Rob Roscoe – Sacramento Suburban Water District
Audie Foster – California American Water
Bob Schneider – Tuleyome
Richard Reed – Yolo County Supervisor Provenza, District 4
Chris Scheuring – California Farm Bureau Federation
Jeff Main
Alan Miller
Betsy Marchand
John McKean

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the agenda.
3. **PUBLIC FORUM:** No public comments.
4. **CONSENT ITEMS:** The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the consent items.
 - a. Approved minutes: January 11, 2016 Board meeting.
 - b. Received financial reports: January-February 2016
 - c. Received minutes of Executive Committee (EC): 1/5, 2/8/16

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- d. Received minutes of Technical Committee (TC): 1/7, 2/4/16
- e. Approved Associate Membership request California American Water
- f. Approved support letter, Prop. 1 Storm Water Resources Planning Grant application

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a. Report from the WRA Chair: Chair Marble acknowledged Tim O'Halloran who recently received the Will S. Green Award from Northern California Water Association (NCWA) at their March annual meeting. The Will S. Green Award is presented by NCWA to an individual who has devoted their life to the promotion and advancement of irrigation and regional sustainability in the Sacramento Valley.

6. UPDATE ON WATER LEGISLATION & REGULATORY ISSUES

- a. Delta Update, Legislation and Regulatory Update: David Guy, NCWA, opened with a water operations update. He mentioned the recent shift in hydrology in the last week. Sacramento River diversion restrictions for the Settlement Contractors will hopefully ease up in May with the last set of storms, but the Bureau of Reclamation and the National Marine Fisheries Service are still determining operations changes. Everyone is awaiting the Bureau's announcement about this year's surface water allocations. Contractors may receive allocations for the first time in three years. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will hold a workshop this Friday on their Sacramento River Temperature Plan to assist with improving and stabilizing Chinook salmon population. SWRCB is still going through their process for the point of diversion change for the south and north Delta tunnels construction. Many in Northern California have protested this process with respect to negatively impacting water rights and settlement contracts. This process will become more active in late spring. In the legislature, he mentioned two bills; Senator Wolk's SB 1317 and Assemblyman Dodd's AB 1755, and gave a brief summary of each bill. David reviewed two water-related initiatives for the November ballot: "No Blank Checks" (Dean Cortopassi) and "Dam-Train" (small group of San Joaquin Valley farmers). Adequate signatures are still pending for the "Dam-Train" initiative to be on the ballot. NCWA is opposing both of these initiatives. David answered questions.

7. WRA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE UPDATE, Elisa Sabatini, Committee Chair

- a. Technical Committee (TC) Activities and Westside IRWMP Update – Elisa summarized the Proposition 1 Storm Water Resources Planning Grant application process (support letter approved under consent items). Five WRA member agencies are co-funding the consultant preparation of a grant application for \$100,000 to create a regional storm water plan. The Plan is necessary for all future rounds of storm water resources funding from the State. She also reported on a roundtable that was hosted this morning in Winters on naturally occurring groundwater contaminants including compliance for chromium-6 regulations. Discussions resulted in developing a collaborative project for the Westside IRWMP to seek funding under Proposition 1 to resolve or address issues related to chromium-6 for affected jurisdictions. The WRA will be contracting with Frame Surveying and Mapping to conduct a round of subsidence monitoring of the Yolo County network in spring 2016. The last round was done in 2008. It was planned to monitor every 5 years, but funding and collaboration was not available in 2013. Elisa explained what the monitoring event entails.

8. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA), Tim O'Halloran, Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (YCFC&WCD)

- a. SGMA Basin Boundary Modification (BBM): Tim O'Halloran summarized the BBM request process discussed in previous meetings. He illustrated the current Bulletin 118 boundaries the

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four subbasins of Colusa, Yolo, Capay Valley, and Solano. Maps of proposed basin boundary modifications with and without Reclamation District 999 (RD 999) were discussed. The BBM request proposed will incorporate all of the Yolo and Capay Valley subbasins and portions of the Colusa and Solano subbasins into the proposed new Yolo Basin that approximately follows the Yolo geo-political boundary. SGMA requires coordinating agreements among neighboring agencies where overlapping jurisdictions exist. RD 999 will need to decide whether to be part of the Yolo or Solano subbasin. Many of the Delta water districts are already organizing themselves and discussing their options for GSA formation. The Yolo SGMA group will continue discussions with the Delta RDs about their options (RD 999, 150, 307 and 765) as part of the public outreach process. For example, RD 2035 has decided to remain entirely in the Solano subbasin as reflected in the proposed BBM. Tim reported on comments received at a meeting of Capay Valley private pumpers last week when he presented the BBM to them.

Tim and Kristin Sicke explained the benefit of affected agencies providing a letter of support for the Yolo BBM request being submitted by the YCFC&WCD on behalf of the WRA and the Yolo County Farm Bureau (YCFB). The YCFB Board approved their support at a recent meeting. A resolution is on the County of Yolo's Board agenda for consideration next week. A draft resolution or letter of support template can be provided for those agencies interested. The WRA Board motioned, seconded and unanimously adopted Resolution #1602: Basin Boundary Modification Request included with the March agenda. Tim indicated he will clarify RD 999's position prior to submitting the BBM by the 3/31/16 deadline to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

- b. Facilitated Public Outreach Update: Dave Ceppos, Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP), gave an update on the upcoming three SGMA public outreach meetings co-sponsored by the WRA and YCFB: March 29 in Woodland, March 30 in Winters and March 31 in Clarksburg. All meetings will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Details for all the meetings can be found on the YCFB website, <http://www.yolofarmbureau.org/>, and it is requested that everyone register to attend. Dave explained that the intent of these public meetings is not only to outreach to all the eligible GSA entities in the Yolo basin, but also to all the private pumpers impacted by the SGMA legislation. There continues to be misinformation circulating about SGMA, as well as a lack of information reaching the private pumpers. Collaboration between the Delta stakeholders and the neighboring counties of Solano, Colusa and Sacramento continues as part of our SGMA outreach. After the public outreach meetings, the Yolo SGMA Steering Committee will continue with targeted outreach to GSA eligible entities. Additionally, Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) governance discussions will begin in earnest in preparation for formation of a Yolo GSA.
- c. SGMA Related Activities: Tim O'Halloran discussed the GSA formation process. He made an inquiry to the WRA Board and YCFB representatives in attendance about their level of comfort with the concept of a single GSA for the proposed Yolo subbasin area. The GSA would have limited authority with responsibility for regional activities and existing programs of the WRA such as groundwater monitoring and subsidence monitoring. The GSA would likely have expanded reporting requirements and develop other water management strategies. Tim discussed the concept of developing smaller management areas and responsibilities throughout the subbasin. The WRA Board and the public asked questions and discussed the concepts presented related to GSA formation. The WRA member agencies and YCFB representatives present agreed that this is a reasonable strategy to begin discussions about the GSA formation. A partnership approach was emphasized and coordinating agreements will need to be established regionally for

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the GSA to effectively implement SGMA. Tim briefly reviewed the “white areas” that aren’t covered by any special district or government agency and how these areas will be addressed.

Linda Terry, Executive Director for the North Delta Water Agency (NDWA), gave a summary of their agency’s management area. Tim spoke to their Board recently about the proposed BBM. Their Board is generally in support of Yolo’s process and the boundaries proposed make sense. There are some Reclamation Districts that are in both basins that seem interested in forming a GSA, so how the overlapping areas will be managed will need to be discussed. The NDWA has been actively participating in the Solano County Water Agency’s SGMA GSA process as well. Tim reiterated that discussions with Districts such as RD 999 are underway and we are sensitive to their perspective. Tim answered questions from the Board.

For clarification Chair Marble again asked if any member of the WRA Board was opposed to the using the concept of a single GSA as a starting point in the public meeting discussions schedule at the end of March? No one expressed opposition.

9. WATER CONDITIONS UPDATE, Tim O’Halloran gave an update on the current status of water conditions as winter changes into spring. As of last week the YCFC&WCD began flood releases from Clear Lake. The combined storage of Clear Lake and Indian Valley Reservoir is 235,000 acre-feet. In order to safely declare an unallocated irrigation season that number will need to be 250,000 acre-feet. Tim reviewed how groundwater conditions are slightly better compared to this time last year. The Woodland –Davis Water Supply project is scheduled to start Sacramento River surface water deliveries to Woodland and Davis in June. Tim asked Roger Cornwell, RD 108, and Donita Hendrix, Dunningan Water District, to give brief updates on their current water conditions, anticipated water deliveries and Central Valley Project service contracts this season.

10. MEMBERS’ REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Nothing additional was discussed.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday, June 20, 2016 from 3-5 pm, Woodland Community & Senior Center.

12. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna L. Gentile

Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator