

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2010  
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, William Marble.

Board members present: William Marble – City of Woodland, WRA Chair  
Cecilia Aguiar-Curry – City of Winters  
Don Peart – Colusa County Water District  
Matt Rexroad – Yolo County  
Regina Cherovsky – Reclamation District 2035

Alternate members present: Tim O’Halloran – Yolo County Flood Control & WCD  
Jacques De Bra – City of Davis  
Duane Chamberlain – Yolo County  
Lewis Bair – Reclamation District 108  
Dan Mount – City of West Sacramento  
Gary Sandy – University of CA, Davis

Members Agencies absent: Dunnigan Water District

Associate members present: Fran Borcalli – floodSAFE Yolo

Members of the Public & Agency Staff:  
Cindy Tuttle, Yolo County  
Mark Cocke, City of Woodland  
Dave Pratt  
Michael Besette, City of West Sacramento  
Pierre Stephens, DWR  
Loren Murray, DWR  
Brian Green, Ogilvy, DWR  
Erik Ringelberg, BSK Associates

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the agenda.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM** – There were no comments from the public.

**4. CONSENT ITEMS** - The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved all consent items.

- a. Approved minutes: September 20, 2010 Board meeting
- b. Received financial reports: September -October 2010
- c. Received minutes of Executive Committee: 9/7/10, 10/25/10
- d. Received minutes of Technical Committee: 8/5/10, 9/16/10, 10/7/10
- e. Approved 2011 Board meeting schedule: 1/10, 3/7, 6/20, 9/19, 11/14/11

**5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- a. *Report from WRA Chair* –Chair Marble relayed the Executive Committee’s discussions on possible speakers/topics for future meetings. January: David Guy, NCWA – how the WRA can be legislatively proactive. March: John Brown – statewide water issues; Tim Quinn – ACWA. The Executive Committee welcomes input on future meeting topics of interest to the Board. Board Request: presentation on Westside Canal in the Yolo Bypass project.
- b. *Correspondence sent* – Letter to the Delta Stewardship Council 10/25/10

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**6. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Tim O'Halloran, Nominating Committee chair, reported the following recommended nominations for 2011 Board Officers: William Marble, Chair; Sid England, Vice-Chair; Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Treasurer; and Board Appointments: Donna Gentile, Board Secretary; Perry, Bunch, Battaglia & Johnston, Auditor. There were no other nominations presented by the Board. The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the recommended nominations.

**7. UPDATE on WATER LEGISLATION & REGULATORY ISSUES**

a. California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program - Tim O'Halloran summarized regulatory legislation that encourages local agencies to participate in a statewide groundwater elevation monitoring program. If a local agency does not accept the role of monitoring entity for a region, then the State will perform the task. Yolo County has already been collecting groundwater data since the Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program was established several years ago. The WRA Technical Committee has discussed and agreed that the WRA is well-suited to fill that role. The deadline to notify DWR of the intent to be a region's monitoring entity is January 1, 2011. At this time, DWR has only released draft CASGEM program guidelines. The YCFCWCD and the WRA Technical Committee are reviewing and clarifying the details with DWR. In particular, the WRA has a better defined groundwater sub-basin as published in the Yolo County IRWMP that we would like DWR to adopt. Additionally the WRA would like to include other agencies that are partially in Yolo County's groundwater basin, such as RD 108 and Colusa County Water District, for the purposes of CASGEM. Tim informed that those agencies wanting to reap the benefits of the Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program will be asked to contribute financially to support data management. The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the WRA to submit a letter to DWR on our intent to be the monitoring entity for Yolo County contingent upon the YCFCWCD's review of the technical details of the CASGEM guidelines.

Additionally, Tim reported on the 2011 CAP-to-CAP, a regional lobbying trip hosted by the Sacramento Metro Chamber. Tim and Cindy Tuttle have begun preparation of Yolo County issues related to flood protection and water resources for the federal funding request process. Tim distributed copies of last year's issue papers. Tim encouraged anyone who wants to participate in CAP-to-CAP to contact Cindy, who will direct them to the appropriate issues category team leader. This process is crucial to garnering federal support for regional projects. Many of the projects presented at CAP-to-CAP are IRWMP Foundational Actions; therefore input from the WRA Technical Committee is appropriate. The Technical Committee will add this as a standing item on their agenda through May 2011.

**8. WRA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- a. *Status of Yolo County IRWMP Process Update* - Jacques De Bra, Committee Chair, reported that the TC is continuing to update the preliminary IRWMP priority list distributed to the Board in September. The updated list will be presented to the Board in January. The next step will require lead agencies to submit a scope, schedule and budget for projects listed.
- b. *Status of Westside Regional Water Management Group/Prop. 84 Funding* - The Westside group will be discussing the upcoming implementation grant application due in early January. The WRA Technical Committee has asked interested lead agencies to submit project proposals for consideration for the application. The Westside RWMG will have the final review of all proposals.

**9. PRESENTATION: Central Valley Floodplain Management Plan**

Loren Murray, Department of Water Resources Regional Coordinator, gave an overview of the FloodSAFE California program and the status of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan. (His PPT presentation will be available on the WRA's website.) The FloodSAFE California program was established to improve flood

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management on a state-wide system approach. The two primary goals are to reduce the chance of flooding and the consequences of flooding, while sustaining economic growth and protecting the ecosystem. Propositions 1E and 84 provided a funding base for the program's development. Over 200 projects have been completed to date, but long-term improvements and maintenance will require additional state funds, cost sharing from federal and local entities as well as other funding. The Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) is being developed to create a broad vision for integrated flood management, promote an understanding from state, federal and local perspectives and to develop new data and information that can be utilized for many purposes by all agencies. Loren reviewed the key milestones for the CVFPP development. The schedule for completing the CVFPP was legislatively mandated and is scheduled for final Board adoption in 2012.

The legislation also stipulated new local requirements for general plan and zoning ordinances. Loren presented a flow chart of criteria to determine when the new requirements are effective for development once city and county general plan amendments are adopted. A draft handbook is available as a guidebook for how the legislation is applied statewide for local communities. "Implementing California Flood Legislation into Local Land Use Planning – A Handbook for Local Communities" is available online at: [http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/lrafmo/fmb/docs/04015\\_Jun10DWRHandbook.pdf](http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/lrafmo/fmb/docs/04015_Jun10DWRHandbook.pdf). The handbook explains which actions apply to cities and counties within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley. For example, safety elements related to flood hazards are now required to be included in local general plan updates and must be reviewed by the CVFP Board (per Government Code). Information from local general plans will need to be incorporated into the CVFPP with the State of California by July 2014 and incorporation of zoning ordinance amendments by 2015. DWR has prepared a booklet summarizing 2007 California Flood Legislation that can assist in explaining the details - <http://www.water.ca.gov/legislation/2007-summary.pdf>. DWR has developed and proposed for adoption updated requirements for the California Building Standards Code to improve public safety and reduce significant and costly damage to buildings. Loren reviewed the completed documents slated to be released by early 2011, including a CVFPP progress report and flood control system status report. The Central Valley Flood Protection planning process is finishing Phase II. Phase III will begin in early 2011. CVFPP Interim Progress Summaries from the Regional Conditions and other workshops are available online: <http://www.water.ca.gov/cvfmp/documents.cfm>

Updated information, documents, and maps can be accessed online: <http://www.water.ca.gov/cvfmp>

**10. LOCAL AGENCY UPDATES ON FLOOD MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

- Fran Borcalli, Program Manager, floodSAFE Yolo Pilot Program, gave an update on the Lower Cache Creek Feasibility Study. This is a Yolo County IRWMP project and the focused efforts of the City of Woodland, Yolo County and the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District to continue a study that was aborted in 2003. The City of Woodland became polarized on the issue of finding an agreeable solution to Cache Creek flooding after voter results in the 2003 election. After the diligent effort of many people, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the State are now engaged with the local partners to continue the feasibility study. Fran acknowledged Congressman Herger's instrumental role in arranging two meetings with all the agencies in order open discussion and move the project forward. Federal cost share agreements are in the process of being executed with the City of Woodland as the signatory for the local cost share. The non-federal cost share agreement is between Woodland and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, which will be before the Board for approval on December 3, 2010. Work on the feasibility study is anticipated to begin in January/February 2011. However, the Federal budget that will fund the USACE work is still pending since the Fiscal Year 2011 budget has not been appropriated. There is a \$100,000 appropriations request pending in the Senate and \$500,000 pending in the House. If Federal funding remains in limbo, one way the project could move forward is if the City of Woodland and the State agreed to advance funds ahead of the USACE's work

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schedule. Fran explained that the major impediment to finding a Lower Cache Creek flood risk reduction solution is the Cache Creek Settling Basin. If the feasibility study determines that the Cache Creek Settling Basin has created an adverse impact on the community related to drainage and flooding, then that could facilitate the USACE issuing a "decision-document". This document would allow the USACE to open an investigation of the Settling Basin. floodSAFE Yolo is awaiting a response from the USACE on what it would take to prepare this decision-document and begin the investigation. The Settling Basin is a central component to the Yolo Bypass and the CVFPP.

Fran asked the WRA Board to consider a future meeting topic on the Yolo County flood management system related to its fragmented nature and provide a forum for discussion on how to promote integration. Bill asked the Technical Committee to discuss Fran's request and make a recommendation to the Board.

- Lewis Bair, General Manager, Reclamation District 108, gave an update on Phase III of the Mid-Valley Area Levee Reconstruction Project. The Mid-Valley project is federally authorized by the USACE. This project covers the rehabilitation of levees along 240 miles in 5 different counties. The project is segregated into 4 areas. Lewis reviewed Area 3 of the project that is shared with Yolo County. Knights Landing and Yolo County are actively participating and lobbying for federal funds to maintain financial support for the project. This project has a 75% Federal and 25% non-Federal cost share (17.5% State and 7.5% local). Area 3 levee reconstruction involves 3.4 miles of levee repair along the Knights Landing Ridge Cut and 1.3 miles of levee repair along the west bank of the Sacramento River. Lewis explained the Knights Landing area project repairs. Lewis highlighted the some of the challenges they have experienced to the project's progress. For more information, go to: <http://rd108.org/flood-control/mid-valley-project>.
- Michael Bessette, Flood Protection Program Manager, City of West Sacramento, gave an update on the city's goal of 200-year flood protection. The City thought they had 200-year flood protection, but was informed by the State about 5 years ago that they do not. The City hired consultants to prepare a problem identification study to better understand how to rehabilitate the levees. The City completed an Alternatives Analysis Report that identifies recommended project alternatives to mitigate problems. The City completed their first Early Implementation Project (EIP) with the State in 2008 of a 500 foot reach of Sacramento River levee along their River Walk area. This project was instructional to the City on how to navigate the State Federal, and regulatory agencies. There are two additional EIP project currently in the final design phase. Construction is scheduled to start in June 2011 on both projects. One is near the CHP Academy near the Sacramento Bypass levee system and the other site is near the Rivers development east of DWR's maintenance yard. Each project will be approximately \$10-15 million dollars. The City is beginning the design process for their last EIP project in the Southport area. This project would not begin construction until 2013. The City's total program costs are about \$460 million for all of their EIP projects. They are anticipating their local cost share would be no more than 10%. This would exhaust their funds accumulated through their Prop. 218 process and in-lieu fees.

Michael explained that the City is undergoing a General Re-evaluation Report (GRR) so they can continue to use their existing USACE authorization. The Report was begun in 2009 and should be completed in 2014. The next milestone should be reached in spring 2011 with the existing conditions report that is assembled from the Alternatives Analysis Report and environmental documentation products. The total cost for the GRR is \$5.7 million (50% Federal, 25% State and 25% Local cost share). These studies take time, money and perseverance. Eventually this report requests Congressional authorization, so they could be part of the annual Federal appropriations cycle.

Michael listed a variety of projects the City is currently working on. One of which is a repair project on the Yolo Bypass north of I-80 in conjunction with the USACE and the State set to begin next year.

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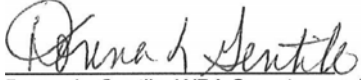
**11. MEMBERS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

This item was not discussed due to time constraints.

**12. NEXT MEETING DATE: January 10, 2011** from 3-5 pm, Woodland Community Center

**13. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna L. Gentile, WRA Secretary and Administrative Coordinator