

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 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
Jacques DeBra – City of Davis, Technical Committee Chair
Helen Thomson – Yolo County
Tim O’Halloran - Yolo County Flood Control & WCD
Doug Baxter – City of Woodland

Board members absent: Wes Beers – City of West Sacramento

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: The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the consent items.
a. Approve Minutes: July 23 and Sept. 10, 2007 Board meetings
b. Financial Reports: Final FY 2006-07, July-October 2007

5. APPOINT NOMINATING COMMITTEE – The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the appointment of Donita Hendrix, Tim O’Halloran and Helen Thomson to the nominating committee. They will present recommendations for 2008 Board officers and appointments at the first 2008 Board of Directors’ meeting.

6. PROPOSED ASSOCIATION BYLAWS REVISION – The WRA bylaws have not been reviewed or revised since its inception. The Executive Committee is recommending attached changes to make the bylaws current with how the organizational structure was restructured in 2005. Two important aspects of the restructuring are the formation of the Executive and Technical Committees. The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the bylaws revisions as presented. The Board also motioned, seconded and unanimously adopted a Board Policy that the Executive Committee reviews the bylaws at least biennially and recommend changes as circumstances require.

7. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE & IRWMP UPDATE – Jacques DeBra, Technical Committee chair, reviewed the recent activities of the Technical Committee and IRWMP-related projects by WRA member agencies. The YCFC&WCD is making great progress on the on-going groundwater

monitoring program. The District has begun Phase II of the program (received an allocation of 2007-08 WRA project funds.) The Technical Committee should be receiving an update on the program soon. An update is pending from the City of West Sacramento and Yolo County on the Habitat and Recreation Survey of the Sacramento River West Bank and Deep Water Ship Channel Levees. The Yolo County subsidence monitoring network will be coordinating with DWR's Sacramento Valley GPS Monitoring survey that will begin in early 2008.

The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the Technical Committee's recommendations as presented:

1. Authorize execution of AB303 letters of support from the WRA for both the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District and Dunnigan Water District funding applications;
2. Support interagency and inter-regional communication and collaboration with Proposition 84 counties and IRWMP organizations in order to maximize funding that might be available to Yolo County;
3. Receive an update on Technical Committee activities; and
4. Schedule a 2007 annual update from IRWMP lead implementation partners at the first 2008 Board meeting.

8. UPDATE ON YOLO COUNTY PROJECTS and PROGRAMS - Julie McIver, Water and Conservation Program Manager, gave updates on Yolo County projects. Foothill Associates prepared a Feasibility Report for the Correll-Rodgers Pond Enhancement Project and 3 alternative options were identified. The purpose of the report is to recommend strategies to improve the ecological health of the pair of interconnected mining pits. Both of the former mining pits have undergone varying degrees of restoration in the past. The goals driving the report's recommendations are to enhance native vegetation and habitats, improve site hydraulics and water quality and protect private property rights of adjoining land owners. The complete Feasibility Report can be downloaded at <http://www.yolocounty.org/prm/resmanage.htm>.

Julia will be meeting with West Sacramento this week for an update regarding the Sacramento River Levee Habitat study. Local property owners have approved an annual parcel assessment to help finance levee upgrades required by new 2005 federal standards.

The County is also working on several IRWMP foundational actions related to Cache Creek: countywide topographic mapping using LiDAR and an aquatic habitat and fish opportunity assessment program (in conjunction with the WRA/YCFCWCD). Yolo County Resource Conservation District has received a CALFED grant for geomorphologic assessment of Capay Valley upstream of the Cache Creek Resource Management Plan area. The assessment focuses on opportunities for restoration and bank protection that will begin in January. The County has six Proposition 50 grants that are currently being implemented along Cache Creek and various County parks for habitat restoration and recreation.

9. FUTURE IRWM POLICY, LEGISLATION & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

John Woodling, Chief Conjunctive Water Management Branch, California Department of Water Resources. John's presentation was on the integrated regional water management program and funding mechanisms for water management projects. He began with an overview of the updated California Water Plan and how the IRWM program fits into resource management strategies. The

Water Plan lists 25 resource strategies to improve statewide water management that were incorporated into Proposition 84. The Water Plan's philosophy is that implementing these strategies regionally improves self-sufficiency, water supply and water quality. John emphasized that water management actions and issues are interconnected and no single strategy can meet the state or region's needs. The IRWM program objectives are to improve water supply reliability, protect and improve water quality, ensure sustainability through environmental stewardship, promote multiple benefits and promote a financial incentive for integrated and collaborative planning. He discussed the successes and goals of IRWM funding under Proposition 50 Round 1 and Round 2.

Propositions 84 and 1E are pending appropriation by the legislature in 2008. Proposition 84 provided \$5.38 billion for water, flood protection and environmental protection. Proposition 84 will allocate funding to geographic areas, not Statewide, therefore there may be multiple IRWM regions in a funding area. Funding will be competitive for the \$73 million identified for the Sacramento River watershed and negotiation or collaboration among the regional groups will be a necessity. Proposition Final IRWM program guidelines for the new propositions should be approved by June 2008. Since new guidelines will be established in the new propositions, planning money will be available to update existing IRWM's and/or to assist in the development plans. Proposition 84 funds were not included in this fiscal year's budget; therefore, implementation money would probably not be available until the end of next fiscal year. Proposition 1E provided \$4.09 billion for flood management, control and protection. \$300 million of Proposition 1E funding will be coordinated with the IRWM program. John mentioned that Yolo County is farther along in development of a flood management program than other counties.

John discussed the direction of future water planning and guidelines that incorporate: flood management mitigation, best management practices for climate change, measurable plan objectives, evaluation of projects based on the measurable objectives, the needs of disadvantaged communities, assessment of stakeholder involvement, and governance (agreement within the region to implement the plan). DWR identified the IRWM planning regions for Proposition 84 and encourages collaboration among regions.

There are other programs that provide local funding, such as: the Local Groundwater Assistance Program

(AB 303), safe drinking water and wastewater treatment programs through the Department of Public Health and the State Water Resources Control Board (Prop. 84), flood management programs (flood SAFE California - Prop 84 and 1E) and local levee programs. Special legislative sessions are continuing to negotiate a water bond for the February 2008 ballot.

John Woodling: (916) 651-9294; woodling@water.ca.gov

Grant information: www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov

floodSAFE California: www.floodsafe.water.ca.gov

Proposition 84: http://www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov/grants/leginfo/legis_Prop84.cfm

Additionally, the Board discussed Yolo County's Proposition 50 Round 2 application and DWR's evaluation of the IRWMP as part of the application process. WRA staff will forward DWR's evaluation via email to the WRA Board and Technical Committee. Several WRA representatives will

meet with DWR grants staff to discuss this topic in January. The Technical Committee was directed to review the IRWMP evaluation and recommend next steps to the Board.

10. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT AND INFORMATION

- a) The Executive Committee had nothing additional to report.
- b) The Administrative Coordinator reported that Perry, Bunch, Battaglia and Johnston, Inc. have begun an audit of fiscal years ending in 2006 and 2007. The audit report will be completed by January 2008.

11. MEMBERS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

The cities of Winters, Davis and Woodland, the University of CA Davis, YCFC&WCD, Yolo County, Reclamation District 2035, and Dunnigan Water District gave brief updates on their agencies' recent activities.

Sue Greenwald requested a technical update on groundwater recharge at a future meeting. There is an active groundwater monitoring program in Yolo County. Max Stevenson, YCFCWCD, was asked to give an update on this topic at a future meeting. A proposed conjunctive use project is the subject of the YCFCWCD's AB 303 grant application that will be submitted on December 11th. If funded, the project would enable the District to better recharge the underlying aquifer, alleviate canal capacity constraints in normal and wet water years, protect agricultural and urban interests in dry water years and address the immediate need to improve groundwater quality and ensure adequate supply for the cities contained in the District's boundaries.

Items for the next agenda include: review of DWR's comments on the Yolo County IRWMP, annual report from the implementation partners, WRA officer nominations and appointments, and review of the audit report.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE:

Board members will be contacted via email with a suggested next meeting date after the January 21st holiday.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Gentile

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WRA Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator