

Water Resources Association of Yolo County
Technical Committee (TC) – June 2, 2011, 8:30 – 10:30 am
Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East St., Woodland

MINUTES

Committee Members:

Jacques De Bra, City of Davis	Cecilia Curry, City of Winters
Max Stevenson, YCFC&WCD	Julie Haas, DWR
Cindy Tuttle, Yolo County	Kathryn Chandler, RD 108
Jeanette Wrynski, Yolo County RCD	Mark Cocke, City of Woodland
Robin Kulakow, Yolo Basin Foundation	Donita Hendrix, Dunnigan Water District
Donna Gentile, WRA	

Other Attendees:

Robert Morrow, ARCADIS	Dave Pratt
Martin Lewis, Cunningham Engineering	

Member Agencies Absent:

City of West Sacramento	Colusa County Water District
UC Davis	RD 2035

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** by Jacques De Bra.
- 2. APPROVAL AGENDA & Adding Items to Posted Agenda:** Add agenda item on weed management program update from Yolo County Resource Conservation District after item #6.
- 3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES:** Previous regular meeting minutes were emailed to the TC for review with today's agenda. Comments on the 5/5/11 draft minutes are due by 6/3/11.
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no comments from the public.
- 5. DWR UPDATE:** A DWR representative was not present. TC members shared known updates. Tim O'Halloran participated as a panel speaker at recent DWR IRWM conference and gave a brief update on his talking points about IRWM planning. The conference was well attended. The schedule for the next round of Prop. 84 implementation grant funding has been extended from January to about June 2012. Jacques informed that the current planning grant awardees are awaiting the State Treasurer to encumber funds which is tied to the current State budget adoption process. If a budget is not adopted on time in July, then the awards process will be delayed. DWR staff cutbacks are also impacting the ability to process the grant programs. The Sacramento River Regional Forum is meeting this afternoon from 1-4 pm, which will be webcast. The TC assumes that DWR's AB303 local groundwater assistance grants are probably pending the budget process as well. Jeanette Wrynski noted that all State grant program policies are changing with the advent of the Governor's new policies.

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- 6. WATER LEGISLATION & REGULATORY ISSUES UPDATE:** Tim discussed the Delta Plan and SBx7-7. The Delta Stewardship Council (DCS) is on a tight timeline to develop the Delta Plan. The third draft has been released for public comments. Tim has been actively participating in ACWA's Ag-Urban Coalition. The Coalition, representing numerous agencies, sent a comment letter on the draft Delta Plan. Yolo County has also sent a comment letter independently. The Coalition is preparing an alternative Delta Plan that takes a more collaborative approach. The alternate Plan encourages the DSC to take more of a coordinating role, as dictated in the legislation, rather than the over-reaching authority role currently presented. The WRA Executive Committee is discussing whether it is appropriate for the WRA, as a regional entity, to be included in ACWA's Coalition of agencies in their comment letters on the Delta Plan.

Cindy also informed that the idea of creating a regional flood agency with assessment authority suggested at the Delta Protection Commission has been quelled at this time, but will likely re-surface. The US Army Corps of Engineers' budget has been released. The City of West Sacramento is receiving funding, but several local projects that have been actively pursuing Federal funding did not receive any: the Lower Cache Creek Feasibility Study and RD 108's Mid-Valley levee reconstruction project. It would be beneficial to collectively discuss new strategies for moving forward given the current changing Federal government policies and funding environment. Jacques suggested making this a standing discussion item on the TC agenda.

Robin Kulakow reiterated that she participates on the Delta Conservancy Strategic Plan Committee (as a non-voting member). The locals are well-represented in this forum with the voting members being 5 county supervisors. At a recent meeting, DWR, State Water Contractors, and US Fish & Wildlife Service stated that they see the Conservancy as the coordinating agency for Delta implementation work once the Delta Plan is completed. Robin felt that the best local influence can be affected at the Delta Conservancy. Senator Wolk is also influential in this forum. Jacques asked Robin to continue keeping the WRA TC informed.

Tim reported on SBx7-7, which is the water conservation component of the 2009 Delta legislation package for both agricultural and urban communities. Tim is involved in the ag side along with RD 108 and other ag agencies. The proposed ag water metering regulations will have a major economic impact on the ag industry if they have to install metering gates or retrofit existing gates and consequently increasing water rates to users. If businesses don't comply with the regulations they will not be eligible to apply for State grant funds or loans, however, attorneys are still investigating the legal implications of this State mandated legislation. The timeline for implementation is July 2012.

- 7. ADDED ITEM - UPDATE ON YOLO COUNTY WEED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM** - Jeanette Wrynski, Yolo County RCD and Cindy Tuttle, Yolo County. Cindy opened the discussion with background information about the Cache Creek Area Plan's (CCAP) annual vegetative invasive species removal

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program. The program costs a minimum of \$50,000 per year. Last year the County spent \$90,000, primarily on arundo and tamarisk. They were able to accomplish more removal due to the dewatering during the Capay Dam apron rehabilitation project. Eric Ringelberg is the CCAP TAC biologist, Jeanette and Cindy explored the development of an invasive species removal plan that would coordinate agencies efforts and effectively utilize resources to accomplish the weed management goals for the watershed. Jeanette clarified there is a general lack of awareness about the RCD's weed management efforts over the years. The RCD's work is very dependent on available grant funding. The RCD coordinates with the Cache Creek Conservancy's programs. For the last 10 years, the RCD has sponsored the Cache Creek Watershed Forum (CCWF) that provides a forum for weed management coordination. Many agencies conduct weed management activities, however, a watershed-wide invasive species management plan has not been developed. Jeanette and Cindy are aware of the unallocated funds in the WRA project budget and would like to submit a proposal through the CCWF to develop a watershed-wide invasive species management plan that is consistent with other existing area plans. Tim asked how the Weed Management Area fits into this proposal. Jeanette informed that the RCD hosts the weed management area for Yolo County which is coordinated with the Yolo County Agricultural Commissioner. Jeanette and Cindy asked for the TC's feedback on this funding request. A draft proposal outline was presented to Jacques. The TC discussed that a weed management program would be in line with foundational actions in the Yolo County IRWMP.

Jacques informed that the WRA Board will adopt the budget as presented on June 20th and more funding requests for the unallocated project funds are expected to be received by the TC. Jacques suggested further development of the proposal with a requested amount (Donna will send them a blank funding request form). The TC will review funding requests received beginning in July and can present them to the WRA Board in September or November. The WRA Board will have the final approval of all TC recommendations to allocate the available project budget funds. Projects considered for WRA funding support would need to present a scope, schedule and budget after their initial request is reviewed. Jeanette and Cindy should prepare a draft proposal to submit to the TC for consideration. This requested funding would be used to develop a regional weed management program, not for actual invasive species removal work.

8. UPDATE on PROPOSITION 84 PLANNING GRANT:

- a) Westside IRWMP Process – Jacques informed that the grant funding has not been officially authorized yet. DWR has indicated that there may be a multi-month delay in the funding being released due to encumbrance processes tied to the adoption of a fiscal year State budget. The Westside group will not be incurring additional expenses until the DWR contract is fully executed. Chris Lee, Solano County Water Agency, is the acting Westside project manager and was commended for the great job he is doing during this process. Max Stevenson has also been involved with the contract process for the YCFC&WCD, the Westside grant's fiscal agent. The contract has been submitted to DWR, but is still pending their review and changes.

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9. YOLO COUNTY IRWMP UPDATE PROCESS:

- a) Final Review 2010-2020 Priority List: Final comments are due to Donna by 6/8/11.
- b) Final Review of Final Accomplishments List: Final comments are due to Donna by 6/8/11. Both lists will be presented to the WRA Board on June 20th. These lists will be updated annually with the WRA budget adoption process.
- c) Update on Yolo County Hydraulic Modeling Strategy: Tim did not have anything to report at this time. floodSAFE Yolo has drafted a letter to DWR which is under consideration and review. Tim will let Jacques and Donna know when he has more information for the TC.

10. FINAL FY 2011-12 WRA PROJECT FUND:

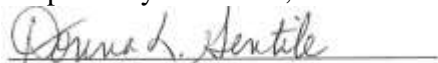
- a) Approve final FY 2011-12 budget recommendations: Jacques reviewed the FY11-12 project budget revenue and project recommendations (FY 11-12 budget handout attached below). The TC unanimously approved the proposed project recommendations as presented.
- b) Preliminary summary of Surface Water Monitoring Program: Max Stevenson handed out a draft program outline for discussion purposes (attached separately to minutes). He reviewed the success of the groundwater monitoring program and discussed the development of an initial scope of work for the surface water monitoring program. He reported on the current status of surface water monitoring in Yolo County and the lack of a comprehensive system to monitor surface water quality. The Water Resources Information Database (WRID) is actively used to manage the Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program and it could also be used to manage surface water data. Max summarized the proposed FY 11-12 actions for the first phase of developing the surface water quality management portion of the WRID. The attached handout details the proposed actions and project deliverables anticipated for FY11-12 WRA funding.

11. MEMBER INFORMATION & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: The City of Woodland, Dunnigan Water District, Yolo County RCD, City of Davis, YCFWCWD, RD 108, City of Winters, and Yolo County gave brief updates on current activities.

12. NEXT TC MEETING DATE: July 7, 2011, 8:30 -10:30 a.m., at the Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East St.

13. ADJOURN at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna L. Gentile
Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator

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WRA FY 2011-12 Project Funds Budget Technical Committee Budget Recommendations Approved June 2, 2011

FY 2011-2012 Project Budget Revenue	Proposed Baseline	Carryover from FY2010-11	Total Funds Available
Baseline from membership dues (57%)	99,375		99,375
Special project dues: Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program	89,000		89,000
Yolo County IRWMP Update (unexpended in 2010-11)		7,743	7,743
Develop Surface Water Monitoring Program (Foundational Action)		35,000	35,000
Administrative Legislative & Legal Services		18,194	18,194
Revenue totals	\$188,375	\$60,937	\$249,312

FY 2011-12 Project Budget Expenses	Proposed FY2011-12	Carryover from FY2010-11	Total Funds Available
Westside IRWMP: FY11-12 (5 county MOU cost share amount) ¹	35,000		35,000
Develop Surface Water Monitoring Program (Foundational Action)		35,000	35,000
Administrative Legislative & Legal Services		18,194	18,194
Yolo Bypass Integrated Action (Yolo Basin Foundation)	20,000		20,000
Yolo IRWMP Implementation: Unallocated funds	44,375	7,743	52,118
Special Allocation: Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program (YCECWCD)	89,000		89,000
Expenditure totals	\$188,375	\$60,937	\$249,312

1 - This is a 2-year commitment. An additional \$35,000 is committed for FY 2012-13 per Westside MOU

Total Revenue from Membership contributions expected FY 2011-12	\$	174,345
Administrative budget - 43%	\$	74,968
Project budget - 57%	\$	99,377