

Water Resources Association of Yolo County
Technical Committee (TC) – January 7, 2010, 8:30 – 10:30 am
Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East St., Woodland

MINUTES

Committee Members:

Jacques DeBra, City of Davis	Tim O'Halloran, YCFC&WCD
Stefan Lorenzato, YCFC&WCD	Mark Cocke, City of Woodland
Doug Baxter, City of Woodland	Regina Cherovsky, Reclamation District 2035
Donita Hendrix, Dunnigan Water District	Don Peart, Colusa County Water District
Robin Kulakow, Yolo Basin Foundation	Kevin Schwartz, Yolo County
Jeanette Wrynski, Yolo County RCD	Tasmin Eusuff, DWR
Max Stevenson, YCFCWCD	Donna Gentile, WRA

Other Attendees:

Dave Pratt	Monique deBarruel, West Yost Associates
Yumiko Henneberry	Mark Wilson, Wilson Farms & Vineyards

Committee Members Absent:

City of Winters	UC Davis
Reclamation District 108	City of West Sacramento

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** by Jacques DeBra.
- 2. APPROVAL AGENDA & Adding Items to Posted Agenda** – Agenda was approved as presented
- 3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES** – Previous meeting minutes were emailed to the TC for review with today's agenda. Comments on the 11/5/09 draft minutes are due by 1/11/10. No meeting was held in December 2009.
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT** – No comments from the public.
- 5. DWR UPDATE** – Tasmin Euseff, DWR, gave an update on Proposition 84 Program Water Quality Grants and the IRWM program. Two public workshops were held in January to solicit comments on the Draft Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Packages (PSP) prepared for Local Groundwater Assistance (LGA) and Proposition 50 Supplemental IRWM funding. Comments are due by January 12th. IRWM program implementation and planning grant draft guidelines should be out next month. Funding for this program is currently on hold as a result of current State budget issues. It is not known when these issues will be resolved and program funding authorized. An AB303 solicitation package is being prepared, however no funding has been authorized at this time.

As of February 1st, Lester Snow will be Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency and Mark Cowin will be the new directors of DWR.
- 6. UPDATES ON WATER POLICY** – Tim O'Halloran, YCFCWCD, reported on the water policy package of legislation passed in November 2009. State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) hearings began today to review water flow criteria determinations as the first order of business. Yolo County interests are receiving legal and technical support with regional partners, such as Yolo County, YCFCWCD, NCWA and RD 108. Legislation mandates a 9-month decision timeline. The water flow numbers presented in the Delta Vision Plan were reviewed and analyzed by Yolo County interests. The local perspective is that the Plan's flow numbers are not workable. Additionally, the

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burden of water fees will likely be placed on local water districts to compensate for a shortfall of funding for the water policy legislation, especially if the \$11 million dollar bond does not pass in November. The WRA TC should closely monitor the groundwater component of the legislation. Most agencies in Yolo County are covered by an AB3030 plan. However, the TC should research which local agencies and WRA members are not covered and determine what options are available to those agencies for compliance or inclusion in an existing AB3030 plan. Water conservation is another component of the water policy package. Agricultural interests are not greatly affected by the management plan recommendations, but the urban areas should review their compliance with state mandated water conservation measures. For example, the City of Woodland is in the process of a 5-year update of their Urban Water Management Plan.

Jacques DeBra informed the TC about WRA members' involvement in the upcoming annual CAP-to-CAP trip to Washington, DC. The City of Woodland, YCFCWCD and Yolo County are coordinating and will submit Federal appropriations requests for large, ready-to-go local projects. Those agencies may be looking to the TC for input. The deadline for the appropriations applications is in early February.

7. **UPDATE ON YOLO COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS** – Max Stevenson, YCFCWCD, gave an update on current, local groundwater conditions. Max summarized the groundwater monitoring program work performed this summer including installation of direct flow measurement devices, training of staff to utilize the GIS interface to the groundwater database and the groundwater intern's assistance in gathering and analyzing data. Illustrated by GW hydrographs covering a period from 1950 to 2005, Max compared current conditions to historical data of previous drought conditions. Approximately 100 wells within the YCFCWCD service area have been monitored since the 1950's for water levels. After 3 years of the current drought conditions, we are only ½ way to the lowest historical well levels recorded in 1977. When compared with cumulative change in groundwater storage data collected between 1962 and 2002 for the Central Valley region (including Sacramento, Delta and Eastside streams, San Joaquin and Tulare basins), Yolo County is much more fortunate in the overall impacts to groundwater level storage. A written report summarizing the data will be available for distribution to the WRA in a month or so.

8. **YOLO COUNTY IRWMP INTEGRATED ACTION UPDATE** – Jacques DeBra, TC Chair, Jacques summarized the strategic approach for updating the IRWMP actions. The first step is compiling the original actions adopted with the IRWMP 2007 and requesting status updates of the actions listed. In January and February all 8 integrated projects will submit their actions updates. The TC's second step is to evaluate the updates in March. The third step will be to compile the evaluated results and determine the best policy action to recommend to the WRA Board along. The TC will also recommend the best strategy for future IRWMP updates. Four of the integrated projects discussed their updates.
 - The Davis-Woodland Water Supply Project has been renamed the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency with the establishment of a formal JPA organization. Jacques De Bra updated the status of the 6 component actions and listed 7 capital projects which are currently in either the planning or permitting phases.

 - The Yolo Bypass Integrated Project has been focused on responding to issues and evaluating potential impacts raised by two State plans that came to the forefront which are overshadowing their implementation efforts – the Delta Vision Plan process and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. Robin Kulakow stated it was difficult to describe the level of progress for the integrated actions on

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the chart provided. She requested assistance on how to best illustrate Yolo Bypass capital projects. Monique from West Yost Associates may be able to assist Robin with this task.

- The Cache Creek Water and Flood Management Integrated Projects were reviewed by Tim O'Halloran in conjunction with the other project partners – the City of Woodland and Yolo County. Tim found there was some redundancy in the original actions and the first step is to identify those actions that should be consolidated. He also questioned how to incorporate several processes initiated since the adoption of the IRWMP: Yolo County's facilitate water committee review of groundwater and water transfer policies and the potential creation of a countywide water agency; the Bay Delta Conservation Plan; and the 2009 approved State water legislation package. The strategic approach that shapes the updating format should be driven by identifying the target audience. A more detailed update would be appropriate for the TC, who is already familiar with the IRWMP. A simplified presentation is needed for a public audience. He suggested that the actions could be represented and consolidated into several main elements with subtasks rather than the current level of detailed tasks. He asked the TC whether a narrative vs. a matrix is the most effective way to demonstrate progress or a combination of both. For example, many of the flood management program tasks are now being conducted by the floodSAFE Yolo Pilot Program established after the IRWMP's adoption.
- The Yolo County Sloughs, Creeks and Canals Management Program actions were reviewed by Stefan Lorenzato in conjunction with a variety of participating stakeholders. Stefan re-organized the component actions by prerequisite projects and identified multiple actions that could be condensed into a single action. The revised single actions could be categorized by water management category (e.g. water quality) or by project area under new actions or capital projects (e.g. canal and slough riparian enhancements). There is a foundational action component that could be associated with all the tasks, while still preserving the detailed information and work accomplished. Stefan also found it challenging to describe the level of progress for the integrated actions on the chart provided. He also agreed that there are two audiences to satisfy, technical and public, but the approach must be different for each. Stefan posed two questions to ask ourselves: What are we trying to accomplish? How can we hold ourselves accountable to the process?

The TC agreed to make a final evaluation of the IRWMP update approach after the remaining four projects have presented their updates in February. Then the TC will discuss how the update approach and format can be improved for the intended audience.

9. MEMBER INFORMATION & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

<u>February 4th agenda:</u>	2 nd Round of updates from Integrated Projects
<u>Future item:</u>	Discuss with Westside Regional Water Management Group how to incorporate other counties IRWM's

10. NEXT TC MEETING DATE: February 4, 2010, 8:30 -10:30 a.m., at the Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East St.

11. ADJOURN at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Gentile

Donna L. Gentile, WRA Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator