

Water Resources Association of Yolo County
Technical Committee (TC) – March 4, 2010, 8:30 – 10:30 am
Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East St., Woodland

MINUTES

Committee Members:

Jacques DeBra, City of Davis	Stefan Lorenzato, YCFC&WCD
Robin Kulakow, Yolo Basin Foundation	Mark Cocke, City of Woodland
Donita Hendrix, Dunnigan Water District	Warren Westrup, Yolo County
Dave Shpak, City of West Sacramento	Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, City of Winters
Donna Gentile, WRA	Regina Cherovsky, Reclamation District 2035
Jeanette Wrynski, Yolo County RCD	

Other Attendees:

Monique de Barruel, West Yost Associates Bill Marble, City of Woodland, WRA Chair

Committee Members Absent:

Reclamation District 108	UC Davis
Colusa County Water District	

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 2/4/10 draft minutes are due by 3/8/10.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – No comments from the public.
5. **DWR UPDATE** – Bill Brewster, DWR, was unable to attend today’s meeting. Donna read the following update that Bill sent via email:
 - ♦ **SB6** – DWR is currently developing an approach for SB6 implementation. There have been questions relating to the Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program and SB6 requirements. It is unlikely that SB6 will have a significant impact on the current monitoring effort in Yolo County. Draft guidance will be released for public comment before anything is finalized. Details will be provided as they are available.
 - ♦ **IRWM** – IRWM guidelines are scheduled for release tomorrow. You can check the DWR Grants and Loans, Integrated Regional Water Management Grants, What’s New webpage for the latest information (http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/integregio_news.cfm).
 - ♦ **Local Groundwater Assistance (LGA)** – The Final LGA Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for the next round of LGA grants is tentatively scheduled for release on the DWR Local Groundwater Assistance webpage next week

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[\(http://www.water.ca.gov/lgrant/\)](http://www.water.ca.gov/lgrant/). Also, funding allocation information related to the October bond sales should be available soon. Stay tuned.

Please contact Bill (bbrew@water.ca.gov) or Brett (bwyckoff@water.ca.gov) if you have any questions.

Stefan Lorenzato added that although PSP's are being released the State does not have authorization to release grant funds at this time, which will likely be part of next budget year. Bond money is specifically linked to these grant programs and can not be diverted elsewhere next year. Stefan also reported on several director staffing changes within DWR.

6. WATER LEGISLATION (Tim O'Halloran, YCFC&WCD/Warren Westrup, Yolo County)

A water bond informational item is likely to be discussed at a future WRA Board meeting and its implications locally and statewide. Bill Marble asked the TC for feedback on the preferred timing for this discussion. The suggested meeting format is a pros and cons speaker panel.

- a) *Update on water legislation:* Warren provided an update on water legislation. He reported on a preliminary discussion at the WRA Executive Committee including Petrea Marchand regarding legislative coordination. The goal is to improve member agencies' effectiveness in covering legislative issues. The Yolo County CAO has appointed a mini-task force (Warren, Dirk, Petrea and Phil Pogledich, legal counsel) to cover Delta issues since Julia McIver's vacancy. Supervisor McGowan and the task force met with Tim O'Halloran to discuss a coordinated front for Yolo County interests. Yolo County's focus has been on Delta governance issues. Tim's focus has been on groundwater monitoring, water conservation issues and the SWRCB water flow criteria proceedings. An information exchange has been established that benefits all parties and conserves resources.

Warren reported on the developing and evolving structure of the Delta Counties Coalition (Yolo, Contra Costa, Solano, Sacramento and San Joaquin). The Delta Counties Coalition has not taken a position on the water bond yet, but their technical advisory committee has been charged with analyzing the bond's pros and cons. The new Delta Protection Commission (DPC) structure is changing from State to local control and held its first meeting last week. The new DPC approved the updated resource management plan amid requests to defer this decision to allow for further analysis. The DPC could have a large role in the final Delta plan since the DPC chair will also be a member of the Delta Stewardship Council. The local partners have been active in an effort to provide additional staff resources to the DPC. The hope is that local participation can also represent local concerns. Warren informed that Linda Fiack will be retiring from the DPC in June. The new Delta Conservancy is just starting to mobilize with staff and board members. The Delta Counties Coalition will be given some assignments on the Conservancy. Warren was asked whether the Delta Stewardship Council had been

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selected yet. He isn't aware of announcements yet, but informed that under the new legislation the chair of the DPC must be a member of the Stewardship Council and a representative from one of the five Delta Counties will be the chair.

Senator Wolk has introduced two new bills with the following focus: 1) appropriates Delta levee repair funds in the next budget cycle under Prop. 1E (includes Yolo County's western levee priorities); and 2) coordination with all counties NCCP efforts in the Delta relating to the BDCP.

b) *Update regarding groundwater and water conservation legislation:* Item was not discussed in Tim and Max's absence.

7. **YOLO COUNTY IRWMP INTEGRATED ACTION UPDATE**

Jacques distributed a handout prepared by Monique de Barruel, who is assisting with the logistical compilation of the updates received to-date. Monique explained that the spreadsheet represented those projects that checked the "Operation" box in the update template (indicating that the project is in some operational stage). This does not necessarily mean the project is 100% complete as indicated by the "Completion Year Anticipated" box information. All lead partners will be asked to fill-in the completion year to assist with prioritization. Stefan pointed out that some of these projects are on-going, therefore Monique recommended filling in "ongoing" in the year box so they can be identified. Jacques gave an overview of the IRWMP Update Process and the timeline (see PPT presentation at end of minutes).

a) *Foundational Actions:* Jacques gave an update on the status of the IRWMP Foundational Actions.

Suggested FY 2010-11 priorities for discussion are:

- Enhance YC Surface Water Monitoring Program
- Update YC IGSM Modeling Program
- Plan for 2011 YC Subsidence Network Project (DWR funding contribution undetermined)
- Develop Aquatic Habitat Monitoring Program

Changes to existing Foundational Action list:

- Remove SCADA Network Enhancement Program
- Move WRID Enhancement Program under GW Monitoring
- Move Topographic Mapping (LiDAR) Program)
- Remove Development of HCP/NCCP

Jacques discussed funding for the Foundational Actions. The Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program is the only action that has established stand-alone funding (dues/value based program). Other Foundational Actions may need to follow this model if the TC and WRA Board agree to further develop an action. Other possible funding options include developing a WRA surcharge for program cost and benefit share or the

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lead partner would be responsible for funding their own foundational action, which would be quite expensive versus the regional approach. The TC members should weigh in on what foundational actions they consider important. The TC may want to consider allocating FY 2010-11 project funds in support of foundational actions. These actions are considered long-term regional investments. The TC will discuss all of these options in April for a recommendation to the Board in May. Jacques suggested that the TC meet twice in April to adequately discuss budget recommendations and the IRWMP update.

Stefan gave a brief groundwater monitoring update in Max's absence. The YCFCWCD was awarded an AB303 grant and although State funding is still in limbo, program work continues. The State released about a third of the grant funds and YCFCWCD invoiced DWR for \$100,000, but payment has not yet been received. The grant funds are in limbo again as there is no money available for allocation at this time.

Stefan provided his suggestions on targeting FY 2010-11 WRA project funds for regional coordination on: the multitude of State initiatives, the Westside regional watershed and IRWM, and local and State floodplain mapping and modeling (LiDAR). Coordination encompasses such a broad, multi-agency effort, it was suggested that this might be identified as a new foundational action in itself. The TC discussed the possibility of WRA project funds being used to support coordination efforts by hiring consultants or reimbursing member agency staff that are already spending resources to track concurrent programs and processes. In April, the TC will discuss 2010-11 allocations in more detail after evaluating priorities and available funding.

- b) Summary of IRWMP Integrated Action updates: Discussed with Item 7a.
- c) Next Steps: Discussed with Item 7a.

8. MEMBER INFORMATION & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Stefan shared a few other informational updates:

- o SWRCB is beginning an effort to develop biocriteria for wadeable streams, kickoff meeting on 3/8
- o Capay Dam apron repair project moving forward, permits are pending, planned construction is for the fall
- o Report on YCFCWCD upcoming water season; current storage is over 100,000 ac/ft at Indian Valley Reservoir
- o RWQCB posted a new draft mercury TMDL, not all local comments were included, public comments due by April 15th. DWR will be establishing a Cache Creek Settling Basin working group that would include local, state and federal representatives to address mercury issues.
- o Vance Russell has left Audubon California
- o Central Valley Flood Board approved an internally controversial DFG permit for Abbott Lake on the Feather River

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Jeanette Wrynski announced that Dan Efseaff will be leaving Yolo County RCD.

Robin Kulakow informed another new working group has been proposed by the BDCP to address Yolo Bypass concerns. The BDCP considers the current Yolo Bypass Working Group too large to be effective. Warren suggested she contact Petrea Marchand regarding the County's input on countering the proposed BDCP workgroup with a select key stakeholders group.

Any feedback on the IRWMP update process or 2010-11 budget considerations can be emailed to Donna for consideration at the April TC meeting (info@yolowra.org). An outline of the April meeting will be distributed in advance, so people can comment.

- 9. NEXT TC MEETING DATE:** April 1, 2010*, 8:30 -10:30 a.m., at the Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East St.

***POST MEETING NOTE:** The meeting date was changed to April 8th and a second meeting was scheduled for April 22nd to ensure that the TC has sufficient time to discuss the IRWMP update process and the 2010-11 budget recommendations to the WRA Board for the May meeting.

- 10. ADJOURN** at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Gentile

Donna L. Gentile, WRA Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator