

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**City/County Library Community Room**  
995 Palm Street  
San Luis Obispo

Wednesday, December 2, 2009  
**1:30 p.m.**

---

1. **Introductions and Determination of a Quorum**
2. **Approval of November Meeting Minutes**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **Ongoing Updates:**
  - a. **Paso Robles Groundwater Basin**
  - b. **Rainfall and Reservoir Update**
  - c. **Master Water Plan**
5. **New Agriculture and Environmental At-Large Positions**
6. **Future Agenda Items**
  - a. **Master Water Plan Workshop**

*--- Adjourn by 3:30 pm ---*

**Next Regular Meeting:**      **January 6, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.**  
   **San Luis Obispo City/County Library**  
   **995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo**

**Visit Water Resources on the Web at:** [www.SLOCountyWater.org](http://www.SLOCountyWater.org)

**Purpose of the Committee:**

To advise the County Board of Supervisors concerning all policy decisions relating to the water resources of the SLO County Flood Control & Water Conservation District. To recommend to the Board specific water resource programs. To recommend methods of financing water resource programs.

*Excerpts from WRAC By-Laws dated November 3, 2009*

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL  
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2009

---

An audio recording of the meeting and materials submitted during public comment are available online at [www.SLOCountyWater.org](http://www.SLOCountyWater.org).

Approximately 1:30 p.m., Chairperson Winn called the meeting to order.

- 1) Determination of a Quorum - Quorum Established.

By unanimous consent, the WRAC agreed to take the following item out of order.

- 2) Santa Maria Groundwater Basin - Northern Cities Management Area Water Issues - Dwayne Chisam, City of Pismo Beach, provides an update on the current water issues for the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA) of the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin, including: annual groundwater monitoring and reporting requirements, the results of the most recent monitoring event, the indication of potential seawater intrusion, the impacts of groundwater pumping and weather on local groundwater levels, the collaborative efforts by Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, and Oceano to reduce future groundwater pumping, the potential sources of additional surface water, the goals to prevent seawater from migrating inland, and the existing water conservation programs. Discussion ensues regarding the boundaries of the NCMA, the methods for testing and locations of the sentry wells, existing incentives to remove turf, the groundwater quality monitoring schedule, the opportunity to develop interties for better groundwater management, agricultural pumping within the city limits of Arroyo Grande, potential groundwater recharge sites, the availability of the raw water quality testing results, the potential downward migration of seawater within a well, the proper deconstruction of abandoned wells, the distance and general location of production wells relative to the sentry well(s), considerations of raising the Lopez dam spillway, and opportunities for bringing in additional State water.
- 3) Introductions - Introductions made.
- 4) Approval of October Meeting Minutes - The October 7, 2009 WRAC meeting minutes were approved upon a first by Member Garfinkel, second by Alternate Member Eby, and a unanimous vote with two (2) abstentions.
- 5) Public Comment - Alternate Member Harvey reads a statement from Dorothy Jennings regarding rainfall, water availability in the headwaters of the Paso Robles creek, and the impact of new homes and intense agriculture on water availability. Member Hyman informs the WRAC of an article in the *New Times* on Nonylphenol, an emerging contaminant. Discussion ensues regarding the U.S. government labeling

system, local research on Nonylphenol, and concentrations of Nonylphenol in local waters. Alternate Member D. Chipping informs the WRAC of an article in a Colorado publication, the *High County News* ([www.HCN.org](http://www.HCN.org)), titled “Death by a Thousand Wells”, indicating that unregulated wells are straining groundwater supplies in Washington and throughout the West. Member O’Grady informs the WRAC of a newsletter published by Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee regarding the 33<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District as well as the California State Legislature, regarding recent water legislation. John Snyder, Nipomo resident, speaks to the missing coastal monitoring well in the Santa Maria groundwater basin, and to the need to properly abandon lost or abandoned wells. Frank Ausilio speaks to the need for clearly delineated groundwater basins. Discussion ensues regarding recent work efforts to define the Los Osos, Paso Robles, and Santa Maria groundwater basins, recognizing financial and budgetary constraints on those and other basins. Jaime Lien informs the WRAC of an upcoming workshop on rainwater harvesting focusing on rural residences and speaks to future workshops focused on ways to implement graywater systems in rural residences.

6) Ongoing Updates:

- a. Paso Robles Groundwater Basin - Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, reports that a re-kick-off meeting for development of the Groundwater Management Plan is scheduled for November 12, 2009, in Paso Robles and that the water balance update is nearing completion. Discussion ensues regarding the schedule and contract.
  - b. Grading and Stormwater Management Ordinances Subcommittee Report - Chairperson Winn, subcommittee chair, reports that the subcommittee to review the grading and stormwater management ordinances attended the Planning Commission meeting on October 22, 2009, and that the subcommittee does not recommend that the WRAC review the Grading and Stormwater Management Ordinances explaining that the proposed ordinance has minimal impact on groundwater quantity and quality. Discussion ensues regarding promoting greater stewardship of the ocean and surface waters that flow into the ocean. Alternate Member Bianchi speaks to sand dams, the removal of in-channel aggregates, gravel mining operations, in-stream groundwater recharge, and conditions in streams that improve recharge opportunities.
  - c. Rainfall and Reservoir Update - Syllas Cranor, Public Works Department Staff, provides a brief report on the November rainfall and reservoir report. John Snyder, Nipomo resident, requests that Nipomo rainfall be included in the report and recommends using the Nipomo CIMIS (California Irrigation Management Information System) gauge. Alternate Member Eby requests that future WRAC agendas include quarterly saltwater intrusion status reports.
- 7) Presentation on Regional Climate Change and Shifts in Local Weather Patterns - John Lindsay, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, presents information on regional weather and climate change, including items relating to: local geography, offshore conditions, regional weather observations, recent and historic rainfall, climate change, potential sea level change, El Niño and La Niña, the Pacific decadal oscillation, the correlation

between ambient seawater temperature and rainfall, the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center, concerns regarding debris flows and urban burn areas, and rain gauge instrumentation. Discussion ensues regarding drought planning, increases of sea water level resulting from thermal expansion, practical forecast horizons, long-term water resources planning and impacts on flood zones, conditions that promote southern originating storms, and regional temperature and precipitation predictions.

- 8) Master Water Plan - Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, reports that comments on the technical memorandums were received and that the project team is reviewing those comments, asks agencies that have not yet submitted comments do so, and reminds the WRAC of an upcoming Master Water Plan workshop tentatively scheduled for December 2, 2009.
- 9) WRAC Bylaws - Membership - Chairperson Winn discusses the November 3, 2009 Board of Supervisors direction and action items, and asks for volunteers to serve on an ad hoc subcommittee to develop a vision for At-Large positions and to review the received membership applications. An ad hoc subcommittee is formed by the WRAC. Discussion ensues regarding representation by the County Agricultural Liaison Advisory Board and ensuring that the subcommittee has broad-based representation.
- 10) Future Agenda Items - Member Greening suggests that the WRAC discuss the proposed grading ordinance relative to sewage sludge. Members of the WRAC request that Cal Poly faculty, perhaps Lars Tomanek or Dean Wendt, present their research on Nonylphenol.

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:25 p.m.

---

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2009

Organization	Representative	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Apr**	May	Jun	Jul	Aug**	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cambria CSD	Jim Adams	M												
	Robert Reason	A	X											
	Bob Gresens	Staff		X				X				X	X	
Heritage Ranch CSD	John D'Ornellas	M	X		X						X	X	X	
	Debbie Fransen	A												
Los Osos CSD	Maria Kelly	M		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Marshall Ochylski	A		X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X
	Margret Falkner	Staff	X											
Nipomo CSD	Bruce Buel	M	X	X	*	X	X	*			X			
	Ed Eby	A	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
	Jim Harrison	Staff			X									
Oceano CSD	Barbara Mann	M			X									
	Phil Davis	A												
	Kevin Walsh	Staff		X	X	X			X		X			
	John Wallace	Staff										X		
Templeton CSD	Doug Groshart	Staff											X	
	Jeff Hodge	M						X			X	X		
San Simeon CSD	Judith Dieth	A												
	Paul Sorensen	Staff	X		X		X	X	X					
	John Russell	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
San Miguel CSD	Charles Grace	A												
	Mike Ellison	M	X	X	X			X						
	Dale Hamblin	A												
City of Arroyo Grande	Chuck Fellows	M					X	X			X			
	Jim Guthrie	A				X								
	Russ Thompson	M					*	*	X					
City of Atascadero	David Athey	A								X		X		
	Robert Mires	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
City of Grover Beach	Debbie Peterson	A						X						
	Betty Winholtz	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	*	X	X	X	X	X
City of Morro Bay	Dylan Wade	A	X	X								X		
	Christopher Alakel	M		X				X	X		X			
City of Paso Robles	Doug Monn	A												
	Keith Larson*	NA						X				X	X	
	Ted Ehring	M		X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
City of Pismo Beach	Ed Waage	A												
	Dwayne Chisam	Staff	X		X									X
	Greg Ray	Staff				X		X	X		X			
	Allen Settle	M					X							
City of San Luis Obispo	Andrew Carter	A												
	Gary Henderson	Staff	X	X		X	X	*			X	X	X	
	Ron Munds	Staff						X						
District 1	Steve Sinton	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	0	A												
District 2	Bill Garfinkel	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	*		X	X	X	
	0	A												
District 3	Marilee Hyman	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	0	A												
District 4	Michael Winn	M	X	X	*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	0	A												
District 5	Dan O'Grady	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	0	A												
California Men's Colony	John Kellerman	M	X		X	X		X	X					
	Mike Mintey	A	X											X
Camp SLO	John Reid	M	X	X	X	*	*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Nicole Balliet	A												
Cuesta College	Edralin Maduli	M												
	Terry Reece	A												
	Scott Demello	Staff			X									
Atascadero Mutual	John Neil	M						X	X	X		X	X	
	Jaime Lien	A	X								X		X	
	Dan Scalas	Staff				X								
Golden State Water	Mark Zimmer	M		X	X	X	X	X	X		*	X		
	Patrick Vowell	A	X	X		X	X	X						X
Agriculture At-Large	Ray Allen	M	X	X	X	*		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Vacant*	NM												
	Mike Broadhurst	A	X	X	X			X	X	X		X	X	
County Farm Bureau	Vacant*	NA												
	Joy Fitzhugh	M		X	X	X	X	X	*	X	X		X	
Environmental At-Large	Jackie Crabb	A	X						X					
	Sue Luft	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Eric Greening	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Coastal San Luis RCD	Vacant*	NM												
	David Chipping	A	X	X	X	X	*	X	X	X	X		X	
	Sue Harvey	A	X	X	X		X	X	X	X			X	
	Vacant*	NA												
Upper Salinas RCD	Linda Chipping	M	X	X	X	X	*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Kathie Matsuyama	A				X								
Board of Supervisors	Tom Mora	M												
	Bill Bianchi	A	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Public Works	Jim Patterson	Dist. 5						X						
	Amy Gilman	Staff						X						
Planning and Building	Courtney Howard	Staff	X	*	*	*	*	X	X	X	*	X	X	X
	Paavo Ogren	Staff			X		X	X						
	Dean Benedix	Staff	X	X	X	X		X						
	Sylas Cranor	Staff	X	*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Mark Hutchinson	Staff					X	X						
	John Waddell	Staff					X	X						
	John Diodati	Staff					X							
	Genaro Diaz	Staff					X							
	Jill Ogren	Staff						X						
Public Health Services	James Caruso	Staff	X	X		X		X	X		X	X		X
	Brian Pedrotti	Staff		X										
	Mike Wulkan	Staff							X					
	Steve McMasters	Staff									X			
	Elizabeth Kavanaugh	Staff									X			
	Michael Conger	Staff										X		
Agricultural Commissioner	Leslie Terry	Staff		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Megan Lillich	Staff		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Brad Prior	Staff				X								
	Kalub Emmons	Staff				X								

M= Member; A= Alternate; NM=New Member NA= New Alternate 0 = No nomination received as of 11/24/09

\*To be confirmed at a future BOS meeting

\*\*Special Meeting

\* = Notified of Absence/Conflict

**WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**2009 GUEST LIST**

NAME	AFFILIATION (if any)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG*	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Ausilio, Frank				X		X					X	X	
Barrett, Della	Public			X			X	X	X	X	X	X	
Bianchi, Mary	UC Cooperative Extension	X									X		
Bianchi, Shirley					X			X					
Bodrogi, Lisa	Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance									X			
Breschini, Amy	UC Cooperative Extension												
Carella, Lou	Carollo Engineers						X						
Cleath, Timothy					X				X				
Domingos, Tony	Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance							X					
Edwards, Jeff	Private Planner		X	X		X		X		X	X	X	
Gutierrez, Jose	Carollo Engineers						X						
Hanlon, Jon	AECOM									X		X	
Henry, Bill	Morro Group/SWCA								X				
Hensley, Gordon	San Luis Obispo Coastkeeper									X		X	
Hunter, Monica	PCLF							X					
Jacob, Stacie	Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance						X						
Jenning, Dorthy	Citizen						X						
Johnson, Marti	PCLF							X					
Knight, John	RRM Design Group								X				
Lohr, Steve	J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines						X						
Milanes, George				X									
O'Connor, Kris	Central Coast Vineyard Team						X	X					
Perlman, Alon	LOCAC & Private Citizen											X	
Rafferty, Morgan	ECOSLO			X						X	X		
Reaugh, Jerry								X					
Schauler, Lawson	Lso Osos			X		X							
Senet, Steve	Los Osos			X									
Snyder, John		X	X				X	X		X	X	X	
Sorensen, Paul	Fugro West Inc.								X	X	X	X	
Swees, Kathy	Public							X					
Tacker, Julie	Los Osos											X	
Tanaka, Steven	Wallace Group			X		X	X	X	X		X		
Taylor, George			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Taylor, Gwynn		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Wald, Stephanie	Central Coast Salmon Enhancement								X	X	X		
Weimer, Keith						X							
Williams, Dawn	League of Women Voters			X					X	X	X	X	
Zelinski, Lowell	Irrigation Specialist											X	

\*Special Meeting

## Rainfall Update

Region	Precipitation Station	Average Annual Rainfall	2009-09 Water Year Total Rainfall	2009-10 Water Year												Cumulative Total	% of Total Average	
				Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09*	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10			
<b>Cambria</b>	Santa Rosa at Main Street (ALERT #717)	22.0	10.4 (47%)	0	0	0.16	4.29	0.04	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.49	20%
<b>Atascadero</b>	Atascadero (ALERT #711)	17.0	7.7 (45%)	0	0	0	3.86	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.86	23%
<b>Santa Margarita</b>	Santa Margarita (ALERT #723)	24.0	14.4 (60%)	0	0	0	5.71	0.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.79	24%
<b>San Luis Obispo</b>	SLO Reservoir (ALERT #749)	24.0	12.3 (51%)	0	0	0.08	7.36	0.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.52	31%
<b>Lopez</b>	Lopez Recreation Area (ALERT #707)	23.0	12.5 (55%)	0	0	0	4.70	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.70	20%
<b>Nipomo</b>	Nipomo** (CIMIS #202)	14.8	7.5 (50%)	0	0	0	0.17	0.17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.34	2%

\* Report generated on 11/23/09

\*\* It appears that this gauge is recording irrigation water, in addition to precipitation.

**Notes:**

This table contains provisional data from automated gauges and has not been verified.

## Reservoir Update

Reservoir	Date	Water Elevation (ft)	Spillway Elevation (ft)	Storage (acre-feet)	Capacity (%)
<b>Nacimiento</b>	<b>November 23, 2009</b>	711.3	800.0	52,338	15%
	November 23, 2008	735.0		105,115	31%
<b>Lopez</b>	<b>November 22, 2009</b>	488.6	523.0	24,147	49%
	November 22, 2008	499.2		30,708	62%
<b>Salinas</b> (Santa Margarita)	<b>November 23, 2009</b>	1280.4	1300.7	11,923	50%
	November 23, 2008	1291.8		17,882	75%
<b>Whale Rock</b>	<b>November 23, 2009</b>	176.0	216.0	20,850	51%
	November 23, 2008	189.1		26,427	65%
<b>Twitchell</b>	<b>November 23, 2009</b>	525.0	651.5	0	0%

**TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee**

**FROM: Courtney Howard, SLO County Water Resources Engineer**

**DATE: December 2, 2009**

**SUBJECT: Agenda Item # 5: New Agriculture and Environmental At-Large Positions**

**Recommendation**

Review the subcommittee's WRAC Membership Vision – for At-Large Members and direct them to review applications and recommend candidates based on that vision at the January WRAC meeting.

**Discussion**

At their November 3, 2009 meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved, per the minutes, “revisions to the Bylaws of the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) of the Flood Control and Water Conservation District to add one agriculture at-large member and one environmental at-large member. Further, the Board direct[ed] the Water Resources Advisory Committee to report back to the Board with potential candidates for the agriculture at-large member a with Vineyard/Winery specific expertise and the environmental at-large member with a Coastal/Marine specific expertise.” The WRAC subsequently formed a subcommittee to be responsive to the Board's direction at their November 4, 2009 meeting.

After meeting on November 12, 2009, the Subcommittee developed the attached vision for at-large members to both help evaluate applications submitted and let applicants know how they will be evaluated. Outreach to the groups listed in the attachment, and any others identified, has proceeded, with note of a due date for applications, in order to facilitate WRAC subcommittee review prior to the January 6, 2010 WRAC meeting. Recommendations for candidates to fill the new at-large positions will then be provided to the Board of Supervisors as soon as possible after the January 6, 2010 WRAC meeting.

Attachments: WRAC Membership Vision - for At-Large Members

## **DRAFT – for WRAC Review & Approval**

### **WRAC Membership Vision – for At-Large Members**

WRAC bylaws state: Agricultural At-Large member – engaged in production agriculture.

- Combined with Farm Bureau member, the agricultural members and alternates should ideally represent the current major agricultural sectors (cattle, wine grapes, and row crops/orchards) in SLO County.
- Note that the Board of Supervisors specified that the candidate for the current opening should represent wine grape production.

WRAC bylaws state: Environmental At-Large member – record of membership in one or more environmental groups and/or independent environmental activism.

- Both inland and coastal water resources should be represented.
- Coastal representative would ideally live in the coastal area, have knowledge of creeks, streams, and watersheds, and be engaged in coastal environmental issues.
- Note that the Board of Supervisors specified that the candidate for the current opening should represent the marine/coastal environment.

Most important attributes for members:

- Expertise in the area they are representing is essential.
- High level of interest in water issues is essential.
- Interest in being very involved in the WRAC is essential, even with water issues outside their home area.
- Technical/scientific background is preferable.
- Must speak for agriculture or the environment, not for a specific organization (At-large representatives must be able to make statements without seeking prior approval from an organization.)

Other factors:

- History of volunteerism and/or previous service on advisory bodies
- Letters of recommendation from local agricultural/environmental groups, as appropriate

We propose that the positions be advertised via the five Supervisors. In addition, notices should be sent to interested organizations, e.g., PRWCA, CCVT, SLO Vintners, IGGPRA, CAWG, EcoSLO, the Marine Interest Group, Cal Poly State University, Salmon Enhancement, Sierra Club, Surfriders, Save the Mesa, San Luis Port Authority, Morro Bay National Estuary Program, and the Farm Bureau.