

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

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2007

Approximately 1:35 pm; Chairman Winn called the meeting to Order

- 1) Introductions of Members and Attendees – Quorum Established
- 2) Approval of October 2006 Meeting Minutes – Upon motion by Member Mulholland, second by Member Winholtz, and vocal vote, minutes of the December 6, 2006 meeting of the Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC) were approved as submitted.
- 3) Public Comment – Member Greening asks when the Resource Management System (RMS) item will occur during the January 23, 2007 Board of Supervisors meeting agenda and about the potential length of Board meetings due to action taken by Chairman Lenthall to include a 2:00 pm Los Osos Wastewater Project update at every Board meeting. Public Works Deputy Director Paavo Ogren explains that the Los Osos Wastewater Project will have 30 minutes, starting at 2 pm, allocated at every Board meeting for a brief staff update and public comment, plus the time for staff agenda items as they are scheduled; no items will be placed on the consent agenda. The timing for the RMS was unknown.
- 4) Member Reports - Chairman Winn informs the WRAC that the Santa Clara Superior Court's final Phase V decision on the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin being posted on their website www.santaclaracomplex.org.
- 5) Ongoing Updates
 - a. Groundwater Banking Subcommittee: Courtney Howard, SLO County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the Subcommittee met on January 7, 2007 and heard a presentation from the Paso Basin Feasibility Study Consultant on their response to comments on the Preliminary Engineering Technical Memorandum. The next Subcommittee meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 1, 2007 from 5:00 to 6:30 pm at the Templeton Community Services District, when the Consultant will be back to present the initial alternatives for coarse screening.
 - b. Membership and By-Laws Update: Courtney Howard, SLO County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the membership and By-Laws will be taken to the Board for approval on January 23, 2007 and provides a hand-out on the proposed membership changes. Discussion ensues regarding the District 2 representative and Member Fones confirms that Supervisor Gibson asked him to continue for now. Ms. Howard notes that the environmental-at-large and agricultural-at-large alternate positions have new applicants to be considered for appointment by the Board.
 - c. SLO County Ocean Disposal Alternative/Central Valley Selenium Project Update: Mark Hutchinson, SLO County Public Works, summarizes staff's

conversation with the Bureau of Reclamation including their indication that there is no new information, that they still must issue the final record of decision in mid-February in accordance with a court-order, and that they would get back to County staff on whether or not the meetings were public. Discussion ensues on how to find out if the meetings are public; the timing of legal or other action by the Board after the final record of decision is issued; disseminating information on the issue at the federal level. County Staff indicates that they will follow up with the Ferguson Group, lobbyist group for the County.

- d. Santa Margarita Ranch Environmental Impact Report (EIR): James Caruso, SLO County Planning, announces that the EIR will be released for public comment on January 11, 2007 and that a meeting will be held in Santa Margarita on January 11, 2007 at 7 pm. Copies will be available at www.sloplanning.org (pdf), libraries (hard copy), and the Planning Department (CDs). Discussion ensues regarding WRAC review of the water aspects of the EIR at the February meeting.
- 6) Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) Executive Board Membership Evaluation Subcommittee – Identify Participants: Chairman Winn and Member Greening discuss the need to evaluate membership on CCWA, and Public Works Deputy Director Paavo Ogren summarizes discussions and activities with the State Water Subcontractors and CCWA. Discussion ensues regarding the membership in relation to the excess allocation, State Water Subcontractors and governance issues related to the idea of groundwater banking. **Bill Bianchi, Mitch Cooney, Eric Greening, Bill Boucher (or Betty Winholtz in his absence), Steve Senet, Bruce Buel, Dennis Delzeit, Brad Hagemann, and Mike Winn are all identified as members of the subcommittee. Upon motion by Alternate Member Buel, second by Member Mulholland and vocal vote, the identified members are unanimously approved for the CCWA Executive Board Membership Evaluation Subcommittee.**
 - 7) Consider recommending that the Board of Supervisors recommend to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) that videotaping of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (CCRWQCB) meetings be included in its annual budget: Member Greening speaks to the absence of a budget item for videotaping the CCRWQCB, that the SWRCB sets the CCRWQCB budget, and the importance of public education regarding water issues. Member Bianchi moves to recommend that the County Board of Supervisors send a letter to the SWRCB requesting that a budget item be included for the videotaping of the CCRWQCB meetings. Discussion ensues regarding including recommending broadcasting funds in the budget item, CCRWQCB's indication that they would support the Board's recommendation letter, emphasis in the letter of the importance of public education, and interim videotaping and broadcasting. **Upon second by Member Allen, and unanimous vocal vote, the amended motion to recommend that the County Board of Supervisors send a letter to the SWRCB requesting that a budget item be included for the videotaping and broadcasting of the CCRWQCB meetings, with the intent that the letter to the Board be executed by the WRAC Chairperson with Public Works Staff assistance, was approved.**

- 8) Appointment of WRAC Liaison(s) to the Transferable Development Credit (TDC) Blue Ribbon Committee: Chairman Winn explains that the Board decided to have the existing TDC Blue Ribbon Committee evaluate the Rural Planned Development Ordinance, the TDC Blue Ribbon Committee does not have a water resources expert as a member, the Board was not willing to change the membership to accommodate the WRAC's recommendation but recommended that the WRAC send a liaison to the Committee meetings. Discussion ensues regarding the timing of meetings and coverage by potential WRAC liaisons. **Member Winholtz moves that the WRAC Chairperson be appointed as liaison to the TDC Blue Ribbon Committee, which is seconded by Member Mulholland with the amendment to include that Member Greening or other alternates attend in the Chairperson's absence. Upon clarification that the liaison would not be a voting member of the Committee and vocal vote, the motion carries unanimously.**
- 9) Los Osos Resource Capacity Study (RCS): James Caruso, SLO County Planning, summarizes the intent and content of the Los Osos Resource Capacity Study including the ability of the Board of Supervisors to certify a Level of Severity III upon its completion, understanding that there are recommendations in the RCS but entities other than the County decide whether to implement them, availability of good information from the Los Osos CSD and Cleath and Associates, addressing the resource capacity issues by increasing supply (i.e. importing water) and extending the capacity of the resource (i.e. conservation, retrofit program), the determination that the Los Osos groundwater basin is in overdraft, and recent actions by water agencies to address problems with overdrafting. Discussion ensues on implementing a retrofit program and other conservation measures, prohibition of subdivisions resulting in a net increase of non-agricultural draw on the basin, uncertainty of the wastewater being available for recharge/reclaim. Mr. Caruso further explains that the County will not be implementing a moratorium on development for lack of a resource that is not managed by the County, even though legally the County could. Discussion ensues regarding County police powers, Coastal Commission involvement, current litigation regarding the Los Osos Groundwater Basin, growth trends in Los Osos, the purpose and sufficiency of the RCS, and changes in water purveyor operations to supplement existing water supplies. Consensus is reached to review the final draft of the RCS in terms of the determination in level of severity and the actual recommendations included, and act at the March WRAC meeting.
- 10) Countywide Master Water Plan – Outline and Identification of Resources: Deferred
- 11) Election of 2007 WRAC Officers: Member Mulholland nominates Member Mike Winn to be the 2007 WRAC Chairperson, and the nomination is seconded by Member Bianchi. Member Allen moves to close nominations, and upon unanimous vocal vote, Member Mike Winn is elected 2007 WRAC Chairperson. Member Mulholland nominates Member Eric Greening as 2007 WRAC Vice-Chairperson, and the nomination is seconded by Member Guthrie. Upon motion by Member Allen to close nominations, Member Greening is elected 2007 WRAC Vice-Chairperson by unanimous vocal vote.

Meeting adjourned approx. 2:57 pm