

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

Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2007

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

- 1) Introductions of Members and Attendees – Quorum Established
- 2) Approval of May 2007 Meeting Minutes – Upon motion by Member Mulholland and second by Member Garfinkel, the May 2, 2007, meeting minutes of the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) were approved as submitted.
- 3) Public Comment – John Snyder discusses the Technical Memorandum released by the Nipomo CSD on water levels and groundwater storage, its utilization of water levels taken during pumping, the impact of using constant data to characterize a larger portion of the basin, the lack of discussion about the relationship of water characteristics in the basin and its geology, and the appropriateness of its use in completing the Resource Capacity Study. Member Buel speaks to the validity of the Technical Memorandum, consistency in its methodology that allows for comparison over time, and the willingness of the experts preparing the report to defend it. Member Greening asks about the status of Senate Bill 732, the legislation's action to approve guidelines for Proposition 84 grant applications, and whether the WRAC will be involved in tracking its progress. Member Fitzhugh speaks to the issues and trends in water quality workshop provided by the Regional Water Board and the posting of information from the workshops to their website for review and comment. Gwen Taylor speaks to the water purveyors in Los Osos and a recent article by one of them advertising unlimited use of water for one fee and urges requirement of metering for usage curtailment and conservation. Alternate Member Bianchi speaks to the desalination article in the New Times, variability of the costs of production depending on the quality of water treated, and suggests surveying existing plant operators for more information. Member Senet informs the WRAC that FM 90.1 will be having a discussion at 6:30 pm regarding water, most likely from a global perspective. Member Mulholland asks if the WRAC can request that the Board of Supervisors require water meters. Member Winn speaks to current legal status of mutual water companies and how they are not required to meter water or practice conservation unless required by a judge under adjudication. Discussion ensues regarding efforts to change metering laws.
- 4) Member Report – No report; City of San Luis Obispo will do the next member report.
- 5) Letter of Support for Pismo Beach Clean Beaches Grant from WRAC – Dennis Delzeit, Pismo Beach Alternate Member, speaks to grant application to perform a scientific study to determine source of ocean pollution and to fix the problem and

thanks Member Winholtz and the WRAC for considering sending a letter of support to the State. Discussion ensues on a recent article indicating that the source is birds, efforts to mitigate their impact, and the additional investigation that will be done to confirm and fix any other sources through the grant funding and assistance from the Regional Water Board. With amendments to spelling and hyphenation, and upon motion by Member Mulholland and second by Member Buel, the WRAC unanimously approves sending an endorsement letter for Pismo Beach's Clean Beaches grant application.

- 6) Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Water Banking Feasibility Study Alternatives – Courtney Howard, SLO County Public Works, summarizes the efforts on the Banking Study to date and how hydrogeologic and engineering considerations were applied in the basin to identify the three areas for more detailed investigation and utilization of the basin model. Discussion ensues on the hydrologic period of the model and its utilization; delivery to an end user; Polonio Pass Water Treatment Plant capacity; the use of CCWA demands as a put and take scenario to assess each area's capability of supporting a banking program; and the original intent of the feasibility study. Members present opined that the original intent of the Study was to explore how excess State Project Water at Polonio Pass might be banked for use in SLO County, not with Santa Barbara County as the sole recipient, as presented in the study. Bill Brennan, General Manager of the CCWA, asked that references to Santa Barbara County as the end user be deleted. **Member Mulholland moves to support proceeding with utilizing the basin model at the three locations identified with consideration of the end users being in SLO County.** Upon second by Member Buel, the motion is approved unanimously.

- 7) Integrated Regional Water Management – Courtney Howard, SLO County Public Works, thanks those who attended the May 23rd workshop and indicates that the updated plan is scheduled to be available at www.slocountywater.org by the end of the month. Discussion ensues regarding the two-step application process, request of agencies with projects in the plan to adopt the plan in July, and grant requirements.

(Agenda Item #10 is moved up to address issue in Item #7)

- 8) (10) Future Agenda Items – Special Meetings in July and/or August – After brief discussion, the WRAC reaches consensus to have a special meeting on July 18th.
- 9) (8) Quagga Mussel Presentation – Bill Brennan, Central Coast Water Authority General Manager, summarizes the impact of the invasive species on US waterways, detections in the southwest, and measures to prevent their proliferation.

10) (9) Ongoing Updates

- a. Revised 2007-08 WRAC Goals and Priorities – Courtney Howard, SLO County Public Works, reviews the revised goals and priorities.

- b. Nacimiento Water Project – John Hollenbeck, SLO County Public Works, provides an informational flyer on the project’s status and discusses the status of construction contracts.
- c. Conservation Element – James Caruso, SLO County Planning, discusses a pre-application meeting regarding a proposal to develop additional homes near Lake Nacimiento via a General Plan amendment, and Member Sinton agrees to try and attend, with Member Luft as an alternate. Discussion ensues regarding Heritage Ranch involvement and Nacimiento Water Project involvement. Mr. Caruso informs the WRAC that PMC has been hired to help develop the Conservation Element and the project is on schedule.
- d. Data Enhancement Plan – Syllas Cranor, SLO County Public Works, speaks to an upcoming workshop to get input on the data collection program and development of the plan.
- e. Central Coast Water Authority/State Water – Bill Brennan, Central Coast Water Authority General Manager, speaks to operational changes to help mitigate impacts on the Delta Smelt, ongoing litigation and utilization of the San Luis Reservoir to maintain deliveries. Paavo Ogren, SLO County Public Works, speaks to the impacts on local sub-contractors of changes in State Water operations.
- f. SLO County Ocean Disposal Alternative/Central Valley Selenium Project – Member Greening speaks to continuing efforts on an in-valley alternative.
- g. Santa Margarita Ranch Draft EIR – James Caruso, SLO County Planning, reports that with significant new information available (including water information), the Draft EIR will be required to be revised and re-circulated; project owner response is pending.
- h. Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Resource Capacity Study – Discussion ensues regarding the current steps to update the change level maps, and adequate assessment of basin capacity based both on aquifer depths, sub-regional issues and water quality for the ultimate resource capacity study.

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:45 pm