

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2008

Approximately 1:30 pm; Chairperson Winn called the meeting to order.

- 1) Introductions of Members and Attendees – Quorum Established
- 2) Approval of September Meeting Minutes – The September 3, 2008, WRAC meeting minutes were approved upon a first by Member Buel, second by Member Mulholland, and a unanimous vote with one abstention.
- 3) Public Comment – (Materials submitted during public comment are available under the WRAC link at www.slocountywater.org. Audio from the meeting is unavailable due to recording error.) Member Greening requests an update on the result of the letter sent to Board of Supervisors members requesting input on whether the WRAC should consider the water resources impacts resulting from the land application of biosolids at a meeting with Chairperson Winn responding that only one Supervisor has responded so far. Member Hyman speaks to a public information campaign that says pharmaceuticals should not be flushed down the drain; AWWA and California EPA websites are mentioned as good references for information on the issue. Alternate Member Lien speaks to the October 21st Board item regarding the institution of an outdoor conservation measure ordinance and questions why that particular Board item was not considered by the WRAC. Discussion ensues on how to best incorporate that topic into future meetings. Member Greening speaks to a workshop on October 13th at the Grace Church Gym at 1 pm regarding the 2050 Plan and water issues. John Snyder speaks to Santa Maria Groundwater Basin litigation issues including upcoming hearings and information from Nipomo CSD agendas and newspaper articles. Member Hyman speaks to the idea of conserving water in a way that relates to its use with a brief discussion ensuing. Alternate Member Chipping brings the Laetitia Vineyard Agricultural Cluster Project draft EIR to the attention of the WRAC and suggests that it or the issues associated with this type of project be discussed at a future WRAC meeting. Member Buel informs the WRAC that the governor did not sign AB 2270, which would have allowed agencies to develop water softener removal programs. Alternate Member Lien informs the WRAC of an upcoming Partners in Water Conservation meeting at the San Luis Obispo City Utilities office on October 14th at 9:30 am and a sustainable landscapes tour in Atascadero on October 11th.
- 4) Transfer of Development Credit (TDC) Program and its Relationship to Water Resources – Discussion ensues regarding water resources considerations in developing a TDC program, including whether water is truly saved and impacts to areas with an identified level of severity for supply. CEQA implications and the concept of alternative forms of credit are discussed. Under general consensus, the WRAC will wait for the final TDC Program report before formally considering the topic.

5) Ongoing Updates

- a. Santa Margarita Ag Cluster EIR – Members discuss the tentative denial issued by the Planning Commission on September 25th and their direction to staff to come back with findings of denial on October 9th, and the possibility that the decision will be appealed to the Board of Supervisors. Doug Filipponi speaks to the Santa Margarita Ranch’s response to a water rights complaint. Discussion ensues regarding the information contained in the response, its applicability to WRAC requests submitted with public comment on the EIR, and how requests from entities commenting on the EIR are handled.
- b. IRWM – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the governor signed the funding bill for the IRWM program and that DWR will be implementing the program again shortly.
- c. Master Water Plan – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that a Request for Qualifications will be distributed soon in order to solicit consultants to help develop the Plan.
- d. Invasive Mussel Species – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, updates the WRAC on coordination with Monterey County. Discussion ensues regarding the lack of inspection programs implemented by Monterey County, the threat to Nacimiento Lake and the Nacimiento Water Project, and the success of inspection programs at Santa Margarita and Lopez Lakes. Member Mulholland moves to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting that San Luis Obispo County take action in setting up preventative measures for Nacimiento Lake, with a second by Member Winholtz. Upon discussion, the motion is amended to include commendation of County Parks’ inspection programs and acknowledgement of the potential budget impact to San Luis Obispo County. Motion passes unanimously.
- e. State Water – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the transfer of excess State Water allocation is still in effect and that worst-case initial projections for next year’s State Water allocation are around 15%.

6) Future Agenda Items – Cambria Member Report; Conservation Element; Resource Management System.

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:15 pm.