

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

Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2009

An audio recording of the meeting and materials submitted during public comment are available online at www.SLOCountyWater.org.

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

- 1) Introductions of Members and Attendees - Quorum Established
- 2) Approval of April Meeting Minutes - The April 1, 2009, and April 4, 2009 WRAC meeting minutes were approved with an amendment to Item 2 of the April 1, 2009 minutes, revising the title to “Approval of *March* Meeting Minutes” and an amendment to Item 4: Public Comment of the April 4, 2009 minutes, a request to expand minutes to include a summary of the themes brought up in public comment, upon a first by Member Buel, second by Member Kelly, and a unanimous vote with two (2) abstentions.
- 3) Public Comment - Member Buel reports that the State Water Resources Control Board has released their 20X2020 Water Conservation Plan and comments are due May 22, 2009. Mr. Buel reports that the Nipomo CSD District Board certified the Final EIR for the Waterline Intertie Project on April 22, 2009, and are scheduled to approve the Waterline Intertie Project and authorize the filing of a Notice of Determination at their May 13, 2009 Board meeting. Los Osos resident, Gwynn Taylor brings attention to the proposed National Clean Water Trust Fund. Frank Ausilio seeks clarification on when Alternate Members are allowed to vote. Chairperson Winn speaks to the regional workshop for the Update to the State Water Plan that occurred on May 1, 2009, in San Luis Obispo. Keith Weimer speaks to the connection between the State Water Plan and sustainable water use. Member O'Grady seeks clarification regarding official WRAC minutes relative to written minutes and audio or video recordings.
- 4) Ongoing Updates:
 - a. County Resource Management System - James Caruso, Department of Planning and Building, discusses the proposed work plan for the County Resource Management System. Mr. Caruso recommends that the WRAC revisit this issue at the September 2009 meeting because the nature and scope of the WRAC's involvement will be further defined around September. Discussion ensues. At the recommendation of Mr. Caruso, the WRAC does not move to form a subcommittee at this time.

- b. Conservation and Open Space Element - James Caruso, Department of Planning and Building, advises the WRAC of the revised dates for the Planning Commission's study sessions to review the Conservation and Open Space Element (COSE). There is confusion regarding Planning Commission meeting dates among Staff and WRAC members. Mr. Caruso indicates that he will confirm the dates/timing and send that information to the WRAC. Chairperson Winn discusses the previously distributed COSE subcommittee comments. Discussion ensues regarding changes to the Public Hearing Draft.
 - c. Integrated Regional Water Management Program - Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, explains that the District has submitted the Region Acceptance Process to the State and is waiting on approval by the State. Ms. Howard continues to discuss details regarding the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) and Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) grant requirements. Discussion ensues related to the hydrological aspects of the county, the IRWM Memorandum of Mutual Understandings, the RWMG, and grant opportunities.
 - d. Water Conservation Plans and Strategies Website Link - Chairperson Winn discusses the purpose and extent of water conservation plans in the region. Mr. Winn identifies the need to make water conservation plans and strategies available online. Gary Henderson, San Luis Obispo City Staff, recommends that URLs and/or links to agency websites are included. Discussion ensues. There is a motion to recommend that WRAC Members and Alternates encourage their perspective agencies to submit plans, strategies, links, and contact information relative to water conservation to District Staff for inclusion on the WRAC website, with a second. The vote passes unanimously.
 - e. Invasive Mussels - Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, reports that no mussels have been found at the monitoring sites and explains the new notification procedure for distribution of the monthly mussel reports to the WRAC. Ms. Howard informs the WRAC that Staff is coordinating with Monterey County regarding Lake Nacimiento and that Staff is in the process of developing a response plan in the County-maintained lakes and the Nacimiento pipeline. Discussion ensues related to inspection of inflatable rafts and to vector control districts.
 - f. Rainfall and Reservoir Update - The Rainfall and Reservoir Update is included in the agenda packet. Members offer suggestions on ways to update the format of the report. Gary Henderson, San Luis Obispo City Staff, reminds members of the WRAC that current rainfall and reservoir information are available online at www.SLOCountyWater.org. Discussion ensues.
- 5) County-wide Master Water Plan – Consideration of Mechanism for WRAC Involvement - Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, gathers input on how to optimize WRAC involvement in the development of the Master Water Plan (MWP). WRAC members discuss extending the length of the regular WRAC meetings, scheduling additional meetings, and forming a subcommittee. WRAC members indicate that Wednesdays before the regular WRAC meetings work well for

WRAC Members, District Staff, and the consultant team. MWP meetings are tentatively scheduled to come to the WRAC on the mornings of 10/7/09, 11/4/09, 1/6/10 and 3/3/10.

- 6) WRAC Priorities - Chairperson Winn introduces the priorities to the WRAC. Member Sinton asks to add a review of pump test standards in terms of analyzing the capacity of a water resources. Member Buel asks that Staff identify the timing for County funding of the coastal sentinel well in Nipomo.
- 7) Consideration of the Fiscal Year 2009/10 San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Budget - Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, identifies new items for the 2009/10 budget including the increased revenues from the State Water Transfer Program, the new Master Water Plan, and implementation of recommendations from the Data Enhancement Plan. Chairperson Winn discusses the need for stream gauging data. Discussion ensues regarding water resources data collection; including data gaps and availability, project priorities and implementation, and funding. It is noted that the budget for WRAC coordination had been reduced from prior years. Ms. Howard indicates that the 2009/10 budget item better represents actual expenditures for that work effort. Member Buel requests additional information on the designated reserve fund. Ms. Howard speaks to the designated reserve and specific line item budget items. Discussion ensues.
- 8) Los Osos Community Wastewater Project Subcommittee Report* - Paavo Ogren, Director of Public Works, responds to the comments of the subcommittee. Mr. Ogren speaks to effluent disposal options. Member Luft, subcommittee chair, summarizes the subcommittee report, briefly describing general comments, tertiary treatment, water conservation, use of sprayfields, alternate treatment plant sites, and project scope. Mr. Ogren speaks to tertiary treatment. Discussion ensues related to water reuse for agriculture, the cost of treating water in areas throughout the state, and alternate effluent disposal alternatives. Chairperson Winn speaks to the need to start instituting comprehensive water conservation plans as soon as possible. Discussion ensues related to sustainability, community-wide conservation efforts, and water purveyor coordination. Discussion ensues regarding feasible failsafe effluent disposal options. Member Garfinkel moves to approve the subcommittee report as written and submit it to the Planning Commission, with a second by Member Luft. The motion passes by a vote of 11-0-1.

* A motion to extend the meeting to 4:00 p.m. passes during this agenda item.

- 9) Future Agenda Items - Brief Discussion

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:55 p.m.

I, Courtney Howard, Secretary to the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Water Resources Advisory Committee do hereby certify that the foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held Wednesday, May 6, 2009, by the Water Resources Advisory Committee.

The Water Resources Advisory Committee approved these minutes on June 3, 2009.

/s/ Courtney Howard

COURTNEY HOWARD
Secretary

###

###

###

###

###

###

###

###

###

###