

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

Meeting Minutes

June 3, 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 May Meeting Minutes - The May 6, 2009 WRAC meeting minutes were approved upon a first by Member Garfinkel, second by Member Hyman, and a unanimous vote with three (3) abstentions.
- 3) Public Comment - John Snyder speaks to the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin litigation, including the availability of stipulating party's reports, the report approval process, the status of the appeal process, public hearings, the importation of State Water and its use within the Santa Maria Valley, and the interpretation of the term "water supply". Jill Ogren, Public Works Department Staff, informs members that the District will be issuing a Notice Of Preparation (NOP) for the EIR for the Arroyo Grande Creek Channel Waterway Management Program. Member Ms. Chipping informs members of the WRAC of a Land Conservancy Fund raiser on June 3, 2009. Member Eby reports that the Nipomo Waterline Intertie Project has been approved by the NCS D Board, the Notice of Determination has been filed, and the NCS D is currently developing the mechanism by which the project will be financed. Member Zimmer informs the WRAC of a Water Awareness Open House at Los Ranchos Elementary School on June 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, updates the WRAC on cooperative efforts to install water quality monitoring equipment and a new well in the Santa Maria groundwater basin for seawater intrusion monitoring purposes. Chairperson Winn speaks to the timing of NCS D's comments on the Twitchell Management Report. Mr. Winn and Ms. Ogren speak to current and future Santa Margarita water system improvements and to the construction schedule for the new tank.
- 4) Ongoing Updates:
 - a. County Resource Management System - James Caruso, Department of Planning and Building, indicates that there is no update for this item.
 - b. Conservation and Open Space Element - James Caruso, Department of Planning and Building, indicates that Planning Commission study sessions to review the Conservation and Open Space Element (COSE) are on the

following dates: June 25, July 6, and July 23. Mr. Caruso notes that the Water section of the COSE will be reviewed on July 6, sometime between 1:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

- c. Integrated Regional Water Management Program - Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, reports that the Region Acceptance Process interview will occur on June 19, 2009, in Glendale, CA. Ms. Howard, Chairperson Winn, Paavo Ogren (Director of Public Works), and Lidia Gutierrez (Gutierrez Consultants) will represent the region during the interview. Ms. Howard indicates the guidelines for the expedited grant-funding round may be released in late summer or early fall.
 - d. Laetitia Agricultural Cluster Subdivision DEIR - Chairperson Winn reports that Fugro's peer review of the water sections of the DEIR has been finalized and is available to download from the County Planning and Building website.
- 5) County-wide Master Water Plan – Scope, Goals and Objectives - Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, introduces the Master Water Plan and the project consultants. Lou Carella, Carollo Engineers, speaks to the project, the project team, project needs, issues and coordination, and approach. Jose Gutierrez, Carollo Engineers, speaks to the project schedule, study regions, improving reliability, forecasting and uncertainty analysis, reliability and goals. Member Greening seeks clarification on water reliability solutions relative to state water and climate change implications. Member Dr. Chipping asks how the master water plan relates to private utilities and if they are required to follow any of the recommended management strategies. Member Eby speaks to the Governor's goal to reduce water use by 2020. Discussion ensues related to the 20x2020 Plan, Assembly Bill 49, and the California Urban Water Conservation Council. Member Bianchi speaks to the uncertainty of future water supplies relative to climate change. Gewynn Taylor, Los Osos resident, questions how saltwater intrusion and the existence of adjudicated groundwater basins influence the project. Member Harvey speaks to the water demand methodology. Member Dr. Chipping speaks to the need for a dynamic hydrologic model. Discussion ensues regarding project timing, point-of-use recycle systems, and long-term climate changes. James Caruso, Department of Planning and Building, speaks to the relationship between the Master Water Plan and the Conservation and Open Space Element. Member Greening speaks to the alternatives analysis and the environmental review process. Chairperson Winn speaks to providing presentation materials online, sustainability of current supplies, proposed sub-regions, 20x2020 baselines, ocean desalination, WRAC timing/scheduling, and project priorities.
- 6) Vineyard Water Conservation Practices - Courtney Howard, Public Works Department Staff, introduces Kris O'Connor, Central Coast Vineyard Team, to discuss the dynamics and practices of vineyard irrigation management. Ms. O'Connor speaks to the background and seasonality of water usage. Steve Lohr, J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines, speaks to water quality, best practices for water conservation and sustainability. Discussion ensues relative to groundwater flow directions, and winery and vineyard water use. Stacie Jacob, Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance, speaks to the economics of water usage.

- 7) Consideration of a July and/or August Meeting - Member O'Grady moves to hold a WRAC Meeting on July 1, 2009, with a second by Member Greening. The motion passes unanimously.

Member Garfinkel moves to extend the meeting to 4:00 p.m., with a second by Member Ehring. The motion passes.

- 8) Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Resource Capacity Study - James Caruso, Department of Planning and Building, presents the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Resource Capacity Study (RCS). Mr. Caruso presents the history context of the RCS, the concept of a Level Of Severity (LOS), the Todd Engineers Pumping Evaluation, and the constraints, conclusions, recommendations, and schedule for Planning Commission (PC) and Board of Supervisors consideration of the RCS. Member Allen recommends that a LOS recommendation be established for the Estrella/Creston Area of Critical Concern. Discussion ensues related to LOS recommendations, future changes to the format of the Resource Management System, and the RCS recommended actions. Member Bianchi moves to recommend that the Board designate the Estrella/Creston Area of Critical Concern as a LOS III, with a second by Member Allen. Discussion ensues. Chairperson Winn recommends that the motion be modified in the following manner; that the WRAC form a subcommittee to review the RCS, the subcommittee attend the PC meeting on June 11 and compile a composite report to be presented to the WRAC in July. Discussion ensues related to the urgency and timing of the RCS. Member Bianchi moves to amend the motion as recommended, with a second by the Member Allen. The motion passes by a vote of 17-0-0. John Snyder speaks to the definition of perennial yield. Subcommittee members include Members Alakel, Allen, Bianchi, Neil, Luft, and Winn.

- 9) Agricultural Cluster Subcommittee Report - Item deferred.

- 10) Future Agenda Items - Brief discussion.

- a. Land to Sea Advisory Committee
- b. Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Resource Capacity Study Subcommittee Report
- c. Agricultural Cluster Subcommittee Report

Meeting adjourned approximately 4:01 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, June 3, 2009, by the Water Resources Advisory Committee.

The Water Resources Advisory Committee approved these minutes on July 1, 2009.

/s/ Courtney Howard

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Secretary

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