

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

Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2010

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

Approximately 1:45 p.m., Chairperson Winn called the meeting to order.

- 1) Determination of a Quorum and Introductions - Quorum Established.
- 2) Approval of February Meeting Minutes - The February 3, 2010 WRAC meeting minutes were approved upon a first by Member Garfinkel, second by Member Greening, and a unanimous vote with one (1) abstention.
- 3) Public Comment - Gewynn Taylor speaks to seawater intrusion in the Los Osos Valley Groundwater Basin and requests that the WRAC discuss the Flood Control and Water Conservation District's (District) role in addressing seawater intrusion issues. Linde Owen speaks to nitrate levels and seawater intrusion in the Los Osos Valley Groundwater Basin and the reliability of the community's water supply. Jeff Edwards requests an update on consideration of the District's jurisdiction with respect to addressing seawater intrusion in groundwater basins, with Paavo Ogren, County Public Works Director, responding. Member Greening inquires as to the results of Chairperson Winn's correspondence with individual Supervisors regarding whether they individually support the WRAC's review of the District's role in monitoring and evaluating sea water intrusion in coastal groundwater basins and the possibility of recommending that the Board address this issue with the benefit of having legal counsel present; with Chairperson Winn responding. John Snyder describes the response received to his request for sentry well water quality data from Nipomo CSD and water transfers in the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin. Jim Miller speaks to what he pays to irrigate his land and to the seawater intrusion issue in Los Osos. Member Reid speaks to a recent green building conference at which a case study where arsenic-treated wood was used as a barrier to prevent seawater intrusion was reviewed. Marilee Hyman refers to a case in Orange County where an ordinance existed requiring a certain amount of lawn and encourages agencies to review their ordinances or existing covenants, conditions and restrictions for this requirement.
- 4) Ongoing Updates:
 - a. Paso Robles Groundwater Basin - Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the Water Balance Update is being finalized, and will be presented at a future WRAC meeting in coordination with the new draft Resource Capacity Study. Ms. Howard indicates that the Paso Robles

Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee to develop the Groundwater Management Plan had a successful meeting on February 25th, with the next workshop likely in April.

- b. Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) - Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that discussions have resumed between the regions in the Central Coast Funding Area in anticipation of guidelines being released from the State for IRWM Plan development and grant funding opportunities. Ms. Howard requests that all WRAC member agencies execute a Memorandum of Understanding to become a Regional Water Management Group member.
 - c. Master Water Plan - Courtney Howard, County Public Works, speaks to Technical Memoranda status, the method for responding to comments received, the upcoming April WRAC workshop, and the approach to identifying areas where seawater intrusion is occurring or is of concern.
 - d. Planning Department Efforts - James Caruso, County Planning, speaks to the timing for the Resource Management System Annual Summary Report and the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Resource Capacity Study.
 - e. Rainfall and Reservoir Update - 2009 data for Twitchell Reservoir is requested.
- 5) State Water - Letter of Intent to Evaluate Exchange of Coastal Branch Capacity for Allocation Opportunities - Courtney Howard, County Public Works, reviews the status of State Water management; September Board direction to look at Coastal Branch optimization options in coordination with local agencies, State Water Subcontractors and the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA); the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA) request for State Water; subsequent coordination on short- and long-term issues; and the benefit of sending the proposed letter to CCWA. Paavo Ogren, County Public Works Director, speaks to the proposed letter of intent to evaluate exchange of Coastal Branch capacity for allocation opportunities during the development of the Master Water Plan and consistency with existing Board policies on the District's excess State Water allocation. Chairperson Winn seeks clarification on the State Department of Water Resources involvement, with Mr. Ogren responding. Other options for the District's excess allocation, including out-of-County groundwater banking, and peaking considerations are discussed. Member Fitzhugh moves to recommend that the Board of Supervisors send the proposed letter to CCWA, with the recommended hyphenation, with a second by Member Mires. The motion was unanimously approved.
- 6) Overview of the Preliminary Staff Report and Recommendations for an Agricultural Order by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board - Lisa McCann of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) provides the WRAC with an overview of surface water and groundwater contamination specific to runoff from irrigated agriculture in the RWQCB's region. Angela Schroeter of the RWQCB provides an overview of the draft Agricultural Order and RWQCB staff Report, including contaminated discharge identification, monitoring and prevention

action requirements. Discussion ensues regarding irrigation source water quality with respect to the evaluation of discharge water quality, the relationship of water quality conditions to rainfall amounts, and resources for understanding best management practices, such as for appropriate fertilizer application.

7) Future Agenda Items - Brief discussion.

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:45 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, March 3, 2010, by the Water Resources Advisory Committee.

The Water Resources Advisory Committee approved these minutes on April 7, 2010.

/s/ Courtney Howard

COURTNEY HOWARD
Secretary
