

Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

AGENDA Board Meeting 34274 State Highway 16 Woodland, CA 95695 Tuesday, May 10, 2005 7:00 P.M.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability and need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, then please contact Christina Cobey at (530) 662-0265 or (530) 662-4982 fax. Requests must be made as early as possible, and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting.

AGENDA

- 7:00 1. Board Consideration: The Board will consider adoption of the minutes of the April 5, 2005 Regular Board Meeting.
- 7:02 2. Open forum (Limited to five minutes): Guest introductions, unscheduled appearances and opportunity for public comment on non-agenda items.
- 7:07 3. Board Consideration: Adding Items to the Posted Agenda.
In order to add an item to the agenda, it must fit one of the following categories:
a) A majority determination that an emergency (as defined by the Brown Act) exists; or
b) A 4/5ths determination that the need to take action that arose subsequent to the agenda being posted.
- 7:10 4. Board Presentation: Solano Irrigation District (SID) General Manager Suzanne Butterfield will make a presentation regarding SID; its history and future challenges.
- 7:40 5. Board Consideration: Resolution supporting Water Awareness Month.
- 7:43 6. Board Consideration: Letter of Support for the Cache Creek Mercury Stakeholders Working Group and concerns raised in its letter of April 19, 2005 to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- 7:50 7. Board Consideration: The Water Resources Association of Yolo County (WRA) is submitting a planning grant application to develop an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). The Board will consider a resolution for the District to act as the fiscal agent and recipient of grant funds, if awarded.

- 8:10 8. Board Consideration: Adoption of the District's FY 2005/2006 Budget.
- 8:40 9. Board Discussion: The Wild & Scenic Ad Hoc Subcommittee will report on and discuss current activities related to State Wild & Scenic legislation (AB 1328).
- 9:00 10. Board Discussion: City of Davis, UC Davis, City of Woodland preparation of EIR in support of Regional Treated Surface Water Project.
- 9:05 11. Directors' Reports: Each member of the Board will have the opportunity to report on meetings and conferences attended during the prior month on behalf of the District.
- 9:15 12. Attorney's Report: The District's attorney will report on the following:
a) Current legal and legislative activities.
- 9:25 13. General Manager's Report: The Board will receive a report from the General Manager or designated representatives regarding current general activities and projects of the District.
a) General Activities
b) Operations, Maintenance and Water Conditions
c) Off-Season Maintenance and Construction Program
- 9:45 14. General Discussion: Opportunity for Board members to ask questions for clarification, provide information to staff, request staff to report back on a matter, or direct staff to place a matter on a subsequent agenda.
- 9:55 15. Board Consideration: The Board will consider the approval and the payments of bills.
- 10:00 16. Adjourn

The public may address the Board concerning an agenda item either before or during the Board's consideration of that agenda item. Public comment on items within the Board's jurisdiction is welcome, subject to reasonable time limits for each speaker. Upon request, agenda items may be moved up to accommodate those in attendance wishing to address that item. Times listed for consideration of agenda items are approximate only. The Board may consider any agenda item at any time during the Board meeting.

I declare that the foregoing agenda was posted at the office of the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, CA on May 6, 2005.

By: _____
Bonnie Zentner, Administrative Assistant

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2005

The regular May meeting of the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District was held at 7:00 p.m. on May 10, 2005 at its regular place of business, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, California. Chair Brice convened the meeting with Directors Scheuring, Rominger and Vink present. Also in attendance were:

District Staff and Consultants

Tim O'Halloran, General Manager
Christy Barton, Assistant General Manager
Mike Horgan, Engineer
Max Stevenson, Water Resources Associate
Paul Bartkiewicz, Legal Counsel

Members of the Public

Don Rominger, Retired District Director
Lynnel Pollock, Past Yolo County Supervisor
Bob Schneider, Cache Creek Wild
Linda Fiack, Yolo County
Suzanne Butterfield, General Manager, Solano Irrigation District
Blake Harlan, District Water User

MINUTES

M/S/C approved the minutes of the April 5, 2005 Regular Board meeting as mailed.

OPEN FORUM

Director Brice advised that Director Bob Eoff had resigned and that the Yolo County Board of Supervisor Frank Sieferman, Jr. has begun a process to nominate a replacement.

SOLANO IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Mr. O'Halloran introduced Solano Irrigation District (SID) General Manager Suzanne Butterfield. Ms. Butterfield presented information on SID's history, current operations and future challenges. Points of interest included:

- In 1948 SID delivered water solely to agricultural users.
- Lake Berryessa water deliveries began in 1957.
- SID encompasses 55,000 irrigable acres with an average of 49,000 acres being serviced.

- Current SID water deliveries are split 20% to urban and 80% to ag customers.
- Dixon and Suisun City are its main municipal customers.
- USBR owns Lake Berryessa and Monticello Dam.
- SID operations have been affected over time by many factors including:
 - Changes in aquatic herbicide use and canal cleaning methodology regulations.
 - Urban development over and around water conveyance facilities.
 - Increasing water delivery quantities to municipal and industrial users (9 jurisdictions now being served).
 - Urban customers' requirement for better water quality.
 - Labor force changes including unionization.
 - Implementation of a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System.
 - Introduction of the New Zealand mud snail.
 - Continued customer demand for low water rates.
 - Need for good stakeholder relationships.
- Sales to cities are governed by written agreements.
- Water charges for major growth customers and developments are each unique but as a rule of thumb are about \$100 per acre foot.
- Ag water charges are comprised of a base water cost of \$18 per acre foot, a standby charge and a parcel value assessment
- SID staff includes 6 engineers, some of whom handle new development impacts and are paid for by the developers.
- Water delivery allocations were needed only in 1991 and then only on a voluntary basis.
- The Putah Creek Accord process is working well.
- Environmental challenges include herbicide usage, canal cleaning operations, ag discharge waiver regulation, habitat conservation plan development and increasing water treatment requirements.
- SID has a 10-year financial plan which identifies expenses, revenues and reserves; it is a good tool; it is updated every three years; it currently calls for a 5% annual rate increase for the next eight years.
- SID has 94 employees, a \$13 million operations (gross) budget and a separate \$2 million annual rehabilitation budget.

Board questions and discussion accompanied Ms. Butterfield's presentation.

Ms. Butterfield also stated that there may be opportunities for SID and the District to work together.

WATER AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. Barton reported on the District's Water Awareness Month's activities and the proposed resolution supporting the statewide Water Awareness Month designation.

M/S/C approval of Resolution 05.06 Supporting the Education of the Citizens on California's Complex Water Issues.

CACHE CREEK MERCURY STAKEHOLDERS

Mr. Stevenson reported on the Cache Creek Mercury Stakeholders Working Group's (CCMSWG) efforts to participate in the State's Basin Plan Amendment process which would establish a TMDL for mercury in the Cache Creek Watershed. He outlined the April 19, 2005 letter from Yolo County to the State regarding the Working Group's position on the matter. He also introduced a letter of District support for the recommendations, comments and concerns expressed in the April 19th letter.

Board discussion followed.

M/S/C approval to send a Letter of Support for the CCMSWG and the concerns raised in the April 19, 2005 Yolo County letter.

INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRWMP) PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

Director Scheuring reported that the Water Resources Association of Yolo County (WRA) has prepared a planning grant application for further development of the IRWMP. An agenda report and work plan were provided in the Board agenda package. The application is for an amount of \$500,000 from Proposition 50 funds with \$100,000 allocated to a public participation process. The WRA has \$70,000 of member funding available for this process. Member agency staff efforts will be required but are reimbursable only if incurred after January 1, 2006. The Plan's development will allow WRA agency members to be eligible for Proposition 50 project implementation funding.

Mr. Scheuring also reported that the key elements of the Plan included Water Supply, Water Quality, Storm Drainage and Flood Hazards, Aquatic and Riparian Ecosystem Enhancement and Recreation, and that a substantive plan is needed to further water issues in Yolo County.

Board discussion followed.

M/S/C approval to write a Letter of Support for the WRA grant application; and approval for Resolution No. 05.07 authorizing the District to act as the fiscal agent for the WRA for the grant.

FISCAL YEAR 2005/2006 BUDGET

Director Vink reported that the Finance Committee performed an exhaustive review of the proposed FY 2005/2006 Operation and Capital Budgets. He stated \$321,000 will be required from reserves in order to meet projected expenses.

Mr. O'Halloran provided highlights of the budget including:

- The loss of \$380,000 property tax income due to ERAF.
- The use of budgets as planning and financial control documents.
- Revenue and expense forecast breakdowns.

Board discussion followed on planning, budgeting, scheduling, vehicles, and fuel matters.

Director Scheuring asked that a mid-year review process be formalized.

M/S/C adoption of the proposed 2005/2006 Operating and Capital Budgets as presented in the Board package.

WILD AND SCENIC AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE

Director Rominger reported on the District's presentation at the State Assembly Committee hearing on Cache Creek Wild and Scenic legislation (AB 1328). He advised that Assembly Member Wolk indicated she would address District needs.

Mr. Bartkiewicz stated that the District is working with the Cache Creek Watershed Coalition on language to address District issues regarding water rights protection, Federal Wild and Scenic designation, mercury control and non-native species management. He also advised that the bill is now at the Appropriations Committee and remains a 1-year bill.

REGIONAL TREATED SURFACE WATER PROJECT

Mr. O'Halloran provided the Board with an update on District participation in the development of an MOU between the Cities of Davis and Woodland and UC Davis for preparation of an EIR for a Regional Treated Surface Water Project. He advised that there will be a meeting on the matter next week, that he will bring information to the Board at its next meeting and that the City of Davis is acting as the lead agency.

Board discussion followed regarding District participation, its likely financial commitment and the timing and scheduling of the project.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Director Rominger reported that his new baby boy was born last Monday and all are doing okay.

Director Scheuring reported that he and Mr. O'Halloran recently viewed Willow Slough and Cache Creek via helicopter.

Director Vink advised that on May 26, 2005 the District will hold its Annual Water Conservation and Stewardship luncheon.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Bartkiewicz reported the NCWA is litigating the SWRCB water right fee assessments and that a court ruled to reject a challenge that the assessments were a tax.

He advised that the CalFed process continues to be in flux and that SB 820, a comprehensive bill on water rights and groundwater will likely become a multiyear bill with both ACWA and NCWA in opposition. Further discussion by the Board and Staff followed.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. O'Halloran overviewed the current Water Conditions Report and highlighted Cache Creek Dam flood releases, irrigation demands and Indian Valley flows through the hydroelectric units.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Director Scheuring requested that infrastructure needs and issues be reviewed at future Board meetings.

Mr. O'Halloran raised a concern about how to handle short-notice requests received from various parties to allow quick District action (e.g. Letters of Support). Director Vink asked that the matter be put on a future Board meeting agenda.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Director Rominger requested information on the expense for water testing. Mr. Stevenson advised that a portion of the bill is paid by the County and that the WRA will contribute to the cost of water level monitoring. He also advised that a benefit analysis is needed to establish cost allocations to benefiting entities that wish to participate in the groundwater monitoring program.

M/S/C after review, approval of the following claims for payment:

Yolo Flood Control Checks: #33841-33850

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Ann T. Brice, Chair

ATTEST:

Tim O'Halloran, Secretary