

Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

AGENDA Board Meeting 34274 State Highway 16 Woodland, CA 95695 Tuesday, August 2, 2011 7:00 P.M.

Public documents relating to any open session item listed on this agenda that are distributed to all or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors less than 72 hours before the meeting are available for public inspection in the customer service area of the District's Administrative Office at the address listed above.

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. Consideration: The Board will consider adoption of the minutes of the July 5, 2011 Regular Board Meetings.
- 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. 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. Consideration: Review of the District's Investment Policy.
- 7:20 5. Presentation: Update on Hydroelectric Issues.
- 7:50 6. Presentation: Briefing on Clear Lake Water Contracts.

- 8:10 7. 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.
- 8:15 8. Attorney's Report: The District's attorney will report on the following:
a) Current legal and legislative activities.
- 8:20 9. 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
- 8:25 10. 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.
- 8:28 11. Consideration: The Board will consider the approval and the payment of bills.
- 8:30 12. 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 July 29, 2011.

By: _____
Christina Cobey, Administrative Assistant



Y O L O C O U N T Y

FLOOD CONTROL &
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 2, 2011, 7:00 PM

**YCFCWCD Offices
34274 State Highway 16
Woodland, CA 95695**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District was held at 7:00 p.m. on August 2, 2011, at its regular place of business, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, California. Chair Rominger convened the meeting. In attendance were:

District Board

Bruce Rominger, Chair
Ron Tadlock
Erik Vink

District Staff

Tim O'Halloran, General Manager
Christy Barton, Assistant General Manager
Fran Borcalli, floodSAFE Yolo Program Manager
Max Stevenson, Water Resources Associate
Paul Bartkiewicz, Legal Counsel

Members of the Public

Duane Chamberlain
Stephen McCord
Heather Nichols-Crowell
Dave Pratt
Don Rominger
Bob Schneider
Justin Williams

1. CONSIDERATION: Approval of Minutes

M/S/C approved the minutes of the July 5, 2011 Regular Board Meeting as submitted.

2. OPEN FORUM

None

3. CONSIDERATION: Adding Items to the Posted Agenda

None

4. PRESENTATION: Review of Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Independent Audit

Justin Williams, Partner of Mann Urruria Nelson and Associates, reviewed the Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Independent Audit and the auditor's report. He reviewed the purpose of an audit and types of activities conducted by the auditors. Williams reported, consistent with the prior years' audits, his firm had provided the District with an "unqualified" opinion regarding the audit. His auditors had found no significant issues regarding internal controls, financial records or working with District management.

Williams noted that there was no Management Letter included with this audit because the auditors had no issues to identify. All past recommendations raised in Management Letters had been adequately addressed.

General Manager O'Halloran reported Office Supervisor McGriff is to be highly commended for the work she provides in preparing for and assisting with the audit.

O'Halloran informed the Board that this is the 5th year that the District has utilized the firm of Mann Urruria Nelson and Associates for the independent audits. Since the District has an internal policy of not using the same auditing firm more than five years in a row, McGriff will be developing an RFP to secure proposals for the Board's consideration for the next audit.

M/S/C accepted for filing the Independent Audit for Fiscal Year 2010/2011.

5. PRESENTATION: Overview of Mercury Issues in the Cache Creek Watershed

General Manager O'Halloran introduced Stephen McCord, Walker and Associates, and Bob Schneider, Tuleyome, to review mercury management issues in the Cache Creek Watershed.

McCord provided a PowerPoint presentation for the Board focusing on an Upper Putah Creek watershed mercury cleanup project and showing various mining operations in the Cache Creek watershed.

Schnieder provided basic information regarding the geologic faulting processes in Lake and Yolo Counties that result in the readily available mercury for mining occurring in the area. The mercury was mined to aid in the hydraulic gold mining processes throughout the Sierra Nevada. He reviewed a map indicating impaired water bodies in California, reporting that mercury from mining operations is being leached into waterways, feeding major rivers and the Delta.

McCord highlighted a number of contamination areas of concern within the Cache Creek watershed, noting that regulators are considering the use of Cache Creek Settling Basin to capture the mercury laden sediments before they can get into the wetlands within the Yolo Bypass; thereby reducing mercury pollution by approximately one-half. Phyto-remediation is also being used at a location to reduce methyl mercury.

Schneider reported a Watershed Analysis Risk Management Framework (WARMF) model is being developed to look at erosivity and transmission of mercury throughout the waterways and to generate a conceptual total mercury output. He explained that issue regarding mercury is its methyl mercury form. It is a toxic substance that bio-accumulates within the food chain. This is especially important to the 25,000 – 50,000 people currently subsisting on freshly caught fish from contaminated waterways.

Schneider said that Tuleyome has recently received a \$1.4 million California Department of Fish and Game grant that will fund research in the Upper Putah Creek watershed to design systems and develop demonstration projects related to the cleanup of mercury sites. The result should be recommendations regarding options to reduce mercury and nickel contamination within a watershed.

6. PRESENTATION: Water Quality Partnerships

General Manager O'Halloran reported that water quality regulations are becoming increasingly important and expensive, requiring more of the District's budget. In an effort to be more effective, the District is trying to leverage its water quality expenditures by collaborating with others.

Water Resources Associate Stevenson reviewed a PowerPoint presentation regarding the water quality monitoring. He reported there are many reasons to monitor water quality, including regulatory requirements, environmental and habitat protection, impacts on maintenance and construction operations, and the protection of beneficial uses. Stevenson reviewed the District's monitoring activities related to both surface water and groundwater.

Stevenson reviewed a number of activities sponsored by others in Yolo County that include a water quality monitoring component. By partnering with the other agencies, the District could contract to provide the monitoring service while reducing the cost of monitoring for all involved. These could be regional or more localized partnerships including the County, cities, the Water Resources Association of Yolo County, or any other public/non-profit entity. The point is to share resources and make more effective use of those resources.

7. CONSIDERATION: Declaring District Property Surplus

General Manager O'Halloran reviewed the process for declaring District assets surplus and authorizing their disposal. He reviewed the items enumerated in the Board package for disposal.

M/S/C declared the items listed in the Board package as surplus to the needs of the District and authorized General Manager O'Halloran to dispose of them as he deems appropriate.

8. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

None

9. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Legal Counsel Bartkiewicz reviewed the State's budget transfers and the impact on the water right fees being charges by the State Water Resources Control Board. Per a meeting attended on August 1, 2011, the District's water rights fees are scheduled to increase (State Board) by \$19,000 this year. Bartkiewicz reminded the Board that the District has been a participant with the Northern California Water Association in a lawsuit contesting the legality of the fees as assessed. That litigation has been

remanded back to the Superior Court and is awaiting the State Board's demonstration of a nexus between the fees and the amount being charged to the water right holders.

Bartkiewicz reported that the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority (TCCA) filed a lawsuit against the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) regarding use of the Central Valley Project (CVP), claiming that the TCCA water should have the area of origin priority over CVP water use. Judge Wanger found that federal laws do not recognize area of origin protections. Furthermore, the USBR water is stored water, not natural flow. Bartkiewicz reported this was a ruling specific to the TCCA situation.

10. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager O'Halloran reported on:

a. General Activities including:

He had recently participated in two State Water Resources Control Board sponsored workshops. The workshop topics were "Agricultural Water Use Efficiency" and "Water Use Diversion Reporting and Measurement."

The next workshop regarding SB X7-7 legislation is planned for August 3, 2011 to develop a methodology for measuring ag water use efficiency at the farm, District and Regional level.

b. District Operations including:

Monitoring of Solano Decree compliance regarding water use from Clear Lake and the use of supplemental water from Indian Valley Reservoir;

Use of a new aquatic herbicide that is proving to be very effective, noting some of the dead aquatic weeds are causing problems at pump intake structures; and

Installation of a LOPAC gate at the head of the Maple Canal to control upstream water levels. The installation took approximately 45 minutes. At this time it is working as expected holding a constant upstream head to maintain a constant flow into the Maple Canal. If this works continues to perform as expected, installation of additional LOPAC gates will be planned on the system.

11. GENERAL DISCUSSION

None

12. CONSIDERATION: Payment of Bills

M/S/C approval for the following claim(s) for payment:

Yolo County Flood Control Checks: # 45845, 45847, 45852, 45853, 45855, 45908-45918

13. ADJOURN

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

Bruce J. Rominger, Chair

ATTEST:

Tim O'Halloran, Secretary