

# Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

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## AGENDA Board Meeting 34274 State Highway 16 Woodland, CA 95695 Tuesday, October 6, 2009 7:00 P.M.

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Documents and materials relating to an open session item that are provided to the District Board less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting will be available for public inspection and copying at 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, CA.

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.

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## AGENDA

- 7:00 1. Board Consideration: The Board will consider adoption of the minutes of the July 7, 2009 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: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services – Conservation Stewardship Program.
- 7:25 5. Staff Report: Meeting with City of Davis Regarding Southeast Davis Drainage Maintenance District.
- 7:30 6. Staff Report: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Issues.
- 7:45 7. Board Presentation: Update of District’s Conjunctive Water Use Management Program.

- 8:00 8. 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.
- 8:10 9. Attorney's Report: The District's attorney will report on the following:  
a) Current legal and legislative activities.
- 8:25 10. 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
- 8:35 11. 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.
- 8:38 12. Board Consideration: The Board will consider the approval and the payments of bills.
- 8:40 13. 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 October 2, 2009.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christina Cobey, Administrative Assistant



Y O L O C O U N T Y

**FLOOD CONTROL &  
WATER CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT**

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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 7:00 PM**

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

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The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) was held at 7:00 p.m. on October 6, 2009, at its regular place of business, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, California. Chair Tadlock convened the meeting. In attendance were:

District Board

Ron Tadlock, Chair  
Ann Brice, Vice Chair  
Jim Mayer, Director  
Bruce Rominger, Director  
Erik Vink, Director

District Staff, Consultants, Presenters

Tim O'Halloran, General Manager  
Christy Barton, Assistant General Manager  
Margaret Kralovec, Writer/Editor  
Anthony Lopez, Facilities Supervisor  
Jen Reed, Project Manager  
Paul Bartkiewicz, Legal Counsel  
Phil Hogan, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services

Members of the Public

Duane Chamberlain  
Dave Pratt  
Don Rominger  
Bob Schneider  
Frank Sieferman, Sr.

**1. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Approval of Minutes**  
9.32 M/S/C approved minutes for the September 1, 2009, Regular Board Meeting as submitted.

**2. OPEN FORUM**

Don Rominger commended the District for its response to his previous month's weed spraying request.

**3. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Adding Items to the Posted Agenda**

None.

**4. BOARD PRESENTATION: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services – Conservation Stewardship Program**

Phil Hogan, District Conservationist in Yolo County for USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), introduced the Board, staff, and the attending public to the NRCS's Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), which is designed to recognize producers who are already employing resource conservation activities by providing financial and technical assistance for installing and adopting additional conservation practices, and improving, maintaining, and managing existing practices through 5-year contracts. CSP offers participants on eligible lands with two possible types of payments: an annual payment for installing and maintaining contract activities during the previous fiscal year, and a supplemental payment for annual recipients who also adopt a resource-conserving crop rotation. Hogan asked the Board to help spread the word among its customers that the NRCS is taking grower applications in the next two months for the NRCS 2010/2011 fiscal year, (October 1 through September 30).

Director Vink asked if there were any NRCS programs in which the District could participate directly. Hogan indicated that at this time, the CSP is available only to individual, corporate, and tribal producers, but that there may be other USDA programs, possibly through the NRCS, for which the District may qualify. He will keep General Manager O'Halloran and Project Manager Reed informed of any programs he becomes aware of.

Hogan also noted NRCS current GIS resources, and shared an example of recent aerial photography (July 2009) that can be compared with 2006 aerial photographs of the same Yolo County lands. In response to a question from Don Rominger, he stated he was not qualified to provide information on changing tax valuations of properties improved as part of the CSP program.

**5. STAFF REPORT: Meeting with City of Davis Regarding Southeast Davis Drainage Maintenance District**

Assistant General Manager Barton reported that she, District Engineer Horgan, and Legal Counsel Bartkiewicz met with the Davis Assistant City Engineer and two other Davis Public Works staff members to discuss the Southeast Davis Drainage Maintenance District (SDDMD) in order to review the history of formation of the SDDMD; the three-party agreement among the City of Davis, Yolo County, and the District; and the District's obligations and potential liabilities. Furthermore, the District informed City staff that its current administrative costs for collecting SDDMD funds for the City were not sufficiently covered under the current agreement, and that it wanted to bring the parties together to discuss options and to share input on the

SDDMD billing system and funding structure. The City of Davis wants to participate in any landowner meeting, and suggested that the District discuss the situation with County staff as well. The District intends to have a similar informational meeting with County staff, to be followed by a meeting at which landowners, the City of Davis, Yolo County, and the District can discuss options.

#### **6. STAFF REPORT: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Issues**

General Manager O'Halloran recalled for the Board that they had approved a \$55,000 contract with Ken King and Associates, an engineering consulting firm, to perform a 2009 Part 12 Inspection to ascertain dam safety of Indian Valley Dam, a high-risk facility, as required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC also requires an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) to address situations of potential dam failure or unexpected or sudden large releases of water from both Cache Creek Dam and Indian Valley Dam. O'Halloran explained that dam safety and a functional EAP are critical for the District's infrastructure and for the region at large. District dam operations and unexpected discharges create a huge liability, represent an enormous capital investment, and are a major responsibility for the District.

Assistant General Manager Barton reviewed highlights of the current EAP, which had been updated to reflect changes in the presence of staff at both dams in the past couple of years. Of primary importance is the EAP's telephone tree of emergency contacts. In the instance of a failure or unexpected large release or for purposes of drill, the District would initiate an emergency plan by contacting eight principal contacts, who would then be responsible for passing along information to their own established contacts. In the past, the District would host an annual meeting (required once every five years) of key contacts at the District Office at which emergency procedures would be reviewed and drilled. This year, Barton and Project Manager Reed will be visiting each EAP contact individually to review EAP procedures in the event of a dam failure or unexpected large discharge.

Facilities Supervisor Lopez accompanied consultants on the Part 12 Inspection, answering questions and providing additional information. Lopez showed the Board some examples of locations of interest to the inspectors, such as erosion sites that were agreed to have more to do with site maintenance than infrastructure safety. Lopez informed the Board that the consultant report had not yet been received, but that they should expect it to contain some expensive items directly related to dam safety, such as maintaining the exterior of the penstock.

Lopez also showed slides of trenches he discovered in the reservoir bed when he went to prepare trenches for an upcoming inspection. Records of the trench digging and resulting geology data have not yet been found, but may provide the information that the geologists require. These trenches likely predate the construction of the Indian Valley Dam. Once the geology inspection is complete, Lopez will fill in the open trenches.

Mr. Sieferman asked about the absence of sediment in the trenches. Lopez indicated that there was little evidence of sediment buildup in the upper region of the reservoir, where the trenches were located.

#### **7. BOARD PRESENTATION: Update of District's Conjunctive Water Use Management Program**

General Manager O'Halloran reported that the District is continuing to explore options for installing District wells at a couple of sites. One site would be at the Moore Siphon, a location at which there is considerable water elevation fluctuation in the system. No easement would be required at this site. Another site under consideration is located just east of 505, between the Pleasant Prairie and Yolo Central Canals. This site is attractive because it would offer the benefit of creating a holding pond that could serve to connect the two canals, is located on the east side of the 505 culvert, is located halfway down the canal system, and is located west of Plainfield Ridge. The property owner is interested in discussing the installation of a District well and holding pond at this site, and is open to phased development of such a system, if necessary.

## **8. DIRECTORS' REPORTS:**

None.

## **9. ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Legal Counsel Bartkiewicz reported that both the Governor and the Legislature are interested in finalizing a water bill. Senator Steinberg has called for a meeting on October 13, which could indicate positive movement toward agreement upon a water strategy. The Northern California Water Association (NCWA) continues to participate actively in the process, and is lead coordinator for The Upstream Coalition, a combination of agencies and interests, including the City of San Francisco, East Bay Municipal Utility District, and Sacramento, in addition to NCWA and many individual water districts, including the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District. The Upstream Coalition has issued a letter to legislative leaders outlining a list of items a water bill must contain to garner the Coalition's support, such as respecting existing water rights, and limiting any financial obligations only on upstream water suppliers whose operations directly cause Delta ecosystem and flow problems, and then, only proportional to the extent that those operations contribute to such problems. The Upstream Coalition is in the process of drafting a second water bill letter to legislative leadership.

Director Mayer asked if there are any initiatives being developed in the event that the Legislature fails to come up with a plan, and Chair Tadlock indicated he had heard that Senator Feinstein was considering getting involved. Bartkiewicz responded that Senator Feinstein's involvement at the federal level was likely intended to spur the California legislators into taking action.

## **10. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

### a. General Activities

General Manager O'Halloran welcomed in the new water year (October 1 to September 30), and announced the District was ready with ample storage for the coming rainy season. He also mentioned that the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Westside Group consisting of the Counties of Lake, Napa, Solano, Yolo, and a section of Colusa County had been approved by the California Department of Water Resources to proceed in a regional IRWMP effort. Bob Schneider asked if federal agencies, such as the US Bureau of Land Management, with property in the headwaters of the region covered by the IRWMP Westside Group, would be actively involved in the process. O'Halloran responded that they would if they choose to. Schneider noted that current efforts to develop the Cache Creek Management Plan might broaden the collaborative opportunities as the broader IRWMP effort got underway.

### b. Operations, Maintenance, and Water Conditions

O'Halloran noted that Operations Supervisor Espinoza's team has been aggressively making small canal system repairs since the end of the irrigation season.

**11. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

General Manager O'Halloran expects to provide a date certain in the near future for the Harvest BBQ, which usually takes place on the third Thursday in November. He indicated that the holiday party would be scaled back this year to a potluck gathering at the District Office.

**12. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Payment of Bills**

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

Yolo Flood Control Checks: #43075-43087

**13. ADJOURN**

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

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Ron Tadlock, Chair

ATTEST:

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Tim O'Halloran, Secretary