

**MINUTES OF THE JUNE 20, 2016
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF YOLO COUNTY**

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair, Bill Marble.

Board members present: Bill Marble - City of Woodland, Chair
Cecilia Aguiar-Curry - City of Winters, Vice-chair
Duane Chamberlain - Yolo County
Tom Barth - Yolo County Flood Control & WCD
Beverly Sandeen – City of West Sacramento
Camille Kirk – University of California Davis
Cynthia Peterson – Dunnigan Water District
Roger Cornwell – Reclamation District 108

Alternate members present: Tim O’Halloran – Yolo County Flood Control & WCD, WRA Treasurer
Kurt Balasek – City of Winters
Donita Hendrix – Dunnigan Water District
Bob Clarke – City of Davis
Mike Hall - Reclamation District 2035
Lewis Bair – Reclamation District 108

Associate members present: Nancy Ullrey – Cache Creek Conservancy

Member agencies absent: --

Public & Agency Staff: Elisa Sabatini, Yolo County, WRA Technical Committee Chair
David Guy - Northern California Water Association (NCWA)
Kristin Sicke – Yolo County Flood Control & WCD
Max Stevenson - Yolo County Flood Control & WCD
Omar Carrillo - Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
Richard Reed – Yolo County Supervisor Provenza, District 4
Marty Stripling – River Garden Farms
Les Cantor – River Garden Farms
Lynnel Pollock
Frank Sieferman, Sr.
Betsy Marchand
John McKean

- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the agenda.
- 3. PUBLIC FORUM:** John McKean commented on the recent public radio show about the challenges to SGMA implementation in Paso Robles in San Luis Obispo County. This area is home to more than 200 wineries. The state has seamed the Paso Roble’s basin in “critical overdraft”. Large vineyard owners and rural homeowners formed a local groundwater management district about the time the SGMA legislation passed. When the local management district groundwater plan was put to a vote, it was rejected by more than 70% of the voters in the Paso Robles Basin. Many landowners/farmers have filed suit against the district. The State law requires the County to come up with a resolution to this problem, otherwise state regulators can take over management. John complemented the local SGMA implementation in Yolo County for being a transparent and open process.
<http://www.capradio.org/articles/2016/06/16/first-step-in-california-groundwater-law-stirs-debate>
- 4. CONSENT ITEMS:** The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the consent items.

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- a. Approved minutes: March 14, 2016 Board meeting
- b. Received financial reports: March – May 2016
- c. Received minutes of Executive Committee: 3/7, 4/4, 5/10/16
- d. Received minutes of Technical Committee: 3/3, 4/7, 5/5/16
- e. Received FY15-16 projected fiscal year end budget summary and FY15-16 WRA Accomplishments
- f. Approved annual Board meeting schedule 2017, 1/9, 3/20, 6/19, 9/18, 11/13/17
- g. Approved FY16-17 Technical Committee Project Fund Budget Recommendations
- h. Adopted FY16-17 Operating Budget

5. APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM CHAIR, Bill Marble will be resigning from his position of WRA Chair and Woodland City Council because he has accepted an assignment to serve as a church Mission President in Peru. The Nominating Committee has considered this development and recommends that the Board approve the appointment of the Vice-chair, Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, to the Chair position for the remainder of 2016. The Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the appointment of Vice-chair to acting Board Chair of the WRA.

6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a. Report from the WRA Chair: Chair Curry invited Bill to speak to the Board about his service on the WRA Board. Bill Marble took a few moments to describe his incredible experience working in the water world serving with a very diverse set of individuals. He will cherish and always remember his time serving on the Board of the WRA. It has been a unique opportunity to work in such a collaborative environment and resolve problems around water issues, which is a very noteworthy tribute to this Association. He summarized some of the organizations he has been affiliated with during his tenure as a public official. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve with them on the Board for so many years. Cecilia expressed her own appreciation and personal thanks to Bill for the time they worked together on so many issues. She opened up the floor for comments from Board members, Tim O'Halloran and Beverly Sandeen.
- b. Adopt Resolution in recognition of Chair Marble's service on WRA Board: The WRA Board motioned, seconded and unanimously approved the resolution acknowledging Chair Marble's service.

7. UPDATE ON WATER LEGISLATION & REGULATORY ISSUES

- a. Legislation and Regulatory Update and Delta Update: David Guy, NCWA, summarized a couple of bills in state legislation. Assemblyman Dodd's AB 1755 strives to address integration of water data management. The bill has moved through the Assembly and is now in the Senate. It has been through a few amendments that have improved the legislation. Senator Wolk's SB 1317 is a groundwater bill that allows counties to establish conditional use permits and possibly groundwater extraction permits. This bill has moved from the Senate to the Assembly and is fraught with controversy related to groundwater pumping and land use authorities. It is questionable whether counties have the resources to work on this measure with all of the current responsibilities of SGMA implementation. On the federal side, there is a lot of discussion around drought legislation. The House has been able to move their legislation forward in past years, but Senator Feinstein is experiencing more difficulty moving her bill forward. Congressman Garamendi is trying to lend her some support with his related bill. David explained the challenges about moving these bills through the Senate and Congress. On the regulatory front, David discussed how the Bureau of Reclamation's operations (flows/releases) are impacting Sacramento River and eastern Yolo County operators and others on the Tehama Colusa Canal. The State

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Water Board is moving forward with the Water Fix process aka the twin tunnels. Many in Northern California have already protested this process to the State Board. David applauds the approach Yolo County has taken with SGMA implementation and coordination efforts. He also thanked everyone who participated and attended the Winters Canal groundwater recharge project showcase on June 15th including some of the state's administrative leaders. David was asked about how the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will address areas that are not covered by a GSA by the July 2017 deadline. He thinks the SWRCB will likely publish a map of those white areas identified as of July 2017. The regulations allow for a probationary process. Although we don't know exactly what that will entail as interpretation of the regulations are still being determined.

8. WRA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE UPDATE, Elisa Sabatini, Committee Chair

- a. *Technical Committee (TC) Activities and Westside IRWMP Update* – Elisa had a short reported on a few items. The 2016 Yolo County Subsidence Networking Monitoring event has been conducted with volunteers from several agencies. The cost is approximately \$93,000. The in-kind value of resources contributed by participating agencies is approximately \$180,000 for staffing and equipment resources. Jim Frame will be comparing this observation to the last data collected in 2008. The WRA has developed a relationship with the Stanford Water in the West research team about their study of Yolo County subsidence. Stanford is using InSAR technology to study Yolo county subsidence (satellite radar that utilizes differing ground surface reflections to measure subsidence). We are sharing our current network monitoring information with them. Elisa reviewed the FY2016-17 projects being funded that the Board approved with the FY2016-17 budget today.

She had two grant updates. The YCFC&WCD applied on the WRA's behalf for a Proposition 1 Storm Water Resources Planning Grant from the State Water Resources Control Board for about \$330,000. The grant will fund the development of a regional storm water plan. Future funding is contingent upon having a Regional Storm Water Resources Plan. This is also the only time they are offering funding for the planning effort. Awards should be announced by the end of summer. The TC is also working with the Westside-Sacramento IRWMP Coordinating Committee to compile a request for a Water Energy Grant application to DWR. Eligible grant projects are those that reduce demands on water, energy and/or conserve those resources. There is a total of \$19 million available for this grant program. There should be more to report on this at the next Board meeting. Elisa and Max Stevenson answered a question about the subsidence project.

9. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA), Tim O'Halloran, Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (YCFC&WCD), showed a short media coverage video of the Winters Canal groundwater recharge event showcasing project highlights. This collaborative YCFC&WCD project successfully integrated surface water and groundwater supplies to manage groundwater sustainability for the District and their water customers. (Informational handout distributed about the Winters Canal recharge process available on the WRA's website under June 20, 2016 meeting minute's section: http://www.yolowra.org/meeting_directors.html.)

- a. *Facilitated Public Outreach Summary*: Tim O'Halloran summarized the three public outreach meetings that were held at the end of March. The meetings held in Woodland, Winters and Clarksburg were well attended (500 + attendees in all). Many landowners had the opportunity to ask questions and clarify their concerns about SGMA implementation in Yolo County. For information about Yolo's SGMA process visit: <http://yologroundwater.org/>

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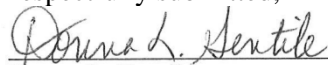
- b. Groundwater Sustainability Agency Governance Discussions: The next step after the public outreach meetings was to convene the 33 *eligible* Yolo entities that could become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). Their first meeting in May was attended by all the entities to begin discussions. Tim summarized discussion about the proposed basin boundaries and management areas under the Yolo GSA. A proposed GSA structure framework is being discussed and vetted among all the eligible entities including preliminary cost estimates that will come with development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). Tim distributed a flowchart of the GSA Formation Timeline (draft) for discussion purposes. Tim explained how the process will need to flow in order to move expediently through each development component to DWR's April 30, 2017 deadline of a Notice of Intent to Form a GSA. Hopefully, the process won't be unnecessarily delayed when all the participating GSA entities review the JPA forming document. Tom Barth suggested the best approach would be to present the GSA entities with a concept outline of what the JPA plans to achieve in implementation. Cecilia suggested that the city managers be included in the discussions. Tim acknowledged that he is planning to engage the city managers in the SGMA process. The Board asked questions and heard comments.
- c. SGMA Related Activities: Tim summarized activities since the last WRA Board meeting in March. Tim explained the basis for Yolo's Basin Boundary Modification request that was submitted to DWR at the end of March. The proposed boundary changes were thoughtfully and collaboratively discussed with all affected entities.

10. MEMBERS' REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Tim O'Halloran noted he has been in communication with the Yocha Dehe Nation and their desired level of participation in the SGMA implementation process. He thanked Omar for his continued attendance. Camille Kirk is the UC Davis WRA Board representative trying to fill Sid England's shoes! Bob Clark, City of Davis, is the WRA Board Alternative representative. He informed that the Davis City Council will be reviewing committee appointments at their September meeting for 2017. Chair Cecilia Curry informed that the WRA Nominating Committee will be reviewing recommendations for 2017 Board officers and appointments for Board consideration at the November 14th meeting.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday, September 19, 2016 from 3-5 pm, Woodland Community & Senior Center.

12. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned by Chair Cecilia Aguiar-Curry at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna L. Gentile

Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator