

**MINUTES of Executive Committee (EC) Meeting
Water Resources Association of Yolo County
October 10, 2016, 12:00-1:00 pm**

Present: Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Elisa Sabatini, Kurt Balasek, Tim O’Halloran, Kristin Sicke and Donna Gentile

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Cecilia Aguiar-Curry at 12:00 pm.
2. **Approve Agenda and Adding Items to the Posted Agenda:** Approved as presented.
3. **Public Comment:** No public in attendance.
4. **Administrative Items:**
 - a) September 12, 2016 EC minutes were approved.
 - b) Review financials FY2016-17: September 2016: Donna reported that she is waiting for a final invoice from Jim Frame before Tim does the annual transfer of funds from First Northern Bank to the LAIF account. Jim’s final invoice is expected this month and he indicated at the Technical Committee that the project came in under budget. After the final project expenses are known, Donna will invoice the partners who also agreed to contribute funds to the project – Yolo County, Conaway Ranch and the Yolo County Flood Control & WCD. Yolo County and the Yolo County Flood Control & WCD were also invoiced by the WRA for additional SGMA contributions that they offered to provide for implementation. There was nothing else of special note in the September financials.
 - c) Approve payments of invoices: All invoices were approved for payment.
5. **Update on Water Legislation & Regulatory Issues**

Tim noted that the Governor’s 30-day window to sign legislation ended September 30th.
6. **SGMA Planning & Implementation**

Tim reported that the eligible Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) entities are meeting this Wednesday at the Yolo County Flood Control & WCD for further discussion. The biggest fears expressed by the entities regarding GSA governance was loss of jurisdictional authority, while the biggest concern expressed by private pumpers and the Yolo County Farm Bureau is not having a seat at the table. Tim and Kristin have developed a proposed “decision tree” framework for GSA authority that should address these fears, and will be presented for discussion and feedback on Wednesday.

Tim discussed the four focus group discussions that were conducted by Meredith Niles and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). The primary purpose of conducting the focus groups was to survey farmer perceptions of SGMA implementation in Yolo County. The data will be synthesized and incorporated into SEI’s expanded WEAP model and will assist with components of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). The focus groups went well and the farmers had an opportunity to learn from one another and share information.

Tim gave an illustrated overview of the GSA decision tree on the white board. The purpose is to help an entity or management area determine whether groundwater conditions are sustainable and what process they need to follow to prove or attain sustainability. Simply put, there are only two things that can be done to become sustainable: 1) take less water out of the subbasin or 2) put more water into the subbasin. Tim reviewed some scenarios that could trigger enforcement actions on the management areas or entities. Enforcement action policies will be defined, agreed upon and written into the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) formation agreement. Enforcement will not be a vote-based decision by the GSA. Elisa commented that the GSP is the more important element of this process,

MINUTES of Executive Committee (EC) Meeting
Water Resources Association of Yolo County
October 10, 2016, 12:00-1:00 pm

because the GSA will not be able to do anything that is not defined in the GSP. Tim questioned how the state will address planning when one management area is found unsustainable while other management areas within the same subbasin are deemed sustainable.

7. **Technical Committee (TC) & Westside IRWMP Update:** Tim gave a summary of the subsidence network monitoring report update by Jim Frame at the October TC meeting. Tim asked Jim to add a written narrative to give some context to the report. Yolo Zamora is still the area with the most subsidence. It was questioned whether the survey incorporated sufficient areas around the City of Winters. Kurt mentioned it would be good if the Appendix A's map included the time frame of the monitoring period.

The Stanford University research team will be comparing their InSAR data to the ground based data survey results as part of their research study in Yolo County. Donna mentioned that two DWR representatives from the Red Bluff office attended the October TC meeting. DWR will be undertaking a 2017 Sacramento Valley subsidence network monitoring re-observation. Local agencies will be asked to provide volunteer staffing for station observations.

Elisa gave an update on Westside IRWM committee activities. Their focus has been on three tasks: 1) options and strategies for submission of DWR's Water Energy Grant, 2) the regional application for Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DACI) grant funding for the Sacramento River Funding Area (one applicant allowed for entire area) and 3) the finalization of the Westside IRWM small grant program awards are being discussed.

8. **WRA Board Meeting**

a) November 14, 2016 - Discuss agenda items: The EC discussed the following agenda topics:

- SGMA Activities: GSA Governance progress and other updates (integrating the WRA and the GSA) (Tim O.) ~20 minutes
- Nominating Committee Recommendations for 2017 Board Officers & Appointments
- Presentation: DWR Lower Elkhorn (setback levee) project and 2017 CVF Protection Plan update (Elisa will contact DWR to request presentation)

b) Future Board Meeting Topics – On-going list (alphabetical):

Board meeting topics, discussed in 2016:

- Mercury 1995 Study Update, Dr. Slotton/UCD – Elisa will coordinate a presentation for the Technical Committee (Nov TC meeting?)
- Desalination projects – Kurt identified a speaker for a presentation
- Effects of Fire on the Watershed – Kurt confirmed Rich Marovich for a 2016 presentation

c) On-going meeting topics:

- Annual Water Resources Conditions – Tim O'Halloran
- Central Valley Flood Protection Plan – MWH/DWR (Janet Atkinson 916-803-4779)
- Davis-Woodland Surface Water Supply Project Update, WDCWA
- Delta Counties Coalition update
- Delta related planning updates, allow time to discuss at each meeting (Yolo County, NCWA)
- Drought Conditions Update
- Flood Update – pending TC discussions and recommendations on what/who to present
- Lower Cache Creek Feasibility Study Update (Tim Busch/City of Woodland)
- Member agency concerns, such as West Sac and flood protection
- Mercury issues and TMDL's

**MINUTES of Executive Committee (EC) Meeting
Water Resources Association of Yolo County
October 10, 2016, 12:00-1:00 pm**

- North Bay Aqueduct Project (SCWA) – progress updates
- RD 2035 Joint Intake project update
- RWA, John Woodling, Update on priority issues for the new year
- Speakers representing positions/interests seen as potential threats to our region
- Underground well conditions update
- Water quality
- Water rate studies – sharing results
- Water re-use projects
- Westside IRWMP process updates - ongoing
- WRA Board Strategic Planning Session: coordinate with a potential dues increase?
- WRA funded projects, lead project partner update at end of FY (as appropriate)
- Yolo IRWMP Foundational Actions update
- Yolo IRWMP Foundational Actions Update by TC (tie-in to FY budget process)

9. Other Updates & Future Executive Committee Agenda Items – Nothing additional discussed

10. Next Executive Committee Meeting Date: November 7, 2016, 12-1 pm, Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation Board Room.

11. Adjourned at 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Donna L. Gentile

Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator