

**MINUTES of Technical Committee (TC) Meeting
Water Resources Association of Yolo County
July 7, 2016, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.**

Committee Members:

Elisa Sabatini, Yolo County, TC Chair
Tim O'Halloran, YCFC&WCD
Max Stevenson, YCFC&WCD
Kristin Sicke, YCFC&WCD
Carol Scianna, City of Winters
Bryan Busch, Reclamation District 108
Camille Kirk, UC Davis
Donita Hendrix, Dunnigan Water District

Jeanette Wrynski, Yolo County RCD
Barrett Kaasa, CA DWR
Evan Jacobs, California American Water
Carrie Shaw, Putah Creek Council
Martha Ozonoff, Yolo Basin Foundation
Jordan Power, City of Woodland
Ryan Burnett, City of West Sacramento
Donna Gentile, WRA

Other Attendees:

Greg Meyer, City of Woodland
Esther Conrad, Stanford University
Jesse Crew, Stanford University
Jan Martinez, Stanford University

Jim Frame, Frame Surveying & Mapping
Ken Loy, West Yost Associates
Mary Fahey, Colusa County

Member Agencies Absent:

RD 2035

City of Davis

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 8:30 a.m. by Elisa Sabatini.
2. **APPROVAL AGENDA & Adding Items to Posted Agenda:** Agenda was approved as presented
3. **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES:** Previous meeting minutes were emailed to the TC for review with today's agenda. Comments on the draft 6/2/16 minutes are due by 7/8/16.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** John McKean mentioned the issue of Woodland water chlorination that was briefly discussed a couple of years ago by city council. He suggested this would be a good time to re-visit the issue. Greg Meyer said this input would be appropriate for a Woodland city council meeting during public comments.
5. **CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR) Update:** Barrett Kaasa, DWR, gave updates on the following items. Contact info: barrett.kaasa@water.ca.gov, (916) 376-9618
Sustainable Groundwater Management Program
Website <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/index.cfm>
Basin Boundary Modification Requests
 - Public meeting to discuss DWR review of basin boundary modification requests – located at each region office (West Sacramento on July 15th 2016 at 3 pm)
 - Yolo BBMR application has been approved in draft by DWR
 - The CWC will finalize approved basin boundary modifications in September 2016

DWR Prop 1 Funding

DWR IRWM Grant Program

- IRWM Planning Grants
 - The final Planning PSP was supposed to be released in June 2016, but is still pending

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2015 Urban Water Management Plans

Website: <http://www.water.ca.gov/urbanwatermanagement/uwmp2015.cfm>

- 2015 UWMPs were due July 1, 2016
- Grants with the department will not be reimbursements until an agency's UWMP has been received

6. FUNDING UPDATES:

- a. Discuss 2016 Water-Energy Grant (WEG) Program Solicitation: Elisa informed that the Westside Coordinating Committee (CC) will be revisiting the WEG application for the 4-county region at their meeting next week. The guidelines have been revised and we are only eligible to apply for water/energy efficiency rebates. The focus this round is on industrial/commercial and not residential. The Westside CC will be discussing entering into an agreement with the Local Government Commission to write the grant and manage the grant on behalf of the CC. The grant deadline was extended to Nov. 2016. <http://www.water.ca.gov/waterenergygrant/index.cfm>

Other Updates:

- Elisa also shared that Yolo County was notified by the California Natural Resources Agency that they were awarded a River Parkways grant for Capay Open Space Park. The Yolo County RCD will be performing the work with the County as the formal applicant. This is about a half-million grant award for in-channel work to remove invasive species and bank protection, as well as to provide interpretive signage and educational kiosks. Jeanette Wrynsinki provided additional details about the project.
- Bryan Busch reported RD 108 was awarded a \$750,000 US Bureau of Reclamation grant. They are awaiting notification on a \$2 million State award. Both for water use efficiency projects.
- Tim Busch reported on the funding status of the City of Woodland's recycled water program. The City received \$2 million under the Westside IRWM's Prop. 84 grant. They will also receive an additional \$1.89 million under Prop. 1 and the remaining \$2.6 million is funded by a 1.0% low-interest 30-year loan. Overall, the City's \$6 million total program costs are receiving \$3.9 million in grant assistance.
- Jeanette informed the Yolo RCD was conditionally approved for a Delta Conservancy grant for one of the first corridor habitat restoration projects within the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. She explained the project and conditional approval related to the complicated nature of water right documentation in the Bypass.
- Max Stevenson reported that the YCFC&WCD completed the 2014 Winters Main Canal Modernization agricultural water-use efficiency project under a Prop. 50 grant. They are continuing similar work with additional grant funding to install more gates and flow meters. The project cost was about \$1.5 million in grant funds and \$600,000 in cost share. Max is completing the final reporting requirements now. Tim O'Halloran shared an interesting nuance that the District experienced relating to the bidding process requirements regarding public projects that are constructed using in-house labor.

- 7. WATER REGULATORY & LEGISLATION ISSUES UPDATE:** Tim O'Halloran reported that Senator Wolk's two water bills, SB 1317 and Coastal Conservancy, have been tabled. Assemblyman Dodd's database management bill is broadly written and DWR would need to determine how to execute it. NCWA is tracking budget trailer bills that would be presented in August. Tim asked Max to give a regulatory update on the CV-Salts and Irrigated Lands Regulatory Programs. Both Regional Board programs regulate groundwater constituents of salt and nitrate, respectively, similar to TMDL requirements. The Board will adopt a salt and nutrient management plan by the end of this year that will create new regulations for management. Elisa reported that the State Department of Fish & Wildlife plans to substantially raise their permitting fees. For example, one of the County's permit fees will be raised from \$13,000 to \$28,000 after October 1st (Section 1600 permits and applications).

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8. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA) PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION:

- a. Update SGMA Committee/Working Group activities and implementation timeline: Tim O'Halloran shared a short video clip of a milestone event acknowledging the District's Winters Canal groundwater recharge program that was attend by local and state agencies. Next year the District will apply for another temporary permit to support the recharge program. They may consider whether to apply for a permanent permit, however, this would be considered a permanent water right, which would entail higher fees.

Tim distributed a handout titled: *Draft Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Formation Timeline*. The SGMA Steering Committee has transitioned into a Governance Committee to discuss/develop GSA formation details. The May 17, 2016 Committee meeting included 32 GSA eligible entities/agencies. Interested entities will continue to participate in future Committee meetings as components of this timeline are further developed. The proposed timeline lays out activities from June 2016 through DWR's April 30, 2017 deadline for the Notice of Intent to Form a GSA. During June –November 2016, the Committee tasks will be to define critical components of the JPA (i.e. voting rights, dues), determine a white area solution, eligible entities will decide whether to join the GSA/JPA, and the status/role of the existing WRA will be determined. All of these components will further define the "Management Area Concept", the membership of the Management Areas and help determine what the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) will look like in Yolo County. After additional public outreach in winter 2016, a draft JPA document will be presented to the GSA entities for agreement in February 2017. Each of the SGMA entities will need to ratify the JPA agreement through their own public hearing process from February to April 2017. There will be a public comment period for the Notice of Intent to Form a GSA with the final GSA formation deadline of June 30, 2017. The next Governance Committee working group meeting for all GSA eligible entities will be held on July 27th.

Tim answered questions and invited Mary Fahey, Colusa County, to give an update. She informed how they are addressing the white areas in their county by engaging landowners through public outreach efforts. Tim reviewed the small portion of RD999 that will be included in Yolo's Basin Boundary Modification.

Subsidence monitoring will be part of the SGMA duties. He asked Jim Frame, who was in attendance, to give a short synopsis of the current subsidence monitoring observation underway. Tim had several photos of the volunteer training day that Jim explained. The WRA should have his final report by the end of September.

9. WRA PROJECT FUND BUDGET:

- a. FY2015-16 Projects: Donna gave a brief update on the status of FY2015-16 projects. All projects have reported that they will use their full allocations. A few projects have notified that their final invoicing will be sent after July. The goal is to have a more definitive FY end report for the WRA Board at the September 19th meeting. The March SGMA public meeting outreach costs are still pending receipt from the Yolo County Farm Bureau (YCFB). The WRA agreed to a 50/50 cost share with the YCFB on these costs.

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- b. FY2016-17 FINAL Project Fund Allocations: The WRA Board adopted a FY16-17 budget at the 6/20/16 meeting that includes the TC's project budget recommendations. Donna will be preparing draft agreements for all the projects receiving an allocation. She will contact them about sending her a more detailed project scope, schedule and budget to accompany the agreements. The WRA budgets, operating (http://www.yolowra.org/about_budget.html) and project (<http://www.yolowra.org/projects.html>), are posted on the WRA's website.

10. STANFORD UNIVERSITY SUBSIDENCE RESEARCH STUDY: Overview and Survey Regarding Current Subsidence Monitoring: Jesse Crews and Esther Conrad, are part of the Stanford University Research Team and will be give the TC an update on their current land subsidence monitoring study. Esther informed there would be a short survey for everyone to fill-out at the end of today's presentation. The survey will provide information to the team about the current perceptions about subsidence and the kinds of information that would be helpful for decision-making purposes relating to subsidence issues.

Jesse gave an introduction to subsidence as a geological process, reviewed the types of subsidence and the effects of subsidence that has been observed historically in California. Jesse reviewed the subsidence monitoring performed in Yolo County by the WRA from 1999 to the present. He illustrated the Yolo network monitoring results with several contour maps and reviewed the historical trends. Key Loy, Tim O'Halloran and Jim Frame shared their local insights about local subsidence data and subsidence trends. Tim reviewed how this correlates to the water balances that will need to be prepared for the SGMA Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The City of Woodland will continue to monitor the positive and/or negative impacts of changing subsidence trends as part of their ASR recharge and recovery program.

Jesse informed that all of the information in his presentation today is publicly available for anyone to view. He reviewed other types of monitoring being done in Yolo County. UC Davis has a continuously monitored GPS station as part of the Bay Area Regional Deformation Network. DWR has maintained a network of extensometers to assess ground deformation. There are two DWR stations in Yolo County, one near Zamora and one near Conaway Ranch. Jesse illustrated data from both stations in graphs from the 1990's to the present.

There are several factors affecting subsidence patterns. A combination of groundwater levels and geology, especially clay, influence Yolo County ground surface subsidence. Jesse reviewed the primary factors affecting groundwater levels, such as well pumping, surface water recharge, agricultural land use, natural precipitation and temperature conditions. Geologic factors include surface elevation changes due to large-scale earth movements along faults, the presence of compaction-prone clay and the simultaneous combination of lower groundwater levels and sediment compaction.

Jesse gave an overview of the geophysical project timeline. The gathering of background data is completed. The processing and initial analysis of InSAR data should be completed by November 2016. A final publication of the interpretive results should be available mid-2017. Jesse will give another presentation to the TC of the basic results before the final publication. Jesse answered questions from the TC. A summary of the current conclusions are:

- Subsidence is the lowering of the ground surface.

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- It may occur due to natural and/or human-influenced causes.
- The most likely cause for subsidence in Yolo County is lowering of groundwater levels in areas where clay is present.
- A network of subsidence-monitoring stations has been established in Yolo County, and have been surveyed in 1999, 2002, 2005, and 2008, with another survey to be completed in 2016.
- Observable subsidence has already occurred in Yolo County. It is much smaller in magnitude than in the San Joaquin Valley, but has resulted in observable effects on infrastructure.
- Factors that influence the spatial extent and severity of subsidence include groundwater pumping, artificial groundwater recharge, natural climate variations, and the underlying geology.

Jesse's PowerPoint presentation can be viewed at: http://www.yolowra.org/meeting_technical.html.

Esther distributed a brief survey about our current knowledge of subsidence in Yolo County and our views about the need for action to address it. The TC members filled out and returned the survey by the end of the meeting. This survey is part of the research team's study.

11. MEMBER INFORMATION & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Yolo County and Cache Creek Conservancy are recruiting for a few positions. The Westside IRWM Coordinating Committee meeting is July 13 in Lake County. There are a few grant related items on the agenda: reviewing any water/energy projects for consideration for the Water Energy Grant solicitation, DWR's DAC Involvement Grant (non-competitive) and the second round of the Westside's internal small grant program (~\$50,000 total available). Tim acknowledged the recent release of a Stanford report – "*From the Ground Down: Understanding Local Groundwater Data Collection and Sharing Practices in California*" <http://waterinthewest.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/GW-DataSurveyReport.pdf>. Elisa informed that she is now the Yolo County Natural Resources Division manager. Greg Meyer informed that Jim Hilliard will be Bill Marble's replacement on the WRA Board. Jim is currently the City's alternate representative for the WRA.

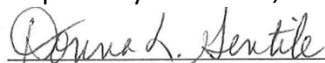
Future Agenda Items:

- RD 108's Flow Meter Program
- City of Woodland's AquaHawk Alerting web-based water use portal software
- Brownfield EPA Grant Update, S. McCord

12. NEXT REGULAR TC MEETING DATE: August 4, 2016, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m., Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District.

13. ADJOURN at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna L. Gentile
Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator