

**MINUTES of Technical Committee (TC) Meeting  
Water Resources Association of Yolo County  
September 1, 2016, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.**

**Committee Members:**

Elisa Sabatini, TC Chair	Tim O’Halloran, YCFC&WCD
Max Stevenson, YCFC&WCD	Kristin Sicke, YCFC&WCD
Carol Scianna, City of Winters	Evan Jacobs, California American Water
Jesse Loren, City of Winters	Jordan Power, City of Woodland
Bryan Busch, Reclamation District 108	Nancy Ullrey, Cache Creek Conservancy
Rhys Rowland, City of Davis	Greg Meyer, City of Woodland
Donita Hendrix, Dunnigan Water District	Barett Kaasa, DWR
Camille Kirk, University of CA Davis	Jeanette Wrysinski, Yolo County RCD
Stephen McCord, MEI	Donna Gentile, WRA

**Other Attendees:**

Dave Pratt	John McKean
Christy Barton, YCFC&WCD	Atley Keller, MEI
Eleni Getachew, MEI	

**Member Agencies Absent:**

RD 2035	City of West Sacramento
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1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 8:30 a.m. by Tim O’Halloran. Elisa Sabatini arrived about 8:55 am and continued chairing the meeting.
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 8/4/16 minutes are due by 9/2/16.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comments.
5. **CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR) Update:** Barrett Kaasa, DWR gave the following update and answered questions. Contact: [barrett.kaasa@water.ca.gov](mailto:barrett.kaasa@water.ca.gov); (916) 376-9618

<b>Grant Funding Opportunities (Overview)</b>	
1.	<p>Prop 1 Planning and DAC Involvement Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Final Prop 1 2016 Guidelines available online.</li> <li>- IRWM Planning Grant PSP online. \$5 million available; \$250k available for IRWMP update. <b>Due Date: Sep 23, 2016 at 5:00pm, submitted to DWR GRanTS system.</b></li> <li>- DAC Involvement RFP online: \$51 million available; \$3.7 million Sac Funding Area. <b>Sep 2016 – Jan 2017 Expect Submit, Contact DWR Financial Assistance</b></li> <li>- Costs reimbursable after grant award date (RFP); however, will consider prior expenses.</li> <li>- Public Workshops/Information Sessions (last week, presentation available online) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- RFP Table 3 ('Needs Assessment' required), Example Process given in Presentation</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Link:</b> <a href="http://water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/prop1index.cfm">water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/prop1index.cfm</a></p>
2.	<p>CalConserve Water Use Efficiency Revolving Fund 2015 Loan Program (Prop 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- \$10 million available funding; water efficiency upgrades, low-interest financing repair/replace water infrastructure (conservation-based) – <i>verify requirements!</i></li> <li>- Final guidelines and proposal solicitation available online.</li> </ul>

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<b>Due date PAST August 31, 2016 at 5:00pm, submitted to DWR GRanTS system.</b>	
<b>Link: <a href="http://water.ca.gov/wuegrants/CalConserve.cfm">water.ca.gov/wuegrants/CalConserve.cfm</a></b>	
3.	<p>DWR Water Energy Grant (2016 Water-Energy Solicitation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- \$19 million available funding; residential (DAC) and commercial water efficiency programs, projects reducing energy consumption or greenhouse gases – <i>verify Eligibility Requirements!</i></li> <li>- \$3 million per proposal, no more than \$6 million per applicant. No mandated cost-share.</li> <li>- <b>Due date expected November, 2016.</b> Public Workshop(s) expected October, 2016.</li> <li>- Revised Draft Guidelines and PSP Released online.</li> </ul> <p><b>Link: <a href="http://water.ca.gov/waterenergygrant/">water.ca.gov/waterenergygrant/</a></b></p>
4.	<p>SWRCB Prop 1 Groundwater Quality Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- \$800 million in funding available for GW contamination cleanup</li> <li>- Pre-applications were due July 29<sup>th</sup>, final applications due October 14<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Link: <a href="http://waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/groundwater_sustainability.shtml">waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/groundwater_sustainability.shtml</a></b></p>
<b>Sustainable Groundwater Management</b>	
1.	<p>June 2016 Progress Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Report Released on Sustainable Groundwater Management website.</li> <li>- Key Accomplishments for Objectives (e.g., Updated List of Critically Overdrafted Basins, Established Basin Prioritization, Regulations for GSPs, Web-based Mapping Tools).</li> </ul> <p><b>Link: <a href="http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/pdfs/2015_SGMP_Progress_Report.pdf">water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/pdfs/2015_SGMP_Progress_Report.pdf</a></b></p>
2.	<p>Basin Boundary Modifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft Approved Modifications (Map/List) Released</li> <li>- Final modifications will be presented to the CWC on September 21, 2016.</li> <li>- Next BBM period will be in 2018.</li> </ul> <p><b>Link: <a href="http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/basin_boundaries.cfm">water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/basin_boundaries.cfm</a></b></p>
3.	<p>Best Management Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BMPs are intended to provide clarification, guidance, and examples to help GSAs develop the essential elements of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan</li> <li>- Local agencies and interested parties will have opportunities to provide necessary input to DWR during the development of the BMPs before they are finalized</li> <li>- BMPs will be developed by January 1, 2017</li> </ul> <p><b>Link: <a href="http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/bmps.cfm">http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/bmps.cfm</a></b></p>

Additional items discussed:

- *Water Available for Replenishment* report: Publish date December 31, 2016, DWR is working on a regional perspective and reviewing “excess flows” in the major rivers  
<http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/wafr.cfm>
- DWR is currently preparing a budget change proposal to allocate more funding to SGMA. Some of the proposed funding uses are for a review/update of DWR monitoring network throughout the State, a re-survey of Sacramento Valley subsidence, more frequent statewide InSAR data and an improved water data portal.

**6. FUNDING UPDATES:**

- Nancy, Cache Creek Conservancy, UC Davis submitted an application with the assistance of the CCC for a project to test soils/water depth for future re-vegetation in the Cache Creek RMP area. She also reminded that the Urban Streams Program deadline is mid-October and the Delta Conservancy Prop. 1 concept proposals are due by the end of September.
- Jeanette, YCRC, continuing work started in lower Cache Creek under a WRA funded project surveying removal of tamarisk/arrundo. Work will begin upstream in Cache Creek in September. This is consistent

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with the Cache Creek Watershed-wide Invasive Species Management Plan developed in 2011 with WRA Project Budget funds.

- Bryan, RD108, the District received a \$1.5 million Prop. 1 Water Use Efficiency (WUE) grant from the State and \$750,000 from USBR to automate 26 canal lateral structures and construct/replace 2 pipelines in their distribution system. They will be re-applying for the Management of Rice Fields for Water Supply, Flood Management and Eco System Benefit project for the winter. Bryan was asked to report on their participation in the state's Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy program to improve plankton conditions to feed Delta smelt.
- Max, YCFCWCD, reported that the Winters Canal Modernization Project that is now completed (\$1.5 million Prop. 50 WUE grant). They received \$2 million through the IRWM program for similar work (gates, flood meters, well additions) on other parts of the canal under the Prop. 84 Drought Emergency Grant. The City of Woodland and Lake County also received \$2 million each for their own projects under this grant.
- Elisa reported that Yolo County is collaborating with YCRCD to submit ~\$1 million proposal to replace seasonal dirt at crossings in the lower Bypass with actual permanent grade structures.
- Elisa mentioned the written letters of intent for the Disadvantaged Community (DAC) funding will be accepted starting today. This is being coordinated under the Westside-Sacramento IRWM for the Sacramento River Funding Area (one applicant for the entire area). Jeanette explained how the actual proposal for funding will be written. The Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW) will be the approved DWR applicant for the Sacramento River area. They will be responsible for equitably distributing funds throughout the area as proposed by the Sacramento River Funding Area.

**7. WATER LEGISLATION & REGULATORY ISSUES UPDATE:** Tim O'Halloran reported that the legislature is currently in recess. The Governor has 30 days to decide whether to sign or veto hundreds of bills on his desk. Tim commented on few of those bills: support for Sites Reservoir construction, data information management AB1755 (Dodd), and Senator Wolk's bills (SB1317 did not move forward, SB 552 enrolled). City of Woodland is watching consolidation bills regarding water rights that could affect their ratepayers. Elisa mentioned that chaptered SB 1133 (Wolk) removed the sunset date for the Cache Creek Resource Management Plan. Bryan mentioned the agricultural workers overtime wages bill (AB 1066) that could require employers to pay overtime to laborers who work over 10 hours in one day. Tim mentioned the State Board is now holding hearings on the California Water Fix project that should take a few years. Elisa reminded that State Fish & Wildlife permitting fees will be increasing prohibitively this October.

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

- a. Update SGMA Working Group activities and implementation timeline: Tim O'Halloran reported that the Working Group has met once since the last TC meeting. Work is underway to define the responsibilities of the "management areas" for the GSA and the state. White papers on the different issues are being developed that will be presented to the larger group for discussion. The DWR deadline for GSA formation is June 30, 2017.

**9. GRANT PROJECT UPDATES:**

- a. Storm Water Resource Plan (SWRCB): Kristin Sicke, YCFC&WCD, gave a project status report in lieu of Jacques DeBra who was unable to attend today. The WRA (applicant) received a grant award of ~\$325,000 for a total project cost of ~\$690,000. UC Davis and the City of Woodland have a small amount of grant reimbursement for project development. The grant money will primarily fund the writing of a storm water resource plan and modeling through the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) using their WEAP model. They will be extending the modeling that

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SEI conducted for the YCFC&WCD to include a larger portion of the watershed. Kristin explained the benefits of the plan. The YCFC&WCD is the fiscal agent and she will be the grant manager.

- b. *Westside IRWM Brownfields Coalition Assessment Project – Overview and Engagement*: Stephen McCord, McCord Environmental Inc., gave some background history about mercury assessment in Yolo County. Stephen contracted with the WRA through the Project Fund Budget for the **“Mercury TMDL Impacts & Implementation Assessment”** project from 2012 to 2015. He tracked approximately 21 sites along Cache Creek, Putah Creek and in Lake County that were abandoned mining sites with contamination issues.

Stephen is the project manager for the Brownfields Coalition Assessment grant project. He introduced his part-time staff Atley and summer intern Eleni. The grant is funded through the Westside-Sacramento IRWM group with the Solano County Water Agency providing grant management as a partner of that group. It is a 3-year, \$450,000 grant from US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to identify, prioritize and develop clean-up plans of brownfields sites. Stephen identified the various people and agencies involved in the coordination of the project that includes the Westside Coordinating Committee, lead facilitator Danielle Dolan, Local Government Commission, and various consultants for site assessment and land use planning (ref. his org chart in his PPT [http://www.yolowra.org/meeting\\_technical.html](http://www.yolowra.org/meeting_technical.html)).

A brownfields site is a real property, such as an abandoned gas station, that may have hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants present. The EPA Brownfields Program provides grants and technical assistance to communities, states, tribes and others to assess, safely clean up and substantially reuse these contaminated properties. Typically, brownfields sites are in urban areas, however, in Yolo County the application is more relevant to the many abandoned mercury mining sites. In the case of an abandoned mine site, the Program allows liability protection, funds and technical assistance to assess and clean-up sites for public benefit while protecting human health and the environment. The landowners are already liable for these sites and participation in the program is voluntary. Stephen noted that mining sites are a legacy issue and the Program is not an enforcement vehicle. In 2002, the EPA changed the Brownfields liability by providing protections for landowners from Superfund liability if they meet certain statutory criteria (<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

Stephen reviewed the overall project schedule, which is just getting started. There will be public outreach meetings scheduled throughout the project. *Phase 1*: Site Assessments - identify and prioritizing sites (map-based assessment). He illustrated the sites that have identified mercury contamination in Yolo and Lake Counties on a map. *Phase 2*: Site Cleanup Plans – investigate sites in more detail, take measurements and samples to get a better characterization of the site. The next step is developing an area-wide plan and prioritizing the sites. The project team would identify what needs to be done at specific sites to protect it for future uses. This is a springboard to apply for implementation or other grant funding. For example, 100 mining sites may be identified and prioritized with contamination issues, two sites may have clean-up plans developed and funding secured for clean-up of one site.

Stephen referred to an online map showing the current inventory of mining sites (<http://bskassociates.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=aa323766668d468b80381995>)

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[3e3e3f00](#)). He discussed the parameters of how sites could be prioritized. Once prioritized, individual landowners would be contacted to determine their interest in cleaning up their site given the Program requirements (voluntary participation, agreement to transfer parcel to public ownership, no retroactive liability for this legacy issue, no threat of lawsuits or fines). The site eligibility also requires EPA approval prior to conducting any work. Implementation money to clean-up land cannot be used on privately owned land, so there has to be an agreement for a public easement with the landowner to utilize these funds. The landowner benefits by receiving a free site assessment report identifying the extent of the contamination; evaluation of public health and environmental risks; and proposed clean-up and redevelopment plan. The landowner can carve out the “contaminated” part of their property and transfer it to public ownership.

Stephen gave examples of several current projects and clean-ups sites proposed. He highlighted some Yolo County sites, such as the Cache Creek Settling, that could benefit from this program. The Brownfields Project website is currently part of the Westside IRWM site: [www.westsideirwm.com/brownfields](http://www.westsideirwm.com/brownfields). Interested parties can participate by visiting the website and joining the list-serv. He encouraged everyone to take the online survey that could provide helpful information for the project. Stephen’s PPT presentation can be accessed here: [www.yolowra.org/technicalcommittee](http://www.yolowra.org/technicalcommittee). For more information, contact Stephen McCord at [sam@mccenv.com](mailto:sam@mccenv.com), (530) 220-3165 or Danielle Dolan at [ddolan@jgc.org](mailto:ddolan@jgc.org), (916) 448-1198.

**10. WRA PROJECT FUND BUDGET:**

- a. *Draft 2016 Subsidence Monitoring Report:* Jim Frame, Frame Surveying and Mapping, anticipates a draft report will be available for discussion at the October 6<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee meeting.
- b. *Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 Project Updates:* Donna informed that agreements have been executed with the agencies allocated FY2016-17 funds. There will be some carryover money from FY2015-16 from certain projects to use in FY2016-17. The WRA Board will receive final FY15-16 financial statements and adopt FY2016-17 budget amendments at their September 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The FY2016-17 projects are:

- Westside IRWMP, WRA cost share (\$20,000)
- City of Winters Hexavalent Chromium Drinking Water Compliance, SGMA Implementation (\$16,127)
- Huff’s Corner Invasive Weed Removal & Management, Cache Creek Conservancy (\$15,500)
- City of Winters Storm Water Management Planning (\$15,000)
- Pilot Program Conduct MFR Landscape Irrigation Audits, Cities of Woodland, Davis, West Sacramento (\$12,000)
- Cache Creek Invasive Weed Mapping & Prioritization, Yolo County RCD (\$10,000)
- Salmon-in-the-Classroom/Salmon-in-the-Bypass, Putah Creek Council (\$5,000)
- Yolo Bypass Integrated Action Project, Yolo Basin Foundation (\$5,000)

**11. MEMBER INFORMATION & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – YCFC&WCD, City of Woodland, UC Davis, and City of Winters gave brief updates on current activities.**

Future Agenda Items:

- RD 108’s Flow Meter Program

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**12. NEXT REGULAR TC MEETING DATE:** October 6, 2016, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m., **TENTATIVE LOCATION:**  
Woodland Davis Clean Water Agency Regional Water Treatment Facility, 855 County Road 102,  
Woodland, CA 95776.

**13. ADJOURN** at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Donna L. Gentile

Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator