

**REPORT FOR THE MEETING OF
THE ADVISORY WATER COMMISSION OF THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
FOR DECEMBER 19, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Advisory Water Commission of the San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District was held on Wednesday, December 19, 2007, beginning at 1:00 p.m., at Public Health Services, 1601 E. Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, California.

Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Nomellini, Chapman, Kamper, Gilmore, Edwards, Alternates Conarro and Herrick, Secretary Lytle, Vice-Chairman Price, and Chairman McGurk. Others present are listed on the Attendance Sheet.

Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of November 21, 2007.

Commissioner Edwards commented that "august" on pg. 3 should be capitalized. Motion carried to approve the minutes with Commissioner Edwards' recommended edit (Chapman/Herrick).

Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

None.

SCHEDULED ITEMS

I. **Discussion Items:**

A. *Update on the Freeport Element Project Agreement and Work Schedule*

Mr. Brandon Nakagawa, Water Resources Engineer, reported that the engineering firm of GEI Bookman-Edmonston was approved by the County Board of Supervisors in December for the Freeport Element Project Agreement. Bookman-Edmonston would soon begin the 16-month feasibility study to determine the preferred engineering alternative that would utilize the available capacity in EBMUD's Freeport Project pipeline. When the feasibility study report is completed and an alternative is chosen, the next step will be to develop an environmental document.

B. *Update on FEMA Map Modernization and other Technical Advisory Committee Activities*

Mr. Steve Winkler, Public Works Deputy Director, reported that preliminary maps have again been delayed to an estimated release of mid-January according to a FEMA representative. The preliminary maps will reveal how FEMA took into consideration the County's submittal of levee data containing issues such as maintenance deficient levees with regard to encroachments.

The County speculates that the north bank of the Calaveras River may possibly receive PAL consideration as well as areas in Atlas Tract which has a dry land levee and Bear Creek where there are maintenance deficient levees. Conversely, levees at Smith Canal will not be accredited; however, the County is looking into other options to correct the problems there.

Mr. Winkler also reported that Reclamation District 17 has received a letter from FEMA that advises that its levees will be accredited under specific conditions. Commissioner Dante Nomellini stated that the conditions require that RD 17 notify the public of flood risks through materials such as brochures and flood depth maps. These materials would also encourage the purchase of flood insurance. Commissioner Nomellini also conveyed that the same conditions may be required for all provisionally accredited levees. Mr. Winkler added that unincorporated areas and the Cities of Stockton, Lathrop,

Manteca, and Escalon will be mailed information concerning the subjection to flood mapping and flood risk and insurance some time after Christmas.

C. Update on Delta Vision – Blue Ribbon Task Force Report

Mr. Flinn, County Public Works Director, reported of a subcommittee to the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task named Stakeholders Coordination Group. The subcommittee consists of forty-three representatives from throughout state but many are representing Southern California interests.

At a recent subcommittee meeting, the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force's "Our Vision for the California Delta" was introduced. Mr. Flinn advised that the document was carefully written to exclude the words "canal, peripheral, and isolated facility." However, Mr. Flinn indicated areas in the document that interpret the idea of a peripheral canal proposal. Such examples include items 5, 8, and 10 of the Delta Vision's 12 Integrated and Linked Recommendations. Item 5 suggests that the principles of "reasonable use" and "public trust" be applied to policy making for the Delta. Mr. Flinn argued that with this recommendation, we may lose protection of the Delta needed for our region. Item 8 of the list of recommendations discusses development of new facilities for conveyance and storage for management of water resources and exports. Item 10 discusses the need for a new and independent governing body that would have the ability to approve spending, planning, and water export levels. Mr. Flinn indicated that this central control of the Delta's operation would work to the advantage of the County's opposition.

Mr. Flinn also warned of other activities such as the Dream Study, concerning Delta risk management, led under the direction of the Dept of Water Resources. The Study analyzes the stability of the Delta surrounding geotechnical and seismic hazards. Although the Dream Study failed the approval of an independent review panel, efforts to resurrect the Study are taking place.

II. Action Items:

A. Discussion and Possible Action to Extend ACWA Executive Director - Tim Quinn an Invitation to Give a Presentation Before the Commission

Dr. Lytle reported that Mr. Tim Quinn, the new Executive Director of Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) was previously scheduled to a presentation at a Northeastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Banking Authority Board Meeting. The scheduled appearance was part of Mr. Quinn's effort to reach out and familiarize himself with regional areas. Due to State water bond activities, Mr. Quinn had unfortunately cancelled. Since the cancellation, Dr. Lytle received communication from Mr. Quinn's office on his desires to reschedule another appearance.

Because the Advisory Water Commission has been involved with the Delta Vision and Peripheral Canal issues, Dr. Lytle recommended that the Commission would be a more appropriate body for Mr. Quinn's presentation. The Commission could also make recommendations, if necessary, to the Board of Supervisors. Commissioner Gilmore recommended that the Commission's January meeting would be a good time for Mr. Quinn to attend rather than February because of the upcoming ACWA conference in Washington D.C.

Commissioner Nomellini motioned and Commissioner John Edwards seconded to invite Mr. Quinn for the Commission's January 16th meeting or another meeting that is convenient for Mr. Quinn. Motion received unanimous approval.

B. Discussion and Possible Action on Establishment of a Subcommittee to Review and Provide Recommendations on Potential Changes to Advisory Water Commission Representation

Dr. Lytle reported that since the formation of the Technical Advisory Committee, there have been discussions of increasing representation on the Advisory Water Commission with representatives who have greater flood control interests. Currently, the Commission consists of area cities and water

districts at a total of nineteen members. County Staff recommends creating a subcommittee of 2-3 people to investigate the addition of new membership and too later bring a recommendation to the Commission.

Commissioner Dave Kamper commented that the Commission is already well represented. Commissioner Nomellini added that the Commission has entities with dual roles that include flood control.

Commissioner Gilmore stated that he and Commissioner Edwards would volunteer for the subcommittee. Vice-Chairman Price also volunteered and conveyed his interest in searching for those who are not well represented in the existing Commission.

Commissioner Nomellini moved and Commissioner Dan Chapman seconded that the volunteers and County Staff proceed to analyze whether more representation should be provided on the Commission and to decide on a recommendation. Motion received unanimous approval.

III. **Communications:**

A. *Congressman Dennis Cardoza – 2007 San Joaquin County Report*

Public Comment: None.

Possible Future Agenda Items: None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **January 16, 2008, 1:00 p.m.**

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