

TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 29, 2000

Present at the meeting, Chairman George Russell, Directors' Barbara McIver, Charles Willard and Bill Borrer. Absent: Director Ross Turner. Also present: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager, Roger Sherrill, Chairman of the AB 3030 TAC Committee, Bud Hagen, past member of the AB 3030 Temporary Advisory Committee, Chuck DeJournette, past member of the AB 3030 TAC Committee, Burt Bundy, Sacramento River Conservation Area Coordinator and Bill Mendenhall, Department of Water Resources (DWR).

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Russell at 8:33 a.m.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Director Borrer and second by Director Willard to approve the minutes of January 25, 2000. As to form by Director McIver. Carried 4-0 with 1 absent.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chuck DeJournette discussed 1) Article in Western Water regarding CALFED; 2) Comments on an article regarding the Forest Service basis rules on questionable science. 3) Mojave Water, Sacramento Bee article.

Director Borrer discussed a CVP Contractors Forum that he attended with Director Willard. Negotiations are ongoing between the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the contractors. Director Borrer is concerned that The Fish & Wildlife Service has become a partner in this process. Briefly, as understood, if a person who is in a district that has a contract and wants to sell a piece of property, they must go to Fish and Wildlife to seek permission to sell their property. A meeting will be attended by Director Borrer to further investigate this issue.

4. **CLAIMS:** The claims as presented for the total of \$9,859.68 was motioned to approve by Director McIver and seconded by Director Willard. Carried 4-0 with 1 absent.
5. **UPDATE ON DWR/CALFED PROPOSAL AT WOODSON BRIDGE AREA EROSION:** Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager, and Director Borrer, met with the Sacramento River Conservation Area Coordinator, Burt Bundy, and discussed the status of the Woodson Bridge area study. DWR may apply for a CALFED Grant to fund placement of riprap on the west bank of the Sacramento River for approximately 1000 feet and finalize some of the studies that have been done in the area. If the grant is not received, DWR will move ahead within their own department for a budget change proposal that would possibly fund the project themselves. Also, discussion with the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Comprehensive Team, has shown they are very much in favor with this project.

Ernie Ohlin informed the Board, one issue that will have to be dealt with is consideration to assume maintenance responsibility. Staff's prospective is if funding is available from DWR, CALFED, or the Comprehensive Study, to do all environmental documentation, PG&E for plan specs, contract administration, etc. It may be reasonable for maintenance responsibility to be assumed by Tehama County. Presently, we want to protect the bridge and if not done in conjunction with this, we may be forced to provide all the funding. The CALFED deadline for the application is May 2000.

Burt Bundy agreed with staff and this opportunity given the County. With regard to riprap, the bridge is providing protection to public structure. It would qualify for FEMA and emergency funding.

Director Borrer felt concern for the riverbank south of this proposed rock project. More specific information was needed.

Director Willard discussed concern for taking on maintenance and funding. Perhaps if the contract contained the language that we will do maintenance as long as these (certain) conditions are met. Then it may be reasonable to assume maintenance. The real question is when the river is rocked on one side and you direct it somewhere else, do you become responsible for the results?

Burt Bundy shared the concerns of the Board and suggested working with DWR and perhaps be cosponsors in the grant application.

Bill Mendenhall of DWR, informed the Board and staff of the submitted Budget Change Proposal (BCP) which starts at the district level and goes to the division level. The BCP was denied. This was better suited as a CALFED project, 1135 or Comprehensive Study type of project. DWR is currently in the process of dealing with CALFED and felt this would be a good joint proposal. (Staff was not aware of this information)

Ernie Ohlin agreed additional discussion was needed on this issue and will continue meeting with DWR.

6. **STATUS OF STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD-CLASSIFICATION OF GROUNDWATER IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY:** Ernie Ohlin attended the SWRCB hearing in Sacramento and testified with regard to Tehama County's concern that the Pauma/Pala Basin decision, if passed, could have president setting effects on possible permitting requirements by the SWRCB, to extract groundwater in our county at some future date.

ACWA and NCWA also testified regarding implications this decision may have. The State Board delayed any decision and may hold workshops with technical experts in the field to try and resolve issues prior to a formal decision.

7. **AB 3030 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE - UPDATE:** Roger Sherrill, Chairman of the TAC, updated the Board on the past meeting. 1) Two new members, Serge Birk, Fish

Biologist, and Jim Lowden of the Corning Water District, filled positions on the TAC. Roger Sherrill continues his role as Chairman and Bill Richardson remains Vice Chairperson. 2) Also discussed was Prop 13 and Prop 12 to clarify these two separate issues. 3) Jim Lowden informed the TAC of a lawsuit brought against Corning Water District. Roger Sherrill confirmed there have been a number of legal actions taken regarding the D1641 decision by the So. Delta Water Agency. South of the Delta users are looking upstream, trying to determine how much affect the Bureau's allocations upstream will have on water quality in the Delta and eventually on the rights down stream.

The TAC is also in the process of reviewing the draft of the annual report. This report is due in March to the Flood Control Board of Directors.

8. **DAIRYVILLE AREA FLOOD ISSUES:** Ernie Ohlin updated the Board regarding the continued pursuit of funding for comprehensive drainage studies in Dairyville. Creek clearing has continued to help prevent flooding. Staff will arrange a community meeting and keep them informed on the progress and perhaps form a committee.

Director Borrer agreed an ADHOC committee should be formed and with the Water Bond that is currently on the ballot, the opportunity should be immediate.

It was the consensus to bring this before the Board next month for consideration.

9. **CALFED/LEGISLATION UPDATE:** Ernie Ohlin gave information regarding the final document of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program EIS/EIR report which is due for release this spring. Staff has requested the hard copy and CD version.

Discussion continued regarding CALFED's reluctance to the storage issue, hydroelectric facility reoperation investigation and groundwater investigations.

10. **DISCUSSION OF PROPOSITION 13, THE WATER BOND:** As requested by Director Willard, staff discussed Prop 13, Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection and Flood Protection Act, commonly known as "The Water Bond". This bond issue will be presented to the voters March 15 and is being supported by many organizations. The bond could supply funding for Tehama County's AB3030 Groundwater Management Plan and locally it could benefit the Dairyville area, watersheds and watershed improvement, conservation programs to help water efficiency and distribution facilities. Staff included letters from Assemblyman Aanestad, Assemblyman Dickerson, NCWA and RCRC in support of this bond. This issue would not solve the water issues in California, but it was a "step in the right direction".

Ernie Ohlin asked the TCFC&WCD Board to review and perhaps take a position on this matter.

Director Willard stated this is not the only issue as whether we are going to pass a bond issue, but it is time we set up on this one. In light of that, Director Willard moved that as the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation Board, we move to endorse and support passage of Proposition 13. Second by Director Borrer and carried 4-0 with 1 absent.

Chairman Russell added that unless people are really informed, they tend to vote no on bond issues. Somehow people have to be aware of implications and affect.

Director Willard asked staff to meet with the Red Bluff Daily to give them information on the positive affect to our county specifically.

Director McIver suggested to staff that due to transition of a publisher, very little political editorials and letters are being published. As an alternative, staff may want to consider discussion with them.

11. **ADJOURN:** With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:35 A.M.

Chairman

Deputy/Secretary