

**TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF JUNE 27, 2000**

Present: Chairman George Russell, Directors' Barbara McIver , Bill Borrer, Ross Turner and Charles Willard. Also present: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager, Gary Plunkett, Director of Public Works, Roger Sherrill, AB 3030 TAC Chairman, James Chandler, OCID Manager, Bill Berens, Los Molinos Mutual Water Co., Serge Birk, Central Valley Water Project Association, and Burt Bundy, Mill Creek Conservancy

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Borrer to approve the minutes of April 25, 2000. Carried 5-0 with 0 absent.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ernie Ohlin apologized for leaving the TAC AB3030 update off the agenda. Roger Sherrill will have a two month follow up in next months meeting.

Director Willard announced that he attended a public hearing on AB 1741 in Yuba City . The meeting discussed third party impacts and criteria for used evaluating transfers prior to their approval among other issues.

Roger Sherrill distributed copies of the AB 3030 priorities discussed during the last AB3030 meeting and requested input from the Board members at the next meeting.

4. CLAIMS

<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Bill Borrer	25.00
Barbara McIver	25.00
George Russell	25.00
Charles Willard	25.00
Ross Turner	25.00
Regional Council of Rural Counties (May Meeting)	25.00
PBM Supply (Quad Repair)	96.53
Ben Meadows (Well Monitoring Tape)	164.04
T.C. Ag. Dept (Levee Maintenance)	928.49
United Horticulture Supply (Levee Spray)	1,024.07
T.C. Public Works (5/1/00 thru 5/31/00)	1,730.65
T.C. Public Works (5/1/00 thru 5/31/00)	2,669.36
T.C. Ag. Dept (Creek Spray)	<u>3,930.20</u>
Total	\$10,693.34

Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Willard to approve the claims as presented. Carried by all present 5-0 with 0 absent.

5. ISHI CONSERVATION CAMP REIMBURSEMENT

Director Willard commented on the need to receive a more timely billing from Ishi. Staff has addressed the issue with Ishi officials as was stated on the agenda item.

Motion by Director Willard and second by Director Turner to approve Ishi Conservation Camp reimbursement as presented. Carried 5-0 with 0 absent.

6. ORANGE COVE IRRIGATION DISTRICT (OCID)

James Chandler, Manager for the Orange Cove Irrigation District, presented an overview of a fishery enhancement program for Mill Creek.

OCID is cooperating with the Los Molinos Mutual Water Company, the Department of Fish and Game, and the Mill Creek Conservancy to purchase 7.5% of the appropriated water rights on Mill Creek. The water rights would be held in trust by the Los Molinos Mutual Water Company to be used to enhance flows for fish passage in lower Mill Creek. OCID recently applied for a CALFED Grant to fund monitoring, evaluating and assessment of the proposed project.

Phase I will implement a pulse flow concept which has been used by Fish and Game in triggering fish runs proven to be very effective. In exchange, Los Molinos Water will receive the summer water which is pay back for the water to pulse flow. It also gives Los Molinos extra water during times of their highest demands.

Phase II will involve studies and adaptive management. An analysis of all the studies will be made to determine the most effective manor and socially acceptable long term solution.

Phase III will implement the best management practices. OCID may or may not be involved in this phase. OCID's application with CALFED was rejected due to a technicality. OCID did not include the Federal contracting forms.

Chairman Russell questioned if the environmental funds went to the feds and then were redistributed. Mr. Chandler answered that OCID pays the funds to the Federal Government which are deposited with the Treasury. He is not sure what happens to the funds, but assumes they are in the Restoration Fund. OCID receives money by contracting with the Federal Agencies.

Director Borrer asked how the reduction of the environmental assessment benefits OCID. Mr. Chandler stated that OCID would be a contractor with the Federal Government.

Director Turner asked if the \$14 dollars per acre foot was a locked fee. Mr. Chandler said the surcharge fee was set until Congress changes it.

Director Borrer questioned if the water would be exported. Mr. Chandler stated in the agreement with Los Molinos Mutual, that the water would not be taken south of the Delta.

Director Willard questioned the cost for ten-years and what part of that is OCID going to pay. Mr. Chandler answered that OCID will pay restoration fees. OCID is hopeful that they can recover some of their salaries that are involved.

Director McIver inquired about the \$1,504,210.00 total project, regarding the component breakouts on the 30% overhead. Does the 30% apply to the project management component as well which is an administrative management fee? Mr. Chandler replied that the overhead would apply to staff time.

Director Turner asked if there was any reimbursement forthcoming for the use of County time. Ernie Ohlin said at this time there is nothing set up and there probably will not be any billing for County time incurred.

Ernie Ohlin questioned the opposition to establishing a conservancy fund. Mr. Chandler answered that many agencies commented that they did not see public dollars going to set up a contingency fund. They agree with the concept, but the feeling is that if there is a need they will request funding from the agencies.

Ernie Ohlin stated he felt that baseline information regarding groundwater levels should be established prior to implementing the project.

OCID has studied 68 years of hydrology, and 30% of the time the stream needs some additional flow to enhance fish passage.

Director Turner asked if OCID was going to establish base lines after the project is in operation. Mr. Chandler said that are looking at a long term solution.

Serge Birk stated that the baseline data being developed from the DWR and Department of Fish & Game project on Deer Creek should be sufficient.

Ernie Ohlin added that he did not doubt the validity of the environmental benefit of the project, however, is concerned about groundwater levels.

Director Willard questioned the environmental fees. Mr. Chandler stated the restoration fee is \$7.10 per acre foot and the \$7.00 surcharge was set by Congress when they implemented CVPIA. It is a two tier charge.

Burt Bundy from the Mill Creek Conservancy stated the environmental enhancement for the fishery is very beneficial to this program.

7. GROUNDWATER RECHARGE INVESTIGATION

Ernie Ohlin and Toccoy Dudley, Chief of the Groundwater Section Northern District Department of Water Resources (DWR), toured the County and reviewed general locations for possible groundwater recharge using peak winter flows or using excess imported surface water in wet years. Renewing environmental agreements to mine gravel instream is becoming more difficult. Off stream mining seems to be a possible solution by combining mining of the gravel and developing the recharge areas adjacent to the creek using high flows for recharge. Of particular concern is investigating all possibilities to enhance the groundwater levels in the El Camino area who's irrigation district is totally dependent on groundwater.

Director Turner voiced his concern about some other agency coming along and declaring the area a wet

lands.

Director Willard questioned if the water level in the El Camino area is stable. Ernie Ohlin answered that the levels are in slight decline in that area. The July measurements show that some levels in the area are 20' to 25' lower than the October levels.

8. DEER CREEK WATER EXCHANGE-STATUS

Ernie Ohlin met with D.W.R Staff Member, Dan McManus, who is in charge of the Deer Creek Water Exchange program. Much investigative work has been completed since DWR's last presentation to the Flood Control Board on September 22, 1998. Mr. McManus will give an update presentation to the Board of Directors at the July 25, 2000 meeting. The Water Exchange Project must comply with County Ordinance 1617.

9. CALFED UPDATE

Ernie Ohlin stated that Governor Gray Davis and U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, unveiled a 52 page document entitled "California's Water Future: A Framework for Action". Staff distributed a letter written by the Northern California Water Association with input from staff to CALFED requesting a clarification on the Groundwater section.

Director Turner stated that Mayor Warner had concerns regarding potential increases of river flows for longer periods of time.

Ben Picker suggested that CALFED bring water from the Pacific Ocean for desalinization. Chairman Russell stated that was very costly and there is nothing planned at this time.

10. ADJOURN

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Chairman

Angela Ford