

TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2001

Present: Chairperson Barbara McIver; Directors'; Charles Willard, Ross Turner, George Russell and Bill Borrer. Also present: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager, Nelson Buck, County Counsel, Naser Bateni, DWR, David Guy of NCWA, Dan Keppen of the Bureau of Reclamation.

1. Call to Order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Approval of February 2001 minutes: Director Borrer corrected Page 3, Item 12 paragraph two, "concerns County" reading "concerns of the County." Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Willard to approve the February 2001 minutes with these corrections. Carried 5-0 with 0 absent.
3. Public Comment:
 - a. Jerry Ross, Landowner, Corning: Discussed flooding of Jewett Creek in the Columbia Avenue area from west of the railroad tracks on Kirkwood and South Ave. Mr. Ross asked if any actions were planned to resolve the flooding issues. Pictures and letters were provided to the Board. Mr. Ross said he has been flooded five times in the last six years.

Chairperson McIver requested Mr. Ross leave his information with the Clerk, Staff will research this issue and report back to the Board.

Director Borrer reported that he had visited the area of concern last week and discussed the issue with staff and the Director of Public Works.
 - b. John Kassik, who resides at 23033 South Avenue, east of Kirkwood Road addressed the Board. Mr. Kassik is also having flooding problems in the same general location. Mr Kassik believes that the drainage coming from the new orchard west of the railroad tracks may be contributing to the flooding problems. He also has concerns regarding a berm constructed on a neighboring property may have caused more flooding and believes that drainage ditches from the tracks and Kirkwood Road flowing east needs cleaning. Mr. Kassik suggested installing a flashing light or other warning devices on Kirkwood to slow the vehicles down for the stop sign. Mr. Kassik also thanked Director Borrer for work accomplished by the Corning airport. Mr. Kassik expressed his concern over the numerous accidents that have taken place at the intersection of South Avenue and Kirkwood Road.
 - c. Roger Sherrill, Chairman of the AB3030 TAC committee presented the Directors with information relating to the upcoming meeting of the Northern Sacramento Valley Water Forum, to be held on April 18, 2001 in Chico on the subject of Energy and Water. Congressman Doug Ose will be the featured speaker.
4. Claims: Motion by Director Willard and second by Director Borrer to approve the claims as presented in the amount of \$9,198.44. Carried 5-0 with 0 absent.

5. Presentation on the State Water Resources Control Board Phase 8 Hearings. Naser Bateni of DWR discussed his department's commitment to have an open line of communication for early consultations with local officials and County Board of Supervisors. Discussion of two programs were presented to the Board: 1) State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Phase 8 Settlement Agreement. The Sacramento Valley diverters have agreed to sign a settlement agreement with the Delta exporters as to how the water quality standard in the Delta will be met. 2) Dry Year Water Transfer. DWR believes that this year will be a dry year and the State Water Project Scheduled Delivery is forecast at 30%± of what is requested from their contractors. Central Valley Project (CVP) is forecasting about 60% of the contract deliveries. Because of that, DWR has started a program called the Dry Year Water Transfer.

David Guy, Northern California Water Association (NCWA) introduced Mary Wells, newly elected Chairperson of the Board for NCWA. Mr. Guy continued, Phase 8 accomplishes four things: 1) Exporters will continue to meet the water quality standards in the Delta. 2) A commitment to a water management program that includes development of Sites Reservoir. 3) Commitment to work with a broader political coalition from throughout the State. 4) This will be accomplished through the development of work plans. First time line is six months to develop a short-term work plan. The State Water Resources Control Board will be addressing the issue again later in April and it is anticipated the Board will adopt an order that will essentially stay Phase 8. The goal is to meet the local needs first and then to the extent possible, manage the water in such a way to help with other demands for water throughout the State.

Dan Keppen, presented information representing the Bureau of Reclamation. The issue of water rights is a core issue of Phase 8 of the Water Quality Control Plan. The purpose was to determine whose responsibility and to what degree the responsibility of upstream water users was to meet Bay-Delta Water Quality Standards. Reclamations position has been that it is everybody's responsibility upstream, therefore, the responsibilities be shared among all upstream users. That is the battle that would have occurred if Phase 8 Hearings were to move forward. The amount of water in an average year is approximately about 60,000 to 70,000 acre feet. The agreement has been signed and it epitomizes this new way of thinking - a focus on partnerships to deal with issues collectively. All the major water players in the State of California are working together to come up with short-term, medium and long-term plans that first take care of Sacramento Valley needs, and incrementally over time take the load off the State and Federal projects. Basically, the State and Federal Projects will continue to meet the Bay-Delta Water Quality Standards for 10 years.

Dan Florey of DWR in Sacramento discussed the Dry Year water transfer program. With water shortages on the Feather River and shortages on the CVP south of the Delta, a group of contractors came to DWR requesting to develop a program and try to purchase water in Northern California. The program is not as ambitious as in past years as the demands are not as high and it is price sensitive. The program has been funded through the participants and is separate from the State Water Project and General Fund on DWR's side. DWR is acting as a broker/agent to approach interested agencies to see if they are interested in selling water this year. A set of principles have been put together:

- Local Leadership: Recognizing the importance of local leadership and involvement.

- Provide Local Supplies: If local supplies are not taken care of DWR is not going to be able to export water from the area.
- Locally Developed: Local agencies are familiar with the situation and DWR wants to make sure they are leading the issue of how the water will be developed.
- Third Party Impact: DWR recognizes there will be third party impacts and the need to deal with that by setting up a local mechanism to avoid if at all possible.
- Environmental Protection: DWR wants to make sure this is consistent with Calfed projects. Environmental impacts that effect local economy or the environment are to be avoided.
- Statewide Prospective: Other agencies may be involved.

Van Tenney representing the Glenn Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) stated that Phase 8 was alive and well and the right direction for the State to go with. Although the State Water Board has not signed on yet, all the districts affiliated with this, the counties, believe this is the right way to go. It makes water available to those in the North before making water available to the export community. Today there is a strong feeling of cooperation looking at management beyond the artificial boundaries of our own districts.

Mary Wells, Chairperson of NCWA commented by saying the Tehama Colusa Canal Authority (TCCA) was only to receive a 15% water supply and would have required additional purchases from 80,000 to 100,000 a.f., but the allocation has since been increased to 60% supply. TCCA is currently working with the Sacramento River Contractors Pool and should have the amount needed for delivery..

Director Russell discussed the positive issues of all parties talking which results in progress. Director Russell appreciated the efforts of all.

Chairperson McIver discussed funding through AB303 and Prop 13. Naser Bateni answered that AB303, with the \$5 million approved was to be available this fiscal year. However, the Legislature has not approved the funding as of this time.

Director Willard questioned if the energy crisis has drained the DWR Budget.

Nasser Bateni commented that the issues discussed today have different sources of secured funding. Phase 8 is committed through Prop 204. AB303 has \$5 million proposed in the budget for next fiscal year and approved by the Department of Finance and the Governor. DWR believes it has a good change of going forward.

Dan Keppen discussed a specific component of Prop 204 that was set up specifically for the settlement process. Additionally, Prop 13 groundwater programs have approximately \$19 million this year alone to develop groundwater programs.

David Guy distributed three resolutions of support of Phase 8 for the Board to review. The group appreciated the comments from the Board and would welcome a resolution from Tehama County in support of the Phase 8 settlement process.

Director Willard left the room (9:20 a.m.)

6. AB3030 TAC Nominations: Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Russell to approve the nomination of Robert Steinacher for a 3-year term representing the Agriculture-Related Water Districts, and Kevin Borrer for a 3-year term representing the Agriculture Related Private Pumper on the AB3030 Technical Advisory Committee. Carried 4-0 with 1 absent.

7. AB 3030 Technical Advisory Committee Second Annual Report. Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Russell to approve the report as submitted. Carried 4-0 with 1 absent.

Director Willard returned to the meeting.(9:22 a.m.)

8. Sites Reservoir Partnership - Update: Director Borrer discussed the Purpose and Needs Statement presented at the Sites Reservoir Partnership meeting. The dialog from the Corps of Engineers regarding language continues. The next meeting will hopefully finalize the issue.

Director Willard requested a copy of the statement for review prior to approval.

9. Antelope Creek Watershed Study - Update: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resource Manager, announced a meeting set for April 3, with USDA. and NRCS to begin preliminary review of the project.

10. AB3030 Annual Report: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager, presented the Tehama County Flood Control annual report. Due to the late receipt, this item will be carried forward to next months agenda.

11. Woodson Bridge Erosion - Update: Ernie Ohlin discussed this ongoing issue in an effort to obtain funding for this project. Discussions with Congressman Ose's office is scheduled for March 28, with various other agencies. Director Borrer has also been invited to attend.

12. Calfed Update: Ernie Ohlin reviewed SB23, Sites Reservoir, and CALFED Governance.

Director Willard commented on the same issues.

13. With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.