

**TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MAY 24, 2005**

Present: Directors': Charles Willard; Ross Turner; Ron Warner; Gregg Avilla; George Russell. Also present: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager; Bob Vince, CDM; Steve Andrews and Kelley Williams of the Bureau of Land Management; Gary Antone, Chairman of AB3030 TAC; Bill Borrer, member of the Shasta-Tehama Water Education Coalition; Bill Ehorn, DWR; John Murrs, Sacramento River Preservation Trust.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman George Russell.
2. Approval of April Minutes: Motion by Director Turner and Second by Director Avilla to approve the April 26, 2005 minutes. Carried 5-0 with 0 absent.
3. Public Comment: None.
4. Claims: Motion by Director Turner and Second by Director Warner to approve the claims of \$554.16. Carried 5-0 with 0 absent.
5. Sun City Tehama - Groundwater Investigation: Ernie Ohlin updated the Board on results of the pump test of the existing 500 ft. well towards the back of the Sun City property. Results showed well within the limits of the constituents. The pumping of this well brought a 34 ft. drawdown of a monitoring well 100 ft. away, which is expected. Data collected will be incorporated into a model for future information.

Director Warner questioned the gallons needed for this development and if consideration has been taken for fire flows.

Ernie answered approximately 3-million gallons per day and fire flows are included. Answers are unsure as to what depth the water will come from. Due to the water quality issue at the 1000 ft. depth, they are considering the use of the upper 500 ft. level in the early stages of development for domestic water, and the lower 1000 ft. level for the golf course and construction. As the project builds, reclaimed water for the golf course will be available and possibly a water treatment plant. Fire flows and design requirements will be built into the model. All is preliminary with no formal plan as of this time.

Director Willard questioned if coordination with Shasta County is being done relevant to groundwater demands.

Ernie Ohlin stated that staff has met with Shasta County regarding their Redding Basin Plan and discussions with Del Webb as to what the Redding Basin demand numbers are. As part of the Plan, the Anderson/Cottonwood Irrigation District (ACID) has an early proposal to install ten wells to pump groundwater that are from the 200 to 500 ft. levels to pump into their canal system. Coordination with those preparing the models from Del Webb and ACID is in the process.

Ernie Ohlin felt that there will be more development in the Bowman area and close to Shasta County, bringing larger demands. It is felt that the Sun City developers are trying to make it work and pump at the 1000 ft. depth to lessen the impact. Staff continues to work with all involved.

Director Avilla questioned if ACID was going to use the ten wells for ag use.

Ernie Ohlin answered that in the northern end of Shasta County, they are water short for domestic and the main concern agriculture. All water districts in Shasta County have developed a transfer agreement which is part of the Redding Basin Plan. Eric Wedemeyer from Shasta County Water Agency will give a presentation to the Board in June regarding this issue.

6. AB3030 Technical Advisory Committee - Update: Gary Antone updated the Board on issues discussed at the May meeting.

- 2005 AB303 Grant to add additional groundwater monitoring wells in the County.
- Well rehab issues and requirements
- Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) Natural Heritage Institute (NHI) Prop 50 Grant. This is a study of the lower Tuscan which underlies Tehama County.

Ernie Ohlin added that the draft NHI proposal, included in the packet, was excluding Tehama County. Staff raised issues and the study will include the Tuscan Aquifer underlying Tehama County. It must be noted that if the project moves forward, Tehama County would want to have a seat at the table; not to say we are a supporter or participant of the project. Tehama and Glenn Counties need to have a voice in any integrated plan proposal to manage a lower aquifer.

John Murrs, Sacramento River Preservation Trust, added that the bay group, Natural Heritage Institute, has not discussed the issue with many environmental groups and there is concern and feeling that Counties should stay aware and not support the issue until more is known.

7. 4-County Regional Drinking Water Quality Coordination: Bob Vince gave a presentation on current activities regarding the Northern Sacramento Valley Drinking Water Quality strategy. The regional goals and objectives are:

- Protect local source water quality;
- Increase understanding of local and regional drinking water sources and threats;
- Coordinate county and local management efforts and share information about water related activities;
- Protect third parties, including the environment;
- Understand statewide drinking water concerns; and
- Provide technical assistance.

Bob Vince reviewed that water quantity issues goes hand-in-hand with water quality. Through a grant from the Bay-Delta Authority, the lead County, Glenn County (Lester Messina), Tehama County (Ernie Ohlin), Butte County (Ed Craddock), and Colusa County (Steve Hackney), were able to move forward to examine water quality related issues in surface water and groundwater related issues. Draft Plan Strategies have developed including implementation steps associated with strategies. The concept is that each county needs to be working within the counties, with the various departments, pursuing activities which could impact water quality. General Plan updates are currently being done in many areas and associated with that is zoning issues. Zoning and recharge areas are identified within the 4-County regions. The next step is to finalize strategy and associated implementation steps. The draft report is with staff and will be brought to the Board for approval at a future date.

Ernie Ohlin commented a draft M.O.U. is attached for the Board review. This will be brought back at a future date for approval.

Director Russell requested that item 4.2 in the M.O.U. , “Project Manager” be reviewed for terminology.

8. Sacramento River - Bend Area; Consideration of National Designation by BLM: Kelley Williams, Field Manager and Steve Anderson, Project Manager of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) gave a presentation regarding consideration of designating 17,000 BLM lands in the Bend area of Tehama County as a national conservation area or a national recreation area.

Kelley Williams discussed the difference between conservation and recreation areas. The planned area goes from Balls Ferry Bridge to Red Bluff and there is 17,000 acres in the area of critical environmental concern. An additional 1,400 acres of conservation easement, 15-miles of river shoreline, good access and multiple use. Current designation is an area BLM feels is justified in receiving greater than normal management, deserving more attention then the average public land.

Kelley Williams stated the most asked question is what is going to change. Very little, if any, in the true management direction that the area is already set up for through the management plan. Better funding through this project can supply those here and those coming attractive and user friendly areas.

Steve Anderson added that this proposal will not continue without the Boards approval. BLM would rather have the Board leading and deciding what the areas will look like in the future as opposed to a proposal we have no control over and reacting to.

Director Willard questioned if there was any one representing Tehama County on the RAK committee.

Kelley Williams answered there was not at this time. Most of the district involved is in Director Willard’s area and a small part in Director Avilla’s area.

9. Shasta-Tehama Water Education Coalition Update: Bill Borrer updated the Directors’ on the following:
 - More communication to the membership with a newsletter coming out next week.
 - The Regional Board has begun mailing regulatory mail to several county residence questioning if they are a member of a coalition or not.
 - An e-mail from the Sacramento Valley Coalition showed that monitoring on Birch Creek for algiacell density tested a 30% reduction in cell density. The Coalition will monitor this situation.
 - Budget and membership. May have an increase in assessment depending on figures.
10. NCWA Month in Review. No comments.
11. Adjourn: With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.