

**TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MEETING MINUTES OF  
OCTOBER 25, 2005**

Present: Directors': Charles Willard; Ross Turner; Ron Warner; Gregg Avilla; and George Russell. Also present: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager; Gary Antone, Chairman of AB3030; Bill Borrer, Shasta-Tehama Water Education Coalition; Kevin Forrester, U.S. Fish & Wildlife; Mark Moses, Asst. Director - Administration, Tehama County Public Works.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Russell at 8:30 a.m.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Willard to approve the July 26, 2005 minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0 with 0 absent.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Ernie Ohlin announced that October 27 and 28 would be the Sacramento Valley Water Conference at the Red Bluff Community Center.

November 3, 2005 at the Community Center for Shasta Lake outreach concerning the possible enlargement of Shasta Dam.

Ernie Ohlin discussed that on November 9, Allan Fulton, DWR and Staff will be involved in the Butte Farm City Tour. Stopping on Hall Road, where the dual-completion monitoring well is, information will be given on coordination concerning groundwater management.
4. **CLAIMS:** Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Warner to approve the claims in the amount of \$15,926.37. Motion carried 5-0 with 0 absent.
5. **CDF SALT CAMP REIMBURSEMENT:** Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Avilla to approve the reimbursement to Ishi Conservation Camp for work completed on Paynes Creek Slough in the amount of \$825.00. Motion carried 5-0 with 0 absent.

Director Russell discussed how fortunate the County was with the work CDF has performed.

Ernie Ohlin added that efforts to complete more areas of the County is a task, but more will be done. Obtaining landowner right-of-entry is a large effort and some do not want anyone entering their properties.

Director Russell asked staff to put this item on the agenda at a future date for discussion.
6. **TRANSFER OF FUNDS:** Motion by Director Turner and second by Director Warner to approve the transfer of \$300,000 from Fund 604 to Fund 603.

Mark Moses added that the intent of the transfer is to repay. The loan from 603 to 604.

Motion carried 5-0 with 0 absent.

7. **US FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE OPENING OF RIO VISTA REFUGE UNIT:** Ernie Ohlin discussed the grand opening of the Rio Vista Refuge. The US Fish & Wildlife obtained the property which was previously an almond orchard and was subject to flooding. Restoration of the property was completed with the exception of reestablishing swales; that the previous farming had filled in. Re-establishment of the swales, this will not totally solve flooding issues, but it does acknowledge that US Fish & Wildlife recognizes flooding issues, and re-establishes drainage to work more efficiently. Resolution of the issue started at the Sacramento River Conservation Forum approximately 5 years ago. Staff wanted to thank Kevin Forrester, National Wildlife Refuge Manager, for his assistance in this issue.

Kevin Forrester commented that restoring the drainage was largely due to Ernie Ohlin being persistent that the swales should be reestablished. The feasibility cost was \$50,000 for engineering. The actual project cost was \$32,000. Kevin thanked Staff for his assistance.

Director Willard discussed the 608 Ordinance.

Staff added that the USF & WS corrected in what the previous owner had done. The County is fortunate to have the coordination between agencies go so well. Wildlife has returned completing the natural process.

Director Russell questioned the location of fencing and possible liability of four-wheel vehicles.

Kevin Forrester answered a physical barrier would be added and did not foresee any problems.

Director Russell thanked US Fish & Wildlife for a well planned event at the grand opening.

8. **SHASTA-TEHAMA WATER EDUCATION COALITION:** Bill Borrer informed the Directors' of the filing of Articles of Corporation through the State. The new name is the Shasta-Tehama Watershed Education Coalition. Monitoring in Birch Creek was completed last winter, but due to no water during the summer, nothing was accomplished this year. Another site will be chosen for the next summer monitoring and to accomplish this process, a TAC will be established from both Counties. Also, a management plan will be discussed for Birch Creek due to the toxicity found last year.

The Shasta-Tehama Watershed Education Coalition membership increased to 1,500 members and expenses have been less than expected. The surplus will decrease the membership fee to \$1.50 a.f. and should provide enough reserve for the coming year. The dues will include the \$0.12 per acre the Regional Board is collecting from the Coalition. Non-members are charged \$0.30 per acre by the Board.

With regard to the extension of the waiver, the Coalition has worked diligently to extend the waiver 18-months. The law allows a 5-year extension. One significant issue by the Regional Board is the membership list and requiring members that join a coalition sign a paper for the State

acknowledging they are a member of a coalition. In this way, they will have a membership list. Another issue is that every land owner will need a farm-water quality plan. Presently, we do not know what this means. The central coast region has this mandate, which is not approved by anyone, but it needs to be on hand if the Regional Board visits. Adjustments could be required by the Board. The coalition concept was to do this on a local basis, individuals contributing to problems and the Watershed would be responsible. These new regulations state that if the Board finds that even though the individual was a member of a coalition, the Board could pull the member from the coalition and deal with them on an individual basis.

Bill Borrer discussed SB-820 that would require all groundwater pumpers to establish monitoring of their wells and report the information yearly. The Governor did veto this bill.

9. AB3030 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE-UPDATE: Gary Antone informed the Board of his resignation from the AB3030. Vice Chairman Jim Lowden will assume his position and Vice Chair is Allan Fulton. Mr. Antone will assume the Director of Public Works position for Tehama County November 1.

The AB3030 meeting reviewed development issues throughout the County. With regard to BMO's, Camp Dresser McKee will format issues to gather information assisting the group in education of areas in groundwater supplies and outreach. As staff had previously stated, Gary Antone continued, enlargement of Shasta Dam has become a potential project for the state.

Of interest to the Board was an AQUA publication "No Time To Waste" which was brought to the TAC and an interesting publication for on-line review.

Ernie Ohlin provided information of how the AB3030 Plan may not be compliant with SB1938. One component not included in the AB3030 Plan is well construction policies. This currently is through the County Environmental Health Department, but this will be added later through Board approval to the AB 3030 plan.

Gary Antone added that the purpose of outreach is education and not to penalize anyone or cause them to do certain things. With all the development in the County, the question is what ability do we have to notify people of the issues. With a development project, there is the opportunity in the beginning to say that if you are extracting water and affecting other users, then you have the responsibility to react to that.

10. ANTELOPE CREEK TO DYE CREEK WATERSHED ANALYSIS: Ernie Ohlin has been working with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) since 2001 to examine a 1963 study for the eastern watershed areas from Salt Creek to Dye Creek. Alternatives for flood impacts were the issue and to date, a variety of recommendations such as building off-stream retention basins have been discussed. FEMA will not provide funding for repair of private levels, but occasionally NRCS can. The Natural Resource Conservation Service has built a surface flow model examining all watersheds in the area. The point of the model will show how potential retention basins may assist in flood flow and areas of flooding on the east side of the County. This tool is useful and Tehama County RCD and NRCS in Red Bluff have also asked to be part of the project. This will be brought back to the Board and possible off-stream detention basins will be discussed.

Director Turner questioned the minimum amount of drainage in the area and how much maintenance can we do for those that will not maintain their own.

Ernie Ohlin answered that even with the Conservation Camp Crews cleaning, so many times residents need to be reminded that it is not the responsibility of the District, but is done as a service to the community when funding is available. It is important they understand it is not our responsibility, but they have a right to obtain a Fish and Game permit and clean the creek on their property.

11. NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER ASSOCIATION: No questions.
12. ADJOURN: With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.