

TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 29, 2008

Present: Gregg Avilla; Bob Williams; George Russell; Ron Warner; Charles Willard. Also present: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager; Dan McManus, DWR; Rick Massa, Orland-Unit Water User's Association; Sue King, Orland-Artois Water District; Thad Bettner, General Manager of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gregg Avilla at 8:30 a.m.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** With a correction of spelling "agendized" on Item No. 8, motion by Director Williams and second by Director Warner to approve the minutes of November 17, 2007. Carried 5-0 with 0 absent.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Ernie Ohlin reviewed the January 24th meeting regarding the Woodson Bridge, Kopta-Slough project. The well attended meeting, including Director Williams and Director Warner, provided history on the project and where it is now. Earl Nelson, Manager for DWR, division of flood management also attended.

Bev Anderson of the Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum also discussed the meeting saying the Forum has supported the project for ten years. There is support in both agencies and the public. Ms. Anderson would like to see the project completed.
4. **CLAIMS:** Motion by Director Russell and second by Director Williams to approve the claims in the amount of \$17,428.12. Carried 5-0 with 0 absent.
5. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Motion by Director Russell to elect Bob Williams for Chairman. Second by Director Warner and carried 5-0 with 0 absent.

Motion by Director Avilla to elect George Russell as Vice Chairman. Second by Director Willard and carried by all present. 5-0 with 0 absent.
6. **APPROVAL OF 2008 MEETING DATES:** Motion by Director Russell and second by Director Warner. Carried 5-0 with 0 absent.
7. **APPOINTMENT OF NCWA REPRESENTATIVE:** Ernie Ohlin reviewed that Bob Williams is a current member of NCWA. Reappointment is necessary and NCWA is requesting a member and alternate of the Flood Control Board to serve as NCWA Board of Director.

Motion by Director Russell to reappoint Bob Williams as the NCWA representative.
Motion second by Director Avilla and carried 5-0.

Motion by Director Williard to elect Bob Williams as a NCWA Board of Director and John Morrow as an alternate for a period of two years. Second by Director Warner and carried 5-0 with 0 absent.

8. **STONY CREEK FAN CONJUNCTIVE WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM:** Thad Bettner, General Manager of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, provided a presentation on the proposed project to conduct an aquifer performance pump testing and analysis in the northern end of Glenn County. Rick Massa, Orland-Unit Water User's Association, and Sue King, Orland-Artois Water District, also participated in the presentation.

Director Willard questioned what are short-term transfers, Mr. Bettner answered annual transfers, one year.

Sue King added that historically, the west side of the district was all dry land farming. When the distribution system was built, the west side developed and orchards and vineyard have been built. Water has been transferred in every year however, with the Bureaus increased rates, affordability is a problem.

Director Willard questioned how many acre feet was needed. Ms. King answered the target will not be reached. Until wells are installed and studied, possibly 6,000 a.f.

Ernie Ohlin questioned that due to the shortage in the Orland-Artois District, you would propose to run the wells most every year?

Ms. King said that optimally, we would like to run them every year.

Director Williams questioned that if the projected costs from pumping at 1,000 ft. deep and using the system for conveyance, would that be any more cost effective than surface water from the Bureau.

Sue King answered that the last year the surface water was \$30.30 to the grower, and it costs \$32 to pump. Water transferred in from other districts was \$38.

Rick Massa, Manager for the Orland-Unit Water User's Association added that his District contracts with the Bureau of Reclamation for the operation and maintenance of the Orland project of 1902. Irrigation is provided to approximately 20,000 acres on the north and south side of Stony Creek in the vicinity of Orland. Droughts have only been experienced in the area once in thirty years. The interest in this is being part of the solution and a provision of being part of the solution is exploring groundwater due to our ageing facility.

Director Willard questioned if the seven wells were drilled, what would the output amount

of acre feet for the seven wells would be.

Mr. Bettner answered that a tiered test that would pump at most 27,000 a.f. over two years.

Director Williams questioned Ernie Ohlin as to how close this would be to Tehama County's monitoring wells.

Ernie Ohlin answered that one 1000 ft. deep dedicated monitoring well is located five miles north of the Tehama/Glenn County line.

Director Russell questioned if AB303 money was involved and Thad Bettner answered that the money is Federal, State and local cost share only.

Dan McMannus added that there are Proposition 50 discretionary funds available for certain projects. Some funding will come from this and Federal funding. There is a good monitoring well distribution that records water levels of the aquifer system at different levels. Unfortunately, this did not tell you how it would respond to pumping because the agricultural wells are screened over a wide range of aquifer zones. By installing these wells and screening in discrete zones, having the multi-completion wells, you will gather data on the individual portions of the aquifer.

Director Warner asked what size the wells would be. Mr. Bettner answered that they would have 16" casing and a maximum of 3,000 gallons per minute.

Ernie Ohlin ended by saying Staff continues to be engaged in the projects by attending meetings and will bring that information to the Board.

9. **2007 FARM BILL LETTER OF SUPPORT:** Director Bob Williams received a letter of request from NCWA to ask the Board send the letter of support to Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein, as well as Congresswoman Doris Matsui, regarding the 2007 Farm Bill. This bill provides funding for water programs in the Sacramento River Watershed, which Tehama County is a part of.

Ernie Ohlin added that a specific section of the bill called the Regional Water Enhancement Program has areas identified independently that could be eligible for separate funding from this bill.

Director Williams felt that it is applicable to the County's surface water runoff and the monitoring currently going on.

Motion by Director Russell and second by Director Avilla to approve the letter of support and authorize the Chairman to sign the 2007 Farm Bill letter of support.

10. **APPROVAL OF AB3030 MOU BETWEEN T.C.F.C.&W.C.D. AND SKY VIEW COUNTY**

WATER DISTRICT: Ernie Ohlin informed the Directors of the Sky View County Water Districts needs to sign on with the AB3030 Groundwater Management Plan MOU in order to be eligible for grants. They also have an interest to participate in the Groundwater Management Plan.

Director Willard moved to approve the request of the Sky View County Water District to sign on with Tehama County's AB3030 MOU. Motion seconded by Director Warner and carried 5-0 with 0 absent.

11. **AB3030 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN TAC REPORT:** Allan Fulton, Chair for the AB3030 TAC, updated the Directors on the past meeting. The TAC continues to prepare background and technical documents for setting trigger levels. The intent of the TAC is to have copies distributed to the Directors with information within two weeks. The Consultant, John Ayers, will also be presenting information to the Directors.

Allen continued, the TAC will be reviewing the AB3030 Plan which is now 12-years old. Various members of the group are new and updated information as well as reviewing with new members is necessary. An annual report will be submitted soon.

12. **ADJOURN:** With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:36 a.m.