

Minutes of Water Advisory Committee
March 22, 2010

Attendees: Jake Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park
Gina Belforte, City of Rohnert Park
Darrin Jenkins, City of Rohnert Park
Milenka Bates, City of Sonoma
Susan Harvey, City of Cotati
Mark Landman, City of Cotati
Damien O'Bid, City of Cotati
Jack Baker, North Marin Water District
Chris DeGabriele, North Marin Water District
Drew McIntyre, North Marin Water District
Paul Helliker, Marin Municipal Water District
Pam Torliatt, City of Petaluma
Mike Ban, City of Petaluma
Steve Simmons, City of Petaluma
Robin Goble, Town of Windsor
Richard Burt, Town of Windsor
Mark Bramfitt, Valley of the Moon Water District
Krishna Kumar, Valley of the Moon Water District
Susan Gorin, City of Santa Rosa
Dick Dowd, City of Santa Rosa
Greg Scoles, City of Santa Rosa
Glen Wright, City of Santa Rosa
Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa
Janet Reisner, City of Santa Rosa
Paul Kelley, SCWA
Efren Carrillo, SCWA
Grant Davis, SCWA
Ann DuBay, SCWA
Spencer Bader, SCWA
Pam Jeane, SCWA
Jay Jasperse, SCWA
Steve Shupe, SCWA
Michael Thompson, SCWA
Brad Sherwood, SCWA

Public Attendees: Brenda Adelman, RRWPC
David Keller, FOER
Jim Downey, Penngrove/Kenwood Water District
Bob Anderson, United Wine Growers
Dawna Gallagher
Jean Mariani

Chris Dawson
Ernie Carpenter
Bob Norberg, Press Democrat

1. Check In:
WAC Chairperson, Jake Mackenzie called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. This meeting was a special meeting held in Rohnert Park. Jay Jasperse was introduced and recognized as the new Interim Chief Engineer for SCWA.
2. Public Comment
Brenda Adelman stated she has not heard any discussion regarding SCWAs petition for changes to Decision 1610. Pam Jeane, SCWA, said there is notice on the SCWA website about the petition and protest submittal. Chris DeGabriele, NMWD, said the changes to Decision 1610 are prescriptive pursuant to the Biological Opinion. Ms. Adelman said it is her impression that the Agency can ask for other modifications. Grant Davis, SCWA, said the State Board will be looking closely at the Biological Opinion requirements.
3. Recap from the March 1, WAC/TAC Meeting and Approval of Minutes
Jake Mackenzie, Chair of WAC, recapped the budget information from the March 1st meeting minutes. Pam Torliatt, City of Petaluma, moved to approve the minutes from the March 1, 2010 meeting. Motion was seconded by Susan Harvey, City of Cotati. Minutes were approved.
4. Consider FY 2010/11 SCWA Budget
Grant Davis reviewed the vote at the last meeting to consider the 2010/11 SCWA budget. He stated that SCWA has provided information at meetings with the City of Santa Rosa, City of Cotati, City of Petaluma, and City of Rohnert Park. He stated that the added information and meetings appears to have created a hardening of positions. Agency staff looked again at the issues to see if they could work with some of the budget items. He read from an email that some of the members had not yet received, showing the bottom line of a 7.46% increase of the Santa Rosa Aqueduct, 7.46% increase of the Petaluma Aqueduct and 8.9% increase of the Sonoma Aqueduct. Pam Torliatt, City of Petaluma, stated she had not received the email he was referring to and she suggested that for future reference, all items should be distributed through the WAC/TAC distribution list. Susan Gorin thanked the SCWA for their efforts and clarity. However, she said the challenge is that this increase is on top of the 19% increase from last year. She appreciates that they lowered the amount 1.2% but that the City Council from Santa Rosa wants to see it lower than that. She asked why they are bringing the less effective collectors back online. Grant Davis, SCWA, replied that they were requested to do so.
Mark Landman, City of Cotati, thanked them for shifting the Kastania Pipeline costs from the Common Facilities Fund to the Storage Fund, however he stated the Kastania Pipeline benefits North Marin Water District and they don't pay into it.
Grant Davis stated that the Agency has an obligation to the Sonoma County Board to present the budget at the April 20th meeting. He stated that the TAC budget

subcommittee met 4 times and Krishna Kumar went to every contractor to see if they were comfortable. Mr. Davis compared his personal water bill with his cable bill to demonstrate that delivered water is bargain. He stated that they have had to cut staff, require mandatory time off and other cut backs. Mark Landman, said Cotati's concern is the cost of operation is not dropping commensurate with the said cuts and reductions.

Jake Mackenzie reviewed the March 1 recommendation of the TAC to approve the SCWA 2010/11 budget. He asked the TAC Chair, Chris DeGabriele if the recommendation from the TAC is still to approve the budget? The response from TAC is to still recommend approval of the budget. Jack Baker, North Marin Water District, moved to approve the 2010/11 SCWA budget. Mark Bramfitt, Valley of the Moon Water District seconded the motion. Pam Torliatt asked for a roll call vote.

Yay votes – Town of Windsor, Valley of the Moon Water District, City of Sonoma and North Marin Water District

Nay votes – City of Cotati, City of Rohnert Park, City of Petaluma and City of Santa Rosa

The vote was split with the weighted vote Nay. The formal position of the WAC is that they do not recommend approval of the 2010/11 SCWA budget.

WAC Chair Mackenzie asked if there were any suggestions from the WAC members regarding the presentation of the WAC Chair and Vice Chair to the SCWA at the April 20, 2010 meeting. Susan Gorin, City of Santa Rosa said Santa Rosa zeroing on the compensation and number of employees.

Pam Torliatt, City of Petaluma suggested the Agency focus on where they can tighten their belts. Jack Baker stated that North Marin is in a better position because they deal in water only and said even though times are tough, he thinks the Agency is doing the best they can.

Windsor and Sonoma had no comment.

Mark Landman, City of Cotati, appreciates the effort of all involved and recognized that all parties are trying to reduce internal expenses.

Mark Bramfitt, Valley of the Moon, said the issues are around the agreement and the deficiencies in the agreement.

WAC Chair Mackenzie stated that Water Supply Coordination Council will be distributing the draft Water Supply Strategy document the Agency has been working on. One of the items, Number 11, is to renegotiate the restructured agreement. The Coordination Council meeting will follow this WAC meeting.

Paul Helliker, Marin Municipal, said that as the entity that pays the highest rate, he was interested in an article in the New York Times that talked about infrastructure. He agreed to locate the article and pass it along through the WAC/TAC distribution list. Pam Torliatt thanked the Coordination Council for the plan and asked that the plan be shared with the members while it is being drafted rather than when it is complete, and then asking the group what they think about it. She said she feels there is a disconnect between the Agency and the WAC. Susan Harvey, City of Cotati, asked that specifics of the plan be shared with the members. Vice Chair, Gorin, reiterated the importance of education for both the elected officials and the long term members. Chris DeGabriele said the water deliveries from SCWA not only provide good quality water, which is essential for life, but does so at a reasonable cost enabling a viable economy for the region. . He said the message to go out and tell folks to reduce their use of water over the

past 3 years resulted in the Agency not delivering the water predicted in the budget and we need to support the Agency financially so the transmission system can deliver this water. WAC Chair Mackenzie thanked everyone and anticipates that once this water supply draft is out, time will be devoted to reviewing the 12 Strategies and discussing it openly.

Public Comment – Brenda Adelman said she pays a lot of money every month for water and this has all occurred because of lack of preparation.

5. Items for the Next Agenda –

- The 12 Strategies
- Report from the Sonoma County Board on the Budget Meeting

6. Check Out –

There being no further business to come before the Water Advisory Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m. The next meeting of the TAC will be held on April 5, 2010 at 9:00 and the next combined meeting of the WAC and TAC will be held on May 3, 2010 at 9:00.