

**GLENN COUNTY
WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
Glenn County Department of Agriculture

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MINUTES

Meeting Date: October 13, 2009

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
344 East Laurel Street
Willows, CA 95988

Water Advisory Committee Members Present:

David Alves	Princeton-Codora-Glenn ID
Donnan Arbuckle	Resource Conservation District
Thad Bettner	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
Gene Clark	Reclamation Dist # 2106 & 1004
Bob Coruccini	Willow Creek Mutual Water Co.
Wade Danley	Kanawha Water District
Larry Domenighini	Glenn County Farm Bureau
Mark Lohse	BOS District 5 Private Pumps
Larry Maben	BOS District 3 Private Pumps
Rosanna Marino	City of Willows
Leigh McDaniel	Glenn County Supervisor Dist. 5
Ken Sullivan	Orland Unit Water Users Assoc.
Ted Trimble	Western Canal Water District
Mike Vereschagin	Orland-Artois Water District
James Weber	E. Corning Basin Private Pumps

Water Advisory Committee Members Absent:

Jack Baber	Reclamation District No. 1004
Joel Mann	Glide Water District
Del Reimers	West Colusa Basin P P
Jere Schmitke	City of Orland
Elwood Weller	Provident Irrigation District

Technical Advisory Committee Members Present:

Mark Black	Glenn Co. Ag Commissioner
Lance Boyd	South Area
Randy Murphy	Glenn Co. Public Works
Ben Pennock	Central Area
George Wilson	North Area

Others in Attendance:

Tina Brothers	WAC/TAC Secretary
Ray Collete	Citizen
Lydia Harris	Tri County Newspaper
Lisa Hunter	Glenn Co. Dept. of Agriculture
John Linhart	Glenn Co. Public Works
Eugene Massa Jr.	Colusa Basin Drainage District
Lester Messina	Glenn Co. Dept. of Agriculture
Vickie Newlin	Butte County
John Noffsinger	Citizen
Judie Noffsinger	Citizen
Doug Ross	Sacramento Valley Mirror
Darlene Shippelhoue	Citizen
Jim Strandberg	Malcolm Pirnie
Jeff Sutton	TCCA
Greg Wickert	Citizen
Joyce Wickert	Citizen

- I. INTRODUCTIONS: Those in attendance introduced themselves.

- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for June 9, 2009 were approved with corrections.

III. AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Public Comment: It was mentioned that the WAC will not be making decisions or determinations on items brought up during the public comment period. It was also noted that there are a lot of people present tonight for the Crystal Geyser issue. Everyone was informed that the WAC is an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors and the committee has no authority to make decisions one way or the other on a project under the jurisdiction of the City of Orland.

B. Discussion & Action Items:

1. Continue Discussion on Strategic Planning for Water Resources –

- 1) **Water Transfer Guidelines:** Latest Sub-committee revision - The Sub-committee met on Sept. 8, 2009. There were some minor changes made. Three water districts representatives present expressed their concerns on why surface water was the focus and groundwater users were not being discussed. It was re confirmed that the guidelines are being developed to provide a fair and agreeable strategy for the county and transferring districts to proceed. On that note, Thad informed the group that one of the pieces being discussed at the state level through the legislature is a groundwater component which is going to require that all local agencies monitor their groundwater. Currently this is provided free by DWR. If this passes either the county and/or water districts will be monitoring and collecting their own data and submitting it to DWR. If not completed, DWR has the authority to collect the data and charge the county/water districts a fee.
- 2) **Recommendation of Deadline to Complete** - It was recommended that the WAC representatives take the water transfer guidelines back to their districts and/or attorneys for review and bring back comments to the next WAC meeting for discussion.
- 3) **Water Resources Presentation to Board of Supervisors** - An update regarding the September 15, 2009 presentation given to the BOS discussed previous meetings in 2008 for Strategic Planning for Water Resources. The BOS asked that Ag Department provide monthly updates on different issues. At the upcoming October 20th board meeting Mark and Lester will brief the BOS on the Groundwater Ordinance.
2. **TCCA Transfer** - Jeff Sutton gave an update on TCCA allocations which depend on storage levels of Shasta. Early in the year allocations started at 0%, increasing to 15% in late March, and it did not appear that they would increase due to the impacts of three years of drought. In order to avoid the pending disaster to permanent and other crops throughout the service area, the Districts served by the TCCA purchased approximately 90,000 acre feet collectively from settlement contractors. In late May, due to unexpected rains, the allocation was increased to 40%, resulting in a surplus water supply for many of the participating landowners. As such, an agreement to transfer surplus water at cost from TCCA participating districts to districts within the San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority.
3. **RD 1004 Transfer** - A report from the transfer previously presented must be submitted. If the information is now available, the committee proposed that this report be done as soon as possible.
4. **2010 Drought Water Bank** - Thad Bettner reported that 80,000 acre feet were transferred to the water bank in 2009 along with 20,000 acre feet from rice fallowing. He anticipated that given the current groundwater conditions and the price, there will be no more than the same amount transferred in the drought water bank next year. Due to high administrative costs, buyer-seller negotiations will increase and state and federal sponsorship will decrease.
5. **Prop. 84 Regional Acceptance Process** – The proposal submitted by the Regional Water Management Group formed by the five counties (Glenn, Butte, Tehama, Colusa, and Sutter) has

been conditionally accepted. The group is waiting for DWR to release the final guidelines and planning funds so a plan can be developed. A major component will be the formation of an acceptable governance structure pursuant to Prop. 84. A request for proposals by qualified consultants to develop a scope of work for planning purposes has been sent. The result of the request for qualifications should be available at the end of October 2009.

6. **Crystal Geyser Update**—Jim Strandberg, of Malcolm Pirnie, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the results of the nine day aquifer performance test performed for Crystal Geyser. Eleven private domestic wells and the facility monitoring wells were equipped with pressure transducers to determine water level behavior in a 2000 +/- foot radius. The test concluded that the production well at the facility could sustain pumping of 100 gallons per minute over the long term and not have a negative impact to private domestic wells near the facility. Some citizens present at the meeting expressed concerns about the Crystal Geyser plant coming into the Orland area. Chairman Vereschagin explained that WAC is an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors with no authority to make decisions regarding this project.
7. **Summer BMO's and DWR Monthly Measurements** - Kelly Staton from DWR was to give this presentation. However, due to the weather, she could not attend.

Lester mentioned that some of the interim summer BMO measurements taken in early August are below the recommended Stage 1 alert. Again, these measurements are only being considered as interim for the development of future BMOs. In the following months we should see an increase in groundwater levels due to the fact that less water is being used and recharge should be occurring. DWR will be out next week collecting fall measurements.

8. **BMO Graphing Effort** – There will be some follow up on proposed changes for the BMO evaluations to include increased groundwater usage and changes in land use not previously considered when the BMOs were developed. The time frame has been expanded to accommodate the period of record available for the well. A meeting with private pumper areas is needed to discuss the changes prior to the next scheduled TAC meeting.

C. Communications: None.

D. Member Reports:

1. The grant submitted by Thad and Lester for recharge feasibility in Capay area has been approved. Meetings to develop interest in the program in will be conducted in early 2010.
2. Larry Domenighini requested that the committee be briefed on DTSC reports on the dry cleaner plume in Orland.

The next WAC Meeting will be on the second Tuesday in December tentatively.

The next TAC Meeting at this date has not been scheduled.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Sincerely submitted by,
Tina Brothers, WAC/TAC Secretary