

**Willowbank County Service Area Advisory Committee**  
Minutes  
Meeting of Thursday, January 13, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.  
Multipurpose Room, Marguerite Montgomery Elementary School  
1441 Danbury Street, Davis, CA

Committee Chair Cooluris called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Kent Calfee, John Cooluris, Marcia Kreith, Joanne Roy, and Olin Woods

**EXCUSED:** Bill Corliss and Dick McCapes

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Maureen Poole, Secretary. Regina Espinoza, Yolo County, Yolo County Planning, Public Works and Environmental Health Division staff: Leslie Lindbo, Jiamnin Huang, and Debbie Anderson, and Susie and Terry Miller, Sara and Ron Ringen, John Lutch, John Eisele, Hodge Kawakami, Ron Crites, Laura Schmidt, Francie Lawyer, Paul Garritson, Don and Eileen Gueffroy, James and Wendy Allen, Gary Matteson, Jos van Boxtel and others.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 AND NOVEMBER 9, 2015 MEETING:**  
The minutes of September 16, 2015 were discussed and it was agreed that Committee Chair Cooluris, Vice-Chair Kreith and Committee member Woods would review the meeting tape and bring the minutes to the March 9, 2016 meeting for approval. The minutes of November 9, 2015, were not available.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Kreith brought up an issue concerning the Brown Act that was discussed at the previous meeting. She asked if the subcommittee had been reconstituted and who are the current members. Cooluris explained that Ron Crites was a member of the water subcommittee without being a member of the Advisory Committee, which unintentionally, resulted in a Brown Act issue. Supervisor Provenza and County Council's advice was to have Crites resign as a voting member from the water subcommittee and act as a consultant, which has happened. The subcommittee now consists of two members from the Advisory Committee and a consultant. The topic of a Committee member's potential conflict of interest was brought up. Calfee responded and stated that he raised the issue with county council and it is not a conflict under state law or county law, but he is sensitive to concerns and expressed that he will not participate in financial discussions with the subcommittee. Calfee noted that it is his intention to continue with the subcommittee. Roy asked about the discussions Calfee has had with the landowner to date. He said they have talked about the fact that we are looking at significant expenditure for a new well and if there were a way to acquire their well that makes economic sense to us then we would be interested in exploring that possibility.

Espinoza stated that inquiries are open and acceptable; however, once you get to the stage of negotiating it is the role of the Director of Planning and Public Works and staff to speak on behalf of the county.

Kreith noted there is an inaccurate statement in the Wood Rogers *Review and Assessment of Hydrogeologic Conditions and Recommendations*, additional to the apparent typo pertaining to Subbasin number. Cooluris directed Kreith to contact Wood Rogers directly.

**WILLOWBANK SEPTIC SYSTEMS AND NEW COUNTY WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM ORDINANCE:** Leslie Lindbo, Yolo County Department of Planning, Public Works and Environmental Services, introduced the topic on Septic Systems and her team; Jiamnin Huang, Supervisor

for the Land Use Program, and Debbie Anderson, Senior Environmental Health Specialist. She said that Ms. Anderson will review some of the proposed changes to the local ordinances on septic systems, why the law is changing, and what the changes will look like.

Ms. Anderson gave a brief overview of septic systems and why we need them. She said that a house not connected to a sewer system uses a septic system where the waste water is treated onsite. As Ms. Lindbo noted, the County is changing its onsite wastewater treatment ordinance, design and installation criteria, and homeowner manual. It is doing this because of Assembly Bill 885, and State Water Resource Control Board requirements, and the 2030 County general plan requirements. AB 885 requires the Water Control Board adopt standards for the whole state.

Ms. Anderson informed the group what the impact of these changes will have on existing systems. She explained that as long as an existing septic system is functioning properly then it will be considered grandfathered. However, if you have a major repair or replacement to the leach field then the new standard will apply. Ms. Anderson provided examples and images of various septic systems.

Ms. Anderson talked about how it is important to know where your septic system is and how to maintain it. Improper maintenance of a septic system is the number one reason septic systems fail. Septic systems should be pumped regularly, approximately every three years. Leach areas should not be graded, developed or built upon, have large animals, vehicles or heavy objects placed or driven on it, nor should there be plants with invasive roots.

Ms. Anderson brought up frequently asked questions such as: I want to add a bedroom. The homeowner should research the permit because the permit will tell you how many bedrooms the septic system was originally designed to support. They will also need to show the 100% replacement area, ensure all the setbacks are met, hire a qualified professional, and conduct a site evaluation. Other site improvements: I want to put in a pool but there are no records of the existing system. The county would ask that the system be professionally pumped and/or the leach lines snaked or the ends exposed so we know where the leach field is located to ensure the project will not impact the existing system and allow for 100% replacement area.

Leach line placement, length and setbacks to streets, unlined ditches or wells, and soil coverage were discussed. The Board of supervisors must adopt its Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) prior to submission to the Central Valley Regional Water Control Board by May 2016. She stated the LAMP is expected to go to the BOS March 8, allowing time for a BOS hearing on April 5. Calfee asked Anderson whether Willowbank would need an exception to the proposed minimum lots size for septic systems, to which she answered that was a good question.

In conclusion, Ms. Anderson provided the following (draft) handouts: the Homeowner Septic System Manual, Yolo County Environmental Health Land Use Review, and Process for Septic System Design and Installation, and offered to field any questions.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Water

Adopting Rosenberg's Rules of Order

**NEXT MEETING:** March 9, 2016

**ADJOURNMENT:** MSC: Woods/Calfee 8:38 p.m.

**Unanimously approved on July 6, 2016.**