

Willowbank County Service Area (WCSA) Advisory Committee

Minutes of the Meeting Held August 23, 2022

Meeting conducted as a Hybrid Meeting (In Person at Montgomery Public School and via Zoom, Hosted by Anne Todgham)

1.	Call to Order: Committee Chair Woods called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM Committee Members Present: Liz McCapes, Anne Todgham, John Lindsey, Artie Lawyer, Brian Morrissey, and Olin Woods. <i>One vacant position (Oakside)</i> Note taker: Anne Todgham
2.	Invited Guests: Deputy Supervisor Sheila Allen, Residents: 8
3.	Consistent with New Legislation, Chair Woods recommends Adoption of the following language "The WCSA Advisory Committee authorizes remote (teleconference/videoconference) meetings by finding, per Assembly Bill 361, that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic." Motion to adopt the new language outlined above MSP (Lawyer, Lindsey) Unanimously approved
4.	Approval of the May 13, 2022, WCSA Meeting Minutes: Woods Motion to approve minutes. MSP (Morrissey, McCapes) Unanimously approved
5.	Public Comments: None
<u>6.</u>	Yolo County Report: Deputy Supervisor Sheila Allen Three items discussed <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. North Fork Putah Creek Fire Reduction Work – California Conservation Corp will do the work for free. Working with County Staff and City nature people. Timing will be in September to avoid nesting season. Will avoid fox dens. Allen walked the path with new CAO for Yolo County, County Facilities, and Fire Marshall. Goal is to decrease the fire ladder, removing small trees and removing low limbs of larger trees. In conjunction, Yolo County is working with the City of Davis in transferring ownership of the North Putah Drainage Canal from the County to the City. Working together to make sure this transfer agreement works for both County and City needs. The County is also paying attention to the Willowbank side of the Creek and will work with land owners in Willowbank for any decks etc. that exist along the creek to preserve those structures. 2. Mace Blvd Redesign – City of Davis has come out with the 60% design. It will be presented to the bicycle commission on September 8th. Supervisor Provenza's Office is working with the community through an organized meeting to ensure Old Willowbank residents can provide public comments on the design. This meeting has not been organized yet, but will be soon. The other piece is called the "Pilot", which is looking into traffic build up along Mace going northbound from Tremont. The Pilot will happen following the lanes opening up along Mace Blvd. Part of the Pilot will involve traffic lights at Montgomery & Mace and Tremont & Mace to see how it affects traffic. The goal is for

	<p>the construction of the lane widening on Mace to begin in April 2023. Expected to take 90 days. Pilot projects will start after this and are expected to last 90 days.</p> <p>Public Comments: Resident: Asked about the effectiveness of the stop light at the Mace and Montgomery vs. the current Stop sign to reduce people not stopping. Allen: There will be a stop light where the timing can be changed depending on the traffic.</p> <p>3. A resident on Willowbank Road has expressed concern with high speeds on Willowbank Rd – Ms. Allen stated that the first step in the process is the County will contact the CHP to encourage slower speeds by having an officer stationed on Willowbank Rd. The CHP will be present once a week for a month to observe and take action, as appropriate. If this doesn't have sufficient effect, the County plans to move to a study with speed recorders to gauge speed. Depending on the outcome of these efforts, one of the eventual options to reduce speeds, can be to set up electronic signs which display a vehicle's actual velocity. Such signage costs out at \$4,000/sign.</p> <p>Committee Comments: Lawyer: Has the individual let the Willowbank Club know about the speeding concern. Woods: Willowbank Club President Mont Hubbard is aware.</p> <p>Woods: The bottom line in addressing the concerns that have been raised is to get the word out to residents of all three Old Willowbank subdivisions to pay attention to how fast they are driving. Part of the charm of our neighborhood is that there are no sidewalks or street lights, people walk in the streets, and children sometimes play in the streets. It behooves residents to be extra vigilant and to drive cautiously.</p> <p>Note: Based on information obtained after the meeting, the residential speed limit in California, unless otherwise posted is 25 mph. The speed limit at blind intersections is 15mph.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>North Putah Creek Vegetation Management Plan: John Lindsey</p> <p>Note: Full discussion of this topic can be reviewed in the Approved May 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes</p> <p>It has been a struggle for years to secure the funding for this project. Through a random meeting the County was able to secure funding from the California Conservation Corp. The plan is to do a flyer distribution to provide information on the project, the different people involved and contact information for questions.</p> <p>Plan is to ladder the trees (i.e. limb up to a certain height) and reduce fuel on the ground. Therefore if a fire does start, it cannot climb the trees. Eventually the hope is for a set clearance plan and schedule between the City of Davis and Yolo County.</p> <p>Public Comments: Allen: Question about the chain link fence almost at the bottom of the ditch along the Willowbank Subdivision section. Lindsey: No one knows where it is from or why it is there. Plan is to remove the fence since it prohibits the ability of the fire department to effectively fight fires. City is working hard to ensure they don't disturb anyone's property. There will be a property transfer to property owners for structures that infringe on County property.</p>

	<p>Allen: East end of the Creek has standing water and the mosquito vector control knows about it and stocks it with mosquitofish. Also, this area of the channel is used as a location to test for West Nile prevalence.</p> <p><i>Committee Comments:</i> Lawyer: Regarding the upcoming fuel management project, how often will the maintenance reoccur once the Drainage Channel project is completed, i.e., how often will follow up maintenance be required? Lindsey: Likely a 5 year cycle, perhaps less if there is no need.</p>
8.	<p>Water Quality Report Analysis & County Water Conservation Measures: Lawyer</p> <p><u>Water Conservation Measures:</u> City of Davis adopted Level 2 water conservation rules; e.g., no washing cars in driveways, no hosing down of concrete surfaces, restrictions on watering lawns & gardens, etc. Part of the County agreement with using City of Davis water is that Old Willowbank and El Macero, as City water customers, are required by their respective contracts to abide by the same rules as City residents. On July 26, 2022, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the same conservation rules for Old Willowbank & El Macero as adopted by the City Council for Davis residents. Artie Lawyer feels that some of the rules are awkward and could benefit from clarification. For example, the guidance is unclear if you water less than three days a week, in terms of the schedule, and the definition of “landscaping” could be clarified. Lawyer suggests seeing whether the community has confusion and perhaps then seeking more details if needed. Lawyer later suggested that it might be useful for the Committee to send out a simplified and more user friendly version of the Level 2 water conservation rules than contained in the Board of Supervisors’ Resolution. Woods asked Lawyer if he would consider preparing such a notice and upon receiving Lawyer’s positive response, indicated that he would send it out to the WCSA e-mail list when he receives it.</p> <p><u>Water Quality Report Analysis:</u> Study is done annually and it is completed in great detail. Also provides specifics about some of the constituents and the health risk. Very clear and easily available document. Hardness of the water has been reduced greatly with City water over the well water.</p> <p><i>Public Comments:</i> Gregg Roy: Do you have insight into whether the City might call a Tier 2 conservation action? Lawyer: Just to clarify, we are already in Phase 2. Roy: What does Tier 3 look like? Lawyer: Unsure but this a California tiering system. Woods: Last year’s board resolution might have the definitions we are looking for. Allen will research this and Woods will share what he receives with the community.</p> <p>Allen: When the water conservation item came to the Board of Supervisors, they wanted it to go out to Old Willowbank & El Macero neighborhoods for discussion and adoption. Woods: Clarified that the WCSA community received the proposed conservation document, which went out to the Old Willowbank neighborhood for information & comments prior to the July 26th meeting. He further stated that It was also included in tonight’s agenda package.</p> <p>Note: If you have questions about specific requirements of the Level 2 requirements you can call: 530-757-5686 or email: pwwb@cityofdavis.org. If you have concerns that a neighbor may not be aware of the water conservations measures you can also contact the City by the same phone & email address for advice on how to handle such matters.</p> <p><i>Committee Comments:</i> Lawyer: Aquahawk is a great program to notify you if you are using more water than normal.</p>

Commented [AT1]: This is not my recollection. I think Artie wasn't sure that residents had received the documents yet but please check.

Commented [OW2R1]: Anne - I contacted Artie and he agreed that he did commit to the actions included in the minutes—even though he thinks it may not be necessary to send out anything further. He is a strict constructions as far as minutes are concerned. He has the view that the minutes ought to reflect what was stated/agreed to at the meeting, as opposed to what was determined to be the best course of action later. After he had studied his notes, he called me back to ask me my druthers and I told him I would like him to get back to me with a suggested e-mail to the WCSA residents emphasizing the importance of water conservation. (Since water is the core of our existence as a CSA, I think it is important provide clear & strong guidance in this area when called for.)

9.	<p>Status of County/Davis Negotiations re. Transfer of Ownership of Drainage Channel from County to Davis: Allen</p> <p>Ms. Allen indicated that the highlights of this item were covered in Agenda Items #6 & 7. She also reported later in the meeting that a Drainage Study was being done in connection with the Transfer of Ownership negotiations and would report back on the status of the study at the October WCSA meeting.</p>
10	<p>WCSA 2021-22 Finance Report: Woods</p> <p>The Finance Report was provided as a document with the Agenda.</p> <p>County CSA Liaison Kim Villa now puts this report together for WCSA rather than the County Finance Department. This report is not final and likely needs a little fine tuning, but it is in the ball park. The "<i>Professional Services, Other</i>" line item includes Ms. Villa's charges for the year, which are \$1,294, with \$914 spend in the 4th quarter. Overall, her charges are for producing the budget, assisting Woods with WCSA issues & questions, coordination with other County agencies & Davis Joint Unified School District, related to WCSA business, website management related to the WCSA, and a Willowbank newsletter. The larger than average 4th Quarter charges resulted from a significant amount of time putting together the annual budget and finalizing the 4th Quarter Financial Report. The "<i>Taxes and Assessments</i>" line item of \$451 is the East Davis County Fire Protection District (EDCFPD) assessment for the WCSA well site on Montgomery Ave. The charges are for fire protection and prevention associated with this small parcel (All property owners in the WCSA pay these annual charges to the EDCFPD on their income taxes). The \$451 expense is a one-time charge and represents 8 years of taxes (\$56/yr); apparently, the EDCFPD overlooked charging the WCSA its annual assessment from 2014/15 until the 2021/22 fiscal year.</p> <p>WCSA End of Year Balance: \$9,115.</p> <p>Woods concluded the report by urging residents to go to the the Willowbank CSA website: https://www.yolocounty.org/government/general-government-departments/county-administrator/county-service-areas-csa/willowbank-csa</p> <p>NOTE: There is valuable history available on the website and, importantly, there is a Willowbank CSA electronic newsletter that, if you sign up to receive it, will be an easy way to obtain the meeting dates, agendas and attachments and information important to the neighborhood and to the Advisory Committee. Once you are on the first page of the website, page down and in the bottom left hand corner, you will find a short form which, when filled out, will put you on a list which will "push" messages out to you.</p> <p>Public Comments: Where does the \$450 to pay the EDCFPD expense come from? Woods: Comes from the WCSA fund balance. WCSA gets \$35 per year for each household in the Willowbank County Service Area to cover WCSA activities. It shows up as a line item on each resident's annual property tax bill.</p>
11.	<p>WCSA Advisory Committee Member Comments.</p> <p>McCapes: No Comment Lawyer: No Comment Lindsey: Moving out of the neighborhood next month. Will be leaving the WCSA Advisory Morrissey: No Comment</p>

	<p>Todgham: No Comment</p> <p>Woods: Thanked Sheila Allen in helping the WCSA return to Montgomery School. The District 4 Office also assisted the Committee in getting the \$1M insurance policy needed to be able to get the permit to use the school MPR. Meetings are approved through to the next fiscal year. Kim Villa was very helpful in this process as well. Woods also thanked Vice Chair Lindsey for his service to the neighborhood and Advisory Committee for the last 1-1/2 years. During this time, he authored two very important papers which provided clarifying information for WCSA residents concerned about zoning matters, explaining what the codes meant and what residents could do if confronted with circumstances which did not conform with Yolo County codes. The papers were written with the idea of educating people and providing them with the tools to resolve their problems. Woods indicated that he will greatly miss Lindsey on the Committee and congratulated him on the purchase of a new home, although it takes him out of Old Willowbank. Others on the Committee wished Lindsey well on his and his family's move to the "country".</p> <p>Note: Future agendas, Agenda documents, and the Chair's introductory comments will be found on the WCSA website and, if one signs up for the WCSA electronic newsletter via the link provided in Item #10 above, agenda packets and other Old Willowbank information will be "pushed" to your email address automatically. (The agenda packets will still be emailed out by the Chair in the usual manner, although the format may be slightly different.)</p>
13	<p>Adjournment (8:32pm) to the Next Regularly Scheduled WCSA Advisory Committee Meeting: Tuesday October 18th, 2022 7PM.</p> <p>Woods: Has a conflict with this next meeting. Suggested three options: 1) Could Zoom in and keep October 18th, 2) Could meet one week earlier Oct. 11th or could meet one week later Oct. 25th. Motion to move the meeting to October 25th, 2022 as a first choice, October 11th, 2022 as a second choice and Olin will Zoom in on Oct. 18th, 2022 as the third choice. All options to be in the hybrid format, i.e., in person at Montgomery School and via Zoom.</p> <p>(MSP Lawyer, Morrissey) Unanimously approved</p> <p>Woods will explore changing the date with the school for our next meeting and follow up with everyone.</p> <p>Note: Davis Joint Unified School District has approved moving the WCSA Advisory Committee meeting from Tuesday, October 18, 7PM to Tuesday, October 25, 7PM</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned in memory of Maureen Poole, who recently passed away and was a thoughtful, patient, and most pleasant WCSA secretary for over 15 years.</p>