



JOHN BENCOMO
DIRECTOR

County of Yolo

PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

292 West Beamer Street Woodland, CA 95695-2598 (530) 666-8775 FAX (530) 666-8728
www.yolocounty.org

Cache Creek Technical Advisory Committee Summary Minutes May 2, 2005

Members in Attendance: Kevin O'Dea and Jeff Hart.

County Staff: Linda Fiack, Dimitrios Georges, and Petrea Marchand.

Others in Attendance: John Watson, Fulton Stephens, Chad Roberts, Heidi Tschudin, Christian Brown, Patricia Valenzuela, Jack White, Barry Cavanna, Jeanette Wrynski, Mary Kimball, Vance Russell, Ben Adamo, Dave Pratt, Max Stevenson, Jenny Drewitz, Phil Hogan, Lillie Noble, Bryan Plude, Marianne Kirkland, Bill Cruickshank, Mark Hirzy, Jan Lowrey

Members Absent: Geoff Schladow

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair O'Dea at 10:03 AM

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Max Stevenson, Water Resources Associate with the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District commented that his district is working on an Integrated Groundwater Surface Model (IGSM) for the entire County with a focus on Cache Creek as part of the Yolo County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. Max advised that the TAC would be a perfect forum for public outreach and that he would be requesting time at future TAC meetings to discuss/present the IGSM.

Mary Kimball, representing the Center for Land Based Learning requested time on the June TAC agenda to make a presentation to the TAC.

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 4, 2005 meeting were adopted with the following corrections as noted by Max Stevenson: Item 6.1, paragraph 6: *State Integrated Regional Water Management Plan* should be corrected to read the *Yolo County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan*.

4. **STAFF UPDATE**

Proposed presentation to the Yolo County Planning Commission on May 12 regarding the Cache Creek Area Plan: Staff will be presenting the same presentation to the PC that was presented to the Board of Supervisors in February regarding the Cache Creek Area Plan.

Status of the most recent Board of Supervisor's actions regarding Wild and Scenic legislation for Cache Creek: Linda Fiack, Deputy Director, Parks and Natural Resources Division gave a brief outline of the latest BOS actions.

Report on the recent TAC Request for Qualifications process and the Board of Supervisor actions of April 26, 2005: Staff reported on the number of proposals received for each TAC position, the evaluation process, and that the BOS had approved the re-issuing of the TAC contracts to Kevin O'Dea, Jeff Hart, and Geoff Schladow.

Report on the Lower Clear Creek watershed information model being implemented by the Western Shasta RCD (<http://www.westernshastarc.org/>): Staff presented an overview of the web based model (<http://www.westernshastarc.org/>) that provides the public with resource data & information. Staff will be studying the RCD model to analyze the potential for a similar model for the Cache Creek watershed. Paul Robins, Executive Director of the Yolo County RCD provided his knowledge of the model.

Summary of the April workshop for the "Landowners' Guide to Streambank Management on Cache Creek": Staff reported that the event was held at the Cache Creek Nature Preserve on April 7, 2005 and was well attended by the public, including landowners. Staff advised that the handbooks were sent via mail to all landowners along the creek, and copies are available free of charge to the public at the Planning and Public Works Department and the Cache Creek Nature Preserve. The handbook will soon be posted on the County Parks and Natural Resources web site.

Cache Creek Conservancy project updates: Jan Lowrey, Executive Director of the Conservancy commented that approximately 50 participants attended the handbook workshop. Jan thanked staff from the Conservancy and the County for putting the workshop together. He reported that copies of the Handbook were circulated at a recent CALFED workshop, and the Handbook was well received. John Watson, Project Coordinator with the Conservancy stated that the eradication efforts on Tamarisk along the creek has commenced. John stated that the USDA has reported to him they were able to verify that Diorhabda beetles (proposed as a biological form of Tamarisk control) have successfully over-wintered in the upper watershed near Rumsey and the Rancheria.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair O'Dea reported that he recently attended the Geologic Society of America Conference in San Jose.

6. REGULAR AGENDA

Receive information from Spencer Defty, landowner: Spencer Defty presented his concerns regarding the erosion of the creek banks bordering his property and the North bank of the creek bordering the YFCWCD property approximately one-mile upstream of the Wild Wings subdivision. Spencer was concerned that the creek has continuously eroded both the North and South banks, and he is alarmed that the erosion will continue if left uncorrected. He advised that he has hired a consultant, Northwest Hydraulics, to advise him on the best ways to proceed with the erosion control, and he would like the TAC to review his proposal and review the erosion during its annual creek walk. Spencer suggested a possible solution may be to regrade and armor the banks to prevent future erosion, and suggested that something be done this year to correct the ongoing erosion.

Chair O'Dea commented that the project will be reviewed by the TAC members during this year's creek walk.

Summary/update on the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Mercury Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process by Petrea Marchand, County Water Resources Coordinator: Petrea reported that the RWQCB will be proposing a Cache Creek Watershed TMDL for mercury in June which may restrict the projects and activities authorized under the Cache Creek Resources Management Plan (CCRMP). Petrea advised that the Board of Supervisors authorized the hiring of Dr. Darrell Slotton of UC Davis at its March 1, 2005 meeting to continue analyzing the methyl

mercury levels in Cache Creek and the wetlands at the Cache Creek Nature Preserve. Dr. Slotton will also be assisting County staff with the County's response to the RWQCB's TMDL. The County sent extensive comments on the TMDL to the RWQCB on behalf of the Cache Creek Mercury Stakeholders Working Group on April 19, 2005 and will send more comments in June.

Discussion of 10 year review of mining operations on Cache Creek by Linda Fiack, Deputy Director, Parks and Natural Resources: Heidi Tschudin, contract planner with the County, announced that the ten-year review of the gravel mining permits approved in 1996 by the Board of Supervisors has commenced, and she will be assisting County staff with the process. Linda Fiack reported that a review of the Supplemental EIR prepared in 2002 on the CCRMP and the Cache Creek Improvement Program (CCIP) was positive, and it is now time to begin the process of the ten year mining permit review. She clarified that these processes are independent of each other.

The process must be completed by January of 2007. Both the TAC and the Planning Commission will be utilized as public forums for the review process. The public will be advised through the release of several issue papers, and will be afforded an opportunity to comment on the issues throughout the process. Heidi stated that information would be provided to the public in the issue papers regarding the Off Channel Mining Plan (OCMP) and the Surface Mining Reclamation Ordinance (SMRO). Linda stated that the review is required in order to analyze 1) the changes in environmental regulations; and 2) whether there should be changes to the fees paid by the gravel mining operations on the sold tonnage.

Review of Lower Cache Creek Water Quality Testing report of February 11, 2005 prepared by Foothill Associates: The TAC reviewed the latest report. Chair O'Dea was concerned that the fecal coliform (FC) counts was so much more different than the last report. Staff advised that Foothill's contract lab has started using a much more efficient method of testing for FC, and the results appear to be higher. Chair O'Dea noted that the higher counts were at the Gordon Slough sampling area. He suggested that the County Health Department be advised of the report, and may possibly be able to identify the source upstream of the Gordon Slough sampling site.

Jeff Hart commented that Geoff Schladow's input is needed for further evaluation and comment. He noted that the high concentration of Boron reported in the report is common throughout the Cache Creek watershed.

Discuss Mitigation Monitoring Plan for the CCRMP/CCIP and development of a priority plan: After a review of the CCRMP, the CCIP, and the 2002 Final Supplemental EIR, staff prepared a preliminary list of tasks. Chair O'Dea reviewed the tasks with Jeff Hart and proposed staff further prioritize the list for further discussion at future TAC meetings.

Discuss plans for annual creek walk on May 16 & 18: The TAC finalized the creek walk dates, and the start time of 8 AM at the Cache Creek conference room.

Continue review of letter submitted by Chad Roberts: Continued to the next meeting due to time constraints.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM

Next regular meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2005. 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.