



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 June 6, 2005

- Members in Attendance:** Kevin O'Dea and Geoff Schladow.
- County Staff:** Linda Fiack, Dimitrios Georges, and Petrea Marchand.
- Others in Attendance:** Vance Russell, Mary Kimball, Phil Hogan, Paul Robins, John Watson, Jenny Drewitz, Barry Cavanna, Marianne Kirkland, Chad Roberts, Duane Chamberlain, BK Plude, Bryan Plude, Maria Wong
- Members Absent:** Jeff Hart.
-

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair O'Dea at 10:05 AM

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 2, 2005 meeting were not adopted due to lack of a quorum.

4. STAFF UPDATE

Announce meeting of the Yolo County Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Natural Communities Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HC) Steering Committee on June 6, 2005 @ 6 PM in the Cache Creek room: The meetings was announced by staff, and a reference was made to the agenda posted in the lobby display case.

Staff presentation to the Yolo County Planning Commission (PC) on May 12 regarding the Cache Creek Area Plan: Staff reported on the presentation to the PC at its regular monthly meeting by staff, Chair O'Dea, and Cache Creek Conservancy Board member Lynnel Pollock.

Status of future presentation to the TAC regarding fish habitat on Cache Creek: Staff reported on a future presentation proposed for August, to possibly include Dr. Peter Moyle and Dr. Darrel Slotton to discuss the current status of fishes in Cache Creek.

Status of HEC/RAS model contract: Staff reported that the contract for the HEC/RAS model would be coordinated with Geoff Schladow.

Update on staff coordination with the County Environmental Health Department on water quality issues on Cache Creek near the vicinity of Gordon Slough: Staff reported on the discussion of the fecal coliform levels (as reported on the water quality reports) with Tom To, Director of the County

Environmental Health Department. Tom advised that while the levels were noticeable, he felt the results were typical of levels found around waterways with a wildlife presence. He recommended additional interim tests between the February and August testing dates to gather additional data.

Update on dates for the annual creek walk on 2005: Creek walk dates were re-scheduled due to high flows during the proposed creek walk in May. New proposed dates are Monday, June 13 & Tuesday, June 14. The public was reminded by staff to meet at 292 W. Beamer St. to organize transportation.

Cache Creek Conservancy project updates: John Watson, Project Coordinator with the Conservancy reported the last of the Arundo and Tamarisk spraying of the season along the creek was being completed on 6-6-05.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Geoff Schladow reported that CAL-FED recently announced the recipients of their science grants. UC Davis was not successful in securing a grant from CAL-FED this year.

6. REGULAR AGENDA

Receive information from The Center for Land-Based Learning (CLBL), Audubon California's Landowner Stewardship Program (Audubon), the Yolo County Resource Conservation District (RCD), and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):

Representatives from each group participated in a PowerPoint presentation on the types of programs and projects they have completed or are currently working on.

Vance Russell, Landowner Stewardship Manager with Audubon described how Audubon works with private landowners to design and implement habitat restoration projects on farms and ranches while maintaining or enhancing the economic conditions for agriculture, reducing non-native invasive species, minimizing erosion, and improving water quality. His presentation included photographs of several projects in which these goals were accomplished in Yolo County, including the Stephens Ranch riparian enhancement project (near Madison), the Bobcat Ranch & Blue Oaks Ranch (near Winters with the Resource Conservation District and the Natural Resource Conservation Service), and Maxwell Flat. More information is available on their web site at ca.audubon.org.

Mary Kimball, Associate Director with the CLBL presented the types of programs managed by the CLBL, including the Student Landowner Education and Watershed Stewardship (SLEWS) Program, and the FARMS leadership program. The programs are designed to provide students learning experiences on farms and ranches that fosters respect for agricultural and natural resources. Mary explained that the SLEWS program is projecting that 450 students would be served statewide in 2004-2005. Students participate and learn from such activities as collection of plant/seed materials, planting, irrigation installation, maintenance, and monitoring. More information is available on their web site at: landbasedlearning.org

Paul Robins, Executive Director of the RCD described the goals and activities of the RCD in Yolo County. He said the RCD is a special district, which is funded by grants and partnerships, and has a locally defined mission. Paul went over several programs that the RCD manages, including the Willow Slough Watershed Improvement Program, Yolo/Colusa County Mobile Water Lab, and coordination of the Capay Valley Watershed Program. Paul said the RCD has partnered with Audubon, the CLBL, and the NRCS on several programs including SLEWS and the Land Stewardship Program. More information is available on their web site at: yolorcd.org.

Phil Hogan, District Conservationist with the NRCS described the mission of his agency, and the partnerships with the CLBL, Audubon, the RCD, and other groups. Phil described several of their programs, including the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), and the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP). Both programs are voluntary conservation programs for farmers, ranchers, and others, which promote environmental quality, agricultural production (EQIP), and wildlife habitat improvement (WHIP). Phil said the NRCS offers assistance to rural landowners with education/training, project planning, monitoring, and management of rural projects. More information is available on their web site at: ca.nrcs.usda.gov.

Mary Kimball concluded the presentation by summarizing the skills of the four groups, and their interest in assisting with projects within and by Yolo County, including projects discussed in Chapter 4 of the Cache Creek Resources Management Plan (<http://www.yolocounty.org/prm/resmanage.htm>)

Receive information from Rick Moore, County Assistant Director of Public Works, regarding erosion near the Huff property (upstream of the I-5 bridge):

Rick Moore described the continued erosion (since the winter of 2004) on the South bank of Cache Creek near CR 18B and 97A. Rick presented several photographs depicting the eroded banks threatening the roadway, and said that flood flows over the banks in this area could affect homes in the area and the I-5 intersection nearby. He said the preliminary estimate to repair the erosion was approx. \$250,000. He asked the TAC members to stop at the site on the annual creek walk and review the erosion. Linda Fiack, Deputy Director of Parks & Natural Resources suggested that this area could be tied into projects considered for the Harrison and Oliver properties, upstream of this site. She has looked at identifying funding for the project as a public resources priority as the road and bridges may be threatened.

Chair O'Dea suggested that a meeting with the landowners in this area be set up after the creek walk. Phil Hogan suggested that Federal "eminent threat funds" might be available for assistance with the project. He said the potential loss of buildings may be part of the inventory of potential losses in an "emergency situation". Chair O'Dea directed staff to look at the MBK study completed in 2002 and report back to the TAC on the volume of creek flows in the area. Supervisor Chamberlain asked where the jurisdiction stops and starts in the area. Rick said that he researched the property ownership in this area for possible involvement of the State with the repair of the banks. He said that State has no responsibility in this section of the banks/levees where the erosion is a problem.

Supervisor Chamberlain asked if a low flow channel could be cut into the creek to reduce some of the flows against the banks. Chair O'Dea stated that the channel in this area is incised by thirty to forty feet and a channel may not be the answer. Linda suggested that Rick bring the issue to the TAC again after the creek walk and a meeting is held with the landowners that may be affected.

Discuss development of annual report and action plan:

Chair O'Dea discussed the action plan that staff has prepared based on the "Revised Impacts and Mitigation Measures" discussed in the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) of the Cache Creek Resource Management Plan (CCRMP) and the Cache Creek Improvement Program (CCIP). Chair O'Dea stated that the tasks will be discussed at subsequent TAC meetings in order to establish priority and complete the actions.

Continue review of letter submitted by Chad Roberts (dated April of 2004):

The TAC continued the point by point discussion of the issues in Chad Roberts's letter, focusing the discussion on flood issues. Chad Roberts asked the TAC if the CCRMP is adequately addressing flood issues. Chair O'Dea commented that the CCRMP does not set flood boundaries, and the

CCRMP area may or may not contain the 100-year flood. Petrea Marchand, Yolo County Water Resources Coordinator suggested that the best venue for discussion of flood issues may be the Yolo County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (which is currently being prepared).

Geoff Schladow asked Chad Roberts if there was a need for further dialogue of the discussion points in his letter. Chad stated there was no need for further discussion of his letter at the TAC meetings.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Because of the 4th of July holiday, the next regular meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 6, 2005 (Wednesday) or July 11 (Monday), (10:00 AM to 12:00 PM) depending on the availability of the TAC members. Chair O'Dea offered to discuss the date for the next meeting at the annual creek walk.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM