

GLENN COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Glenn County Department of Agriculture
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MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Time: 1:30 pm

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

Water Advisory Committee Members Present:

Bruce Roundy	Resource Conservation District
David Alves	Central River Irrigation Districts
Larry Domenighini	Glenn County Farm Bureau
Mike Alves	TC Canal Authority Districts
Ted Trimble	Western Canal Water District
Mark Lohse	Private Pumper
Terry Bressler	East County Rec & Irr Districts
Darin Titus	Private Pumper

Water Advisory Committee Members Absent:

John Amaro	GCID
Ken Sullivan	Orland Water Users Association
Mike Vereschagin	TC Canal Authority Districts
Rob Vlach	Private Pumper
Del Reimers	Private Pumper

Technical Advisory Committee Members Present:

Matt Gomes	Glenn County P&PWA
Lance Boyd	At-Large, South Area
Anjanette Shadley	At-Large, East Area
Erin Smith	DWR
Ben Pennock	At-Large, Central Area

Others in Attendance:

Lisa Hunter	Glenn Co. Ag Dept.
Doug Ross	Valley Mirror
Zac Dickens	GCID
George Pendell	Stony Creek
Mary Fahey	Colusa County
Chip Meriam	Assessor's Office
Vince Minto	Board of Supervisors
John Viegas	Board of Supervisors
Mike Billiou	Billiou Ranch
Mardy Thomas	

I. INTRODUCTIONS:

Those in attendance are shown above.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The meeting minutes from May 10, 2016 and May 24, 2016 were approved as presented unanimously by members present. (Motion: Mike Alves, Second: David Alves)

III. AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Public Comment:

None

B. Discussion and/or Action Items:

1. Letter to Board of Supervisors

As requested at the May 24, 2016 meeting, a draft letter to the Board of Supervisors was developed by the TAC using the following statement as a guideline: *The WAC cannot recommend that the well moratorium be continued based on lack of sound data/science and further studies are needed to be done to gather data by a third party consultant and funding is needed to complete these studies.* The letter was included in the agenda packet for further review and discussion.

A comment was made that the proposed letter did not cover the items requested by the WAC. It was recommended to add the intent of the letter, not to continue the moratorium, in the introduction. Mike Alves distributed a second draft letter for consideration.

There was some hesitancy from some members to recommend whether the Board should continue the moratorium or not. A comment was made that the letter should tie into a minute order from the Board. Another comment was made that if the majority of the WAC members felt like the moratorium should be lifted, they should write it in the letter. Some were concerned that the moratorium may not be legal. Some felt that more resources are needed to provide a recommendation with good information. The Preliminary Plan and the Western Glenn County report have a list of projects that should be funded.

A motion was made by Terry Bressler, with a second by David Alves, to add the additional language to the letter that the WAC recommends that the Supervisors not extend the well permit moratorium. Further discussion ensued.

Clarification that the added moratorium language would be added as introductory paragraph to the letter provided in the agenda packet. Reasons to support that would be stated below which would be gathered from the bullet points in the May 24 meeting minutes and the reasons stated in the second letter that was distributed at this meeting. Additionally, the portion regarding the funding request would remain in the letter.

It was further clarified that the motion for the proposed changes be incorporated into another draft and be brought back to the WAC for review.

The members agreed that they would like the letter to be received by the Board prior to the August 2, 2016 Board meeting. The WAC would need to meet in about two weeks. A final version of the letter would need to be prepared by July 26 in order to get the letter into the Board agenda packet.

A comment was made that the member was in agreement with bullet points listed except that he felt the WAC should not be recommending legal advice to the Board.

Regarding the funding, it was clarified that the estimate provided was a rough estimate received by a consulting firm to complete the water budget project. A portion of the grant would be available to cover some of the cost, but there is not enough in the grant task to cover the entire cost of the project. It would likely require additional funding from participating agencies and entities, including the County. It was decided to leave the funding estimate for the water budget project, but not to include dollar amounts for the additional projects.

Ultimately it was decided to direct staff to develop a revised draft for review at the next WAC meeting.

The motion stated above to include additional language to the letter was unanimously approved.

2. BMO Compliance for 2016

Lisa Hunter gave a presentation that reviewed the Spring 2016 BMO alert levels and potential management areas for Stage 3 wells. Spring 2016 maps and spreadsheets for groundwater conditions were shown at a previous WAC meeting. Management area concepts, potential options, and potential issues were discussed, including an option to define a management area by using a radius around each stage 3 well, but “clip” the radius

to the BMO area in which it represents. Some of the hydrographs of the wells in the potential Stage 3 management area were presented to show the variability in the wells.

Challenges in horizontal and vertical management were discussed. A question was raised regarding potential monitoring of additional wells. It was also mentioned that wells that are perforated in multiple zones not be considered for monitoring. The perforations should be in one aquifer. A comment was made that more information is needed regarding well number 3 on the handout. Some felt that there is not enough information to make a decision on management actions.

It was suggested to add a column “Year Drilled” to the table that is included in the agenda packet. It was also suggested to add all the wells that are in the potential Stage 3 management area.

It was the general consensus that regarding Item 2.a.1, there is huge variability in zones that are being captured which dramatically influences the information collected. There are inconsistencies in the wells being monitored such as completed depth of the wells and perforated depths. Regarding Item 2.a.2, there needs to be a vertical component to the discussion. Well design analysis should also be considered.

Starting with the well permit application, well design should be developed up front.

3. Well Permit Application Process

It was the general consensus that this application is collecting more information which is beneficial. There was some concern regarding the second paragraph under the “Agreement and Signature of Owner and Well Contractor” section. Others felt it was beneficial for the well owner to know that restrictions may come in the future. It was suggested to change the wording to add a reference to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requirements. It was suggested that an e-log be required to be submitted for wells other than domestic wells. The e-log could eventually be used to design the well to an appropriate depth for the specific area.

The WAC would like to move this forward to the Board of Supervisors as a recommendation.

A motion was made by Bruce Roundy to forward the recommended changes on the well permit application to the Board of Supervisors in support of the Environmental Health Department. David Alves provided a second to the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

Lisa Hunter provided a brief update on the facilitation support services. The next working group meeting is scheduled for Thursday (July 14) at 10:00 at the Willows City Hall. All are welcome to participate. The Proposition 1 grant for \$250,000 over an 18-month period contains a water budget component. It will not cover the cost of the water budget discussed earlier, but can cover some of the cost.

5. Reports

There was nothing to report. Lisa Hunter asked the WAC to consider for future discussion or action if the Legislation Committee and Education and Outreach Committee are still needed. Anjanette Shadley suggested keeping the engagement of the Farm Bureau. Ted Trimble mentioned that it is helpful to have committees in place and populated.

The TAC work has been discussed in prior items.

6. Other Topics of Interest

The County’s website has been updated. The water portions of the website have changed and are being updated. If you have difficulties navigating through the website, please contact Lisa Hunter.

C. Communications:

None discussed.

D. Member Reports:

Ted Trimble asked about the proposed groundwater district progress. Larry Domenighini provided an update that LAFCO gave approval for the Glenn Groundwater District at the meeting earlier in the week. At the August LAFCO meeting there will be a protest hearing. After that, it will go through the election process in December/January.

IV. NEXT MEETINGS:

The next WAC meeting was scheduled for July 21, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Agriculture's office.

The next TAC meeting is tentatively scheduled for late June.

V. ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.