

**MINUTES OF THE  
SANTA MARGARITA GROUNDWATER  
BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 4, 2009**

**SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD ROOM, 2 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE  
SCOTTS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA**

1. Convene Meeting

Scotts Valley Water District (SVWD) Board President Chris Perri called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Self-introductions followed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Rapoza, San Lorenzo Valley Water District (SLVWD); Donna Lind, Scotts Valley City Council; Joe Miller, Bill Kassis, Ken Kannegaard, Dave Hodgin and Chris Perri, SVWD.

OTHERS PRESENT: John Ricker, Mike Cloud and Chris Coburn, Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Service; Jim Mueller, Rick Rogers and Betsy Herbert, SLVWD; Bill O'Brien, Charles McNiesh, and Colin Smith, SVWD; Pat McCormick, Santa Cruz County LAFCO; John Fasolas, Felton FLOW; Mike Maley and Sachi Itagaki, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants (K/J); Ran Bendori, Lompico County Water District customer.

2. Approval of Minutes of May 4, 2009, Meeting.

Dave Hodgin moved, seconded by Ken Kannegaard, to approve minutes of May 4, 2009, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Oral Communications: None

4. Agenda Items:

Item 4.1: Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan Update

John Ricker reported that IRWM project implementation for the Santa Cruz Region is underway; Prop 50 reimbursement payments will be forthcoming; Prop 84 funding has stalled; next step in preparing for further IRWM funding is to complete the Department of Water Resources (DWR) regional acceptance process (RAP); efforts are underway to update the Santa Cruz IRWM Plan; stakeholder meetings are planned, with the objectives to obtain community input, add new partners, and indentify new projects for funding; planning is underway for technical studies to support the IRWM Plan update; technical studies would analyze water system inerties and water exchanges and would evaluate climate change impacts on runoff and groundwater recharge.

Item 4.2: Santa Cruz County Conjunctive Use and Enhanced Aquifer Recharge Project (IRWM Grant Component 3)

Mike Maley introduced this topic, covering project objectives, alternatives screening process, and implementation issues; goal of the screening process is to identify top three alternatives for possible implementation.

Sachi Itagaki followed with a presentation on low impact development (LID) principles; storm water runoff regulations; summary of recent California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) conference; opportunities and limitations regarding capture of runoff for recharge; statewide trend toward integrating water purveyor and storm drain decision-making on the regional level. Mike Cloud commented on regulatory requirements for dry wells versus lateral infiltration structures. Mr. Maley reported on K/J's analysis of roofed area in Scotts Valley and its impact on recharge. Ms. Itagaki reviewed pervious concrete technology and provided examples. Mr. Ricker advised of County's efforts working with local jurisdictions on hydromodification and other storm water management objectives. Betsy Herbert noted preserving natural conditions is ideal whenever possible.

Ms. Itagaki then provided an overview of water rights principles; summarized K/J's analysis of the potential for acquiring new wet-weather water rights on San Lorenzo River and its major tributaries; contrasted these figures with mean annual discharge figures. Mr. Ricker commented on the potential to work within existing water rights, especially those held by Santa Cruz City.

Mr. Maley concluded with a more detailed summary of the alternatives screening process; acknowledged differences in scale among alternatives under consideration; described LID option under consideration versus larger scale recharge projects, including those that would utilize Hanson Quarry site; discussed potential water sources including surface water, storm water, recycled water, and in lieu exchange; advised that after alternatives are identified next steps will be conceptual engineering and preparation of cost estimates.

Item 4.3: Santa Cruz County Groundwater Recharge Demonstration Projects and Policies (IRWM Grant Component 6)

Mr. Cloud summarized project objectives to develop appropriate policies and implement three pilot LID projects; likely sites are Brommer Park, Polo Grounds and new Scotts Valley library grounds; request for proposal (RFP) process will be used for design and construction.

Item 4.4: Scotts Valley Water District Butano Formation Groundwater Monitoring Project

Charles McNiesh gave an overview of the project, which will be implemented with K/J's assistance; funding of \$250,000 is available from the DWR Local Groundwater Assistance program; approved scope of work includes construction of two Butano monitor wells plus monitoring with data loggers; one well would be a deep well near Glenwood Drive and Canham Road; the other would be a shallower

well farther to the north where the Butano crops out at the ground surface; District is considering seeking a scope of work amendment from DWR to include construction of third well to evaluate water supply potential in the Santa Margarita formation near Green Valley Road in the southern part of the District; K/J's recent well construction cost data indicate it may be possible to construct the third monitor well within the existing project budget.

#### Item 4.5: Potential Future Grant Funding Opportunities

Mr. Ricker noted the proposed \$11 billion 2010 water bond would potentially provide additional funding for IRWM projects.

#### Item 4.6: Water Conservation and Drought Response

Jim Mueller reported that SLVWD asked customers for 20 per cent conservation savings this year; achieved approximately 10 per cent savings; District provided more outreach this year than previously; statewide emphasis helped the local effort. Ms. Herbert added that area water conservation staff are working collaboratively on new gardening software to assist customers with installing native and drought tolerant landscaping suitable for the Santa Cruz area; the new website application is due to be launched in the spring.

Mr. McNiesh reported that SVWD terminated its 2009 drought restrictions on October 31<sup>st</sup>; one drought measure, prohibiting bulk potable water sales for applications where recycled water can be used, was left in place; enforcement program found 61 violations of drought restrictions this year; late in the year District adopted a schedule of fines for water conservation violations, but did not actually impose any fines. Mr. McNiesh also reported on SVWD's toilet, washer, and landscape rebate programs and on its recycled water program.

Mr. Ricker reported on the state's Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance requirements; an effort is underway among the Santa Cruz area land use jurisdictions and water districts to develop uniform standards and processes. Mr. Perri commented on the level of detail required by the state model. Mr. Ricker advised that local ordinances may be simplified if they are at least as effective as the state model.

#### Item 4.7: Basin Management Updates

John Fasolas enquired regarding impacts of artificial turf on percolation into the soil. Mr. Perri advised that many current products are permeable and pose no barrier to groundwater recharge. Ms. Itagaki noted the reduced need for herbicide and pesticide use with artificial turf.

Mr. Ricker asked whether the group had an opinion on inviting Santa Cruz City Water Department to participate at future advisory committee meetings. Consensus support was expressed.

The next advisory committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 27, at 4:00 p.m.

5. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mr. Hodgins, Mr. Perri adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Charles McNiesh  
Charles McNiesh, General Manager  
Scotts Valley Water District