

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE RECLAMATION BOARD

October 21, 2005

A regular meeting (Open Session) of The Reclamation Board was held on October 21, 2005 beginning at 9:20 a.m. in the Resources Building Auditorium, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California.

The following members of the Board were present:

Cheryl Bly-Chester, Member
Rose Burroughs, Member
Benjamin Carter, Member
Maureen "Lady Bug" Doherty, Member
Francis "Butch" Hodgkins, Member
Teri Rie, Member
Emma Suarez, Member

The following members of the staff were present:

Peter Rabbon, General Manager
Stephen Bradley, Chief Engineer
Scott Morgan, Counsel
Lori Buford, Staff Assistant

Department of Water Resources staff present:

Lester Snow
Les Harder
Larry Lee
Roger Lee
Noel Lerner
Rod Mayer
Jeff Fong
Keith Swanson
Dave Mraz

Also present (according to sign-in sheet and cards):

Ms. Marci Conglianese, Public Advisory Committee to the Bay-Delta Authority
Mr. Joe Countryman, MBK Engineers
Mr. Kent McClain, Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority (TRLIA)
Mr. Bill Paris, Hamilton City Citizens in Action

1. ROLL CALL

General Manager Peter Rabbon brought the meeting to order at 9:00 am. All Board members were in attendance with the exception of Ms. Rose Marie Burroughs who arrived at 9:20 am.

2.* OATH OF OFFICE

The "Oath of Office" had already been given to the Board; therefore, this task was not required.

3.* ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Secretary

Upon motion by Ms. Bly-Chester, seconded by Ms. Rie, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the nomination of Mr. Benjamin Carter for Reclamation Board President.

Upon motion by Ms. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Hodgkins, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the nomination of Ms. Cheryl Bly-Chester for Reclamation Board Vice President.

Upon motion by Ms. Emma Suarez, seconded by Ms. Doherty, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the nomination of Ms. Teri Rie for Reclamation Board Secretary.

Upon motion by Ms. Bly-Chester, seconded by Mr. Hodgkins, and unanimously carried, the Board approved to close the nominations as presented.

4.* APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Ms. Doherty, seconded by Mr. Hodgkins, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda as presented with the change to hear Item No. 10C prior to 10B.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Marci Conglianese, Public Advisory Committee to the Bay-Delta Authority, requested the Board to continue their partnership with the Public Advisory Committee. She also requested that the Board continue their participation of planning the co-sponsored workshops in the future.

Mr. Bill Paris, Attorney with Hamilton City Citizens in Action, spoke about proponents of the Hamilton City project. He also spoke about the Pre-Construction Engineering (PED) Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and if the issues regarding acceptance of the funding from CAL-FED could be resolved.

6. REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES (Rod Mayer)

Mr. Rod Mayer, Acting Chief of the Division of Flood Management, presented the Department of Water Resources report of activities. (The report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.)

7. THREE RIVERS LEVEE IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY (Kent McClain)

Mr. Kent McClain, Executive Director of Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority (TRLIA), reported on FEMA's published maps and the Board of Supervisors' requirements associated with building permits. He also reported on the requirements that the board (Board of Supervisors) gave to staff to find ways to finance levee improvements with the level of protection necessary to comply with FEMA requirements. The total project cost initially was in the neighborhood of \$70 to \$90 million. It is now closer to \$200 to \$250 million. Therefore, TRLIA is looking for additional funds. The slurry walls on the Western Interceptor Canal have been completed and the canal has been buttressed by inclusion of approximately eight (8) additional feet in the width of the base of the levee. Next spring, the entire top of the levee (approximately 22,000 feet) will be degraded and raised. The question was raised about the cost of habitat mitigation and restoration. Twelve million has been placed in escrow for the mitigation of upland basking habitat for the giant garter snake and for vernal pool crustacean mitigation. The proceeds from Prop 13 total approximately \$70 million for flood control, controlled by the Department of Water Resources, and \$20 million for habitat restoration and creation, controlled by the Department of Fish and Game. TRLIA will also apply for a Reclamation Board variance for hydro-seeding and similar activities to continue, beyond the normal November 1st work cutoff date.

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFINGS

8. DELTA LEVEE SUBVENTIONS PROGRAM (Dave Mraz)

Briefing on program and final funding amounts for Fiscal Year 2003-04.

Mr. Dave Mraz gave a briefing on the background of the Delta and provided information on the levee program. He also spoke about applications that staff complies with every year. He briefed the Board on CEQA and the maintaining agencies process, on the work agreement and prioritization of the funding.

9. BRIEFING ON RECLAMATION BOARD PROJECTS (Anna Hedegus)

Mr. Rod Mayer, Acting Chief of the Division of Flood Management, discussed the relationship between the Board and the Corps. Mr. Mayer talked about the partnership and the cost-sharing agreement between the Corps and the Board and associated local agencies. He also briefed the Board on the breakdown of the cost-sharing percentages for each agency. Department of Flood Management Senior Engineers provided a brief summary of the different projects on which their sections are working.

- *Mr. Roger Lee discussed section A projects; South Sacramento County Streams, Folsom Dam Modifications and Folsom Dam Raise, a fish passage modification on the North Fork Feather River near Chester, Murphy Slough Habitat Restoration and the feasibility studies at Middle Creek Ecosystem Restoration, Tuolumne River and tributaries, Lower Cache Creek, Yolo County, and Woodland.*
- *Mr. Larry Lee discussed section B projects; Merced County Streams Project, Castle Dam Element; Hamilton City Flood Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration, Tehama Section 205 (house raising project), Mid Valley Area Levee Reconstruction Project, Merced County Streams Project, Natomas Features, Cache Creek Sediment Basin Project, West Sacramento Project, Lower Sacramento Area Levee Reconstruction Project, Tule River-Success Reservoir Enlargement Project.*
- *Mr. Noel Lerner discussed section C projects; Terminus Dam Project on Lake Kaweah, Marysville/Yuba City Area Levee Reconstruction Project, American River Common Features, Natomas General Reevaluation Report, Magpie Pie Flood Control, Yuba River Basin.*

- *Keith Swanson, Branch Chief of Flood Project Maintenance Branch, gave a briefing on the 1997 cost-sharing Public Law 84-99 Rehabilitation Project.*

10. KEY ISSUES

- A. Project/Program (*Pete Rabbon*)
- B. Technical (*Steve Bradley*)
- C. Legal (*Scott Morgan*)

The Board continued this item to the November 18, 2005 Board meeting.

BOARD REPORTS

11. REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

Mr. Rabbon reported on upcoming issues and meetings:

- 1) Assemblywoman Wolk is hosting a joint assembly hearing regarding Flood Control on October 25, 2005 with the Water Committee, Judiciary Committee and Insurance Committee on flood liability issues;*
- 2) Mr. Rabbon serves as President of the National Association of Flood and Storm water Management Agencies and will be testifying at the Congressional subcommittee hearing on October 27, 2005, on flood control projects; and*
- 3) Senate hearing on the Delta (headed by Senator Machado on November 1, 2005) Mr. Rabbon and the Department of Water Resources will provide comments on the state of the levees based on their maintenance and operation.*

12.* SUB-COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

President Carter provided a briefing on a few topics concerning the Board members and added additional sub-committees to the tentative list that was handed out to the Board. He also briefed the Board on the O&M of engineering structures and that process and how it's done and how it can be improved. He spoke about the concerns of the permitting process. He mentioned that Ms. Emma Suarez, Board member has volunteered to be a liaison for the California Bay Delta Authority. He also spoke about there being a suggestion about a Policy Committee and possibly linking with the Strategic Planning Committee and final, Interagency Collaborative Forum Working Group. Mr. Scott Morgan, Council to the Board, asked the Board to allow him to give legal guidance when making decisions on Bagley-Keen Act having to do with officially creating subcommittees as a State body. The Board also accepted assignments as a collective group.

13. BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Butch Hodgkins was asked to speak at the Association of California Water Agency Conference in December and would like to keep the commitment to speak on adequacy of the Flood Control System for urbanization.

Ms. Emma Suarez asked the Board to present the "Delegation of Authority" at the next meeting and asked if the Board members had anything they wanted to rescind until they became more familiar with the Board's responsibilities.

14. ADJOURN

Upon motion by Mr. Carter, seconded by Ms. Bly-Chester, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Dated: November 18, 2005



Ms. Teri Rie
Secretary

The foregoing minutes were approved:



Mr. Ben Carter
President