

**SAN JOAQUIN AREA SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
(CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD)**

MEETING MINUTES

**Friday, May 30, 2008
9:09 A.M.**

Location: 22 East Weber Avenue
First Floor, Room 166
Stockton, CA

APPEARANCES

Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB):

Francis "Butch" Hodgkins, Vice-President, CVFPB, and Sub-committee Chair
Rose Marie Burroughs, Board Member, CVFPB

CVFPB Staff:

Jay Punia, Executive Officer
Virginia Cahill, Deputy Attorney General
Gary Hester, Chief Engineer
Geoff Shumway, Staff Analyst

Also Present:

James B. Giottonini, Executive Director, San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency
Steve Winkler, San Joaquin County Public Works Department
Roger Churchill, San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency
Juan J. Neira, San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency
Tom Flinn, Director of Public Works, San Joaquin County
Susan Dell'Osso, River Islands
Glenn Gebhardt, River Islands
Monty Schmidt, Natural Resources Defense Council
Russ Rote, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rosalia Estrada, area homeowner
Deedee Antypas, Siegfried Engineering
Ricky Doung, DWR

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Sub-committee Chair Hodgkins convened the meeting at 9:09 a.m. He noted that the sub-committee makes no decisions; its purpose is to facilitate communication between the CVFPB and its staff and the interests of San Joaquin County.

2. Approval of Agenda

There were no comments or questions on the agenda.

3. San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJAFC) History

Mr. Jim Giottonini, SJAFC, gave a presentation on the Agency's history.

4. FEMA mapping update, levee maintenance issues, and consequences if maintenance concerns are not addressed to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) satisfaction

Mr. Steve Winkler, San Joaquin County Public Works, then discussed in some detail the myriad issues facing those in charge of the levee systems in the San Joaquin County area, and the consequences of not addressing those concerns to the satisfaction of the Corps.

He stated that primary short-term goals to deal with the 100-year proposed floodplains include initiating corrective action, gathering additional survey data, archiving information for FEMA and, where mitigation was not possible, to then work on a priority early implementation approach to re-establish 100-year flood protection.

He also stated that, given the adoption of SB 5 last year, the county realizes that plans for 200-year protection need to be completed by 2012; thus, they are initiating a feasibility study, with the help of the Corps, the local agencies, and CVFPB.

Chair Hodgkins noted that the Board's primary focus is on levee encroachments and understanding how to get those addressed, so as to ensure that the levees are safe and that flood insurance is either avoided or at least in effect for a minimal period of time.

5. Update on the Lower San Joaquin River Feasibility Study

Mr. Giottonini gave a presentation on the specific areas that will be covered in the study and stated that they are doing the feasibility study to determine what kind of improvements are needed to continue to meet the 100-year protection standard. They will also use the study to help them get to the 200-

year flood protection required by 2025. Also, the study can hopefully be used to get federal and state funding.

Mr. Rote, Corps, noted that the study has been authorized by the Corps.

Ms. Susan Dell'Osso, River Islands, then presented a new proposal for the Lower San Joaquin River Regional Flood Bypass, which she noted is still under refinement.

Mr. Monty Schmidt, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), commented that NRDC sees this as an opportunity to create something that potentially provides habitat benefits as well as flood protection benefits, and hopefully is designed in a way that stops the conflict between habitat and flood protection.

Mr. Glenn Gebhardt, River Islands, noted that their ultimate goal is to maximize the drop in elevation along the San Joaquin River while at the same time minimizing the impacts downstream.

Chairman Hodgkins stated that CVFPB likes the new approach of the proposal, as it looks like a way to address the issue of the amount of water that comes down the San Joaquin and the capabilities of the lower San Joaquin as it goes by Lathrop and Stockton, and for that reason the proposal ought to be examined in some detail.

6. Public Comment - None

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

TOUR MINUTES

May 30, 2008

The meeting was then followed by field visits to 5 locations in the area - Paradise Cut, RD 17 levee, Smith Canal, Calaveras River, and Bear Creak.

Participants in the tour from the Central Valley Flood Protection Board and Department of Water Resources were:

Butch Hodgkins, Board Vice President
Rose Marie Burroughs, Board Member
Jay Punia, Executive Officer
Gary Hester, Chief Engineer
Geoff Shumway, Staff Analyst to the Board
Virginia Cahill, Board Counsel
Nancy Finch, DWR Counsel
George Qualley, Chief, Division of Flood Management
Dave Lane
Ricardo Pineda, Chief, Floodplain Management Branch
Merritt Rice

First Tour Stop - Paradise Cut

Susan Dell'Osso, River Islands Project Manager, discussed and explained that the Paradise Cut cannot pass the design flow of 15,600 and explained the concept of the Lower San Joaquin River Regional Flood Bypass. According to Susan, the proposed bypass would drop the river stage in the San Joaquin River in the vicinity of the City of Lathrop by about 20 inches.

Second Tour Stop - Reclamation District 17

Dante Nomellini showed the set back of development from the levee to provide an open space area that will both allow additional room for flood fighting and for upgrading of the levees to meet higher standards in the future. Dante also discussed the concept of developing parks next to the levee because it is a lot easier to alter a park for a flood fight then it is to tear down a home and rebuild it. Board member Rose Marie Burroughs praised the City of Lathrop for providing large areas for flood fighting.

Third Tour Stop - Smith Canal

Chris Neudeck explained the location of the proposed canal closure gate structure and its functioning. The levees along Smith Canal are encroached upon; however, the levees in this reach are grandfathered, with structures built upon them that are not certified. The levees along Smith Canal are not part of the federal flood control project.

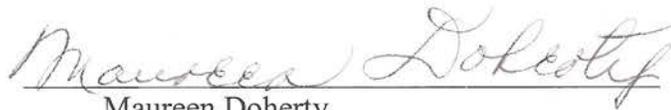
Fourth Tour Stop - Calaveras River

Board Member Butch Hodgkins explained the ongoing efforts of the California Levees Roundtable to clarify the Corps's vegetation management standards on levees. The group took a look at the encroachments up and down the levee system. Some of the neighbors in the area wanted to know who is going to be responsible for removing the vegetation and encroachments. Dante Nomellini mentioned that some of the neighbors in this area have been here for 40 years and that the locals will be the primary interface to do the work.

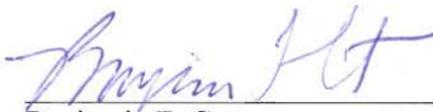
Fifth Tour Stop - Bear Creek

Board Member Butch Hodgkins expressed concern about the current encroachments on this levee system. He stated that things are still being ironed out and worked on with the Corps regarding which encroachments need to be removed and which can stay. Board staff and Board members answered general questions from the public.

Dated: 9/4/08


Maureen Doherty
Secretary

The foregoing minutes were approved:


Benjamin F. Carter
President