

Meeting Notes – NCIRWMP June 8, 2005

Combined Meeting – Policy Review Panel and Technical Peer Review Committee

Meeting Attendees

Supervisor Jimmy Smith, Humboldt County PRP, Chair
Mayor Jake Mackenzie, Sonoma County PRP, Vice Chair
Supervisor Sarah Sampels, Del Norte County PRP
Zack Larson, Del Norte County TPRC
Supervisor Jill Geist, Humboldt County PRP
Tom Weseloh, Humboldt County TPRC
Kirk Girard, Humboldt County TPRC
Supervisor Hal Wagenet, Mendocino County PRP
Supervisor Michael Delbar, Mendocino County PRP
Roland Sanford, Mendocino County TPRC
Supervisor David Bradshaw, Modoc County PRP
Mike Maxwell, Modoc County TPRC
Mayor Marilyn Seward, Siskiyou County TPRC
Supervisor Bill Hoy, Siskiyou County (video conference) PRP
Howard Moody, Siskiyou County (video conference)
Jim De Pree, Siskiyou County (video conference) PRP
David Lewis, Sonoma County TPRC
Tom Stokely, Trinity County PRP
Mark Lancaster, Trinity County PRP
Sandra Perez, Trinity County TPRC
Lisa Renton, Sonoma County Water Agency
Karen Gaffney, Circuit Rider Productions, Inc.
Kim Hilsmann, Circuit Rider Productions, Inc.

Public: Darci Short, Rebecca Price-Hall

Meeting Notes

- I. Welcome and Introductions. Meeting convened by Policy Review Panel (PRP) Chair, Supervisor Jimmy Smith at 9:40 am. Siskiyou County (Supervisor Bill Hoy and Jim DePree, Howard Moody) joined via video-conference.
- II. Public comment. Rebecca Price-Hall thanked the Policy Review Panel for allowing the public to participate in this process and remarked how impressed she was with the North Coast IRWMP effort.
- III. Presentation by Technical Peer Review Committee (TPRC). TPRC Chair David Lewis provided an overview of the TPRC review process and project prioritization. He

outlined the process as follows: the TPRC screened all projects for eligibility, averaged the scores, looked at the minimum and maximum score and standard deviation, and selected the top 20 highest scoring projects, with a cumulative value of \$100 million for further discussion and evaluation. The committee also discussed the geographic representation and equity of projects within the region. There was a discussion of multiple projects that had been “bundled” and submitted as one project. The TPRC recommended to the PRP that project bundling should be an option in the future for all project proponents, with the understanding that each project within the bundle may be reviewed and evaluated by the TPRC and PRP independently, and some projects may be suggested for removal if they do not further the objectives of the NC region.

The TPRC also discussed and called attention to the many projects proposed by small, disadvantaged communities throughout the North Coast region that are in vital need of funding, many of which have cease and desist orders in place. The TPRC reported that while these projects are necessary and often represent human health concerns in some cases they did not score well due to lack of thorough proposal development. The TPRC noted that there is a strong need for technical assistance to help project proponents obtain funding for these projects and recommended that the PRP consider taking a policy position on how to help provide technical assistance region-wide.

David reported the TPRC’s strict adherence to the California Conflict of Interest code. All project proponents with a financial or other interest in a given project did not score the project, recused themselves and left the room during discussion of that project.

IV. Discussion of prioritization process and project priorities. There was discussion among PRP/TPRC members re: reaching \$50 million dollar submittal goal – the TPRC recommendation stood at \$47,215,129. Options outlined included: a) high priority projects that received a recommendation for less than full funding could be augmented, b) projects that did not make it onto the high priority list could be pulled up to meet the \$50 million submittal goal.

Motion, Mackenzie: *accept top twenty projects listed in the TPRC submittal, with the ability of the PRP to re-prioritize and add \$3 million to bring the total to the \$50 million target.*

Second: Bradshaw.

Motion carries, TPRC slate is adopted.

Motion: Stokely. *Fund Siskiyou projects as recommended by TPRC representing a total of \$6,882,768, pending determination by DWR and SWRCB if Scott Water Trust is eligible for funding under this grant program.*

Second: Wagenet.

Motion carries.

The PRP discussed the importance of additional criteria for prioritizing projects, including the need for regional equity and the need to respond to cease and desist orders affecting small disadvantaged communities. The PRP agreed to further evaluate and consider those projects that addressed the above criteria and were assigned an average score of at least 50.

Motion: Sampels. Fund project number 55 - Crescent City, Del Norte at \$1,392,435. Project 153 - water supply reliability, Mendocino at (\$553,500), and the balance (\$839,435) be allocated to fund project 89 - Covelo.

Second: Mackenzie.

Motion carried.

Second round: technical assistance, enhancement of existing proposals.

Policy Review Panel, with input from the TPRC and other partners, will address issues related to “bundling” of projects, as well as the clear need for technical assistance to many project proponents.

V. Overview of schedule and timeline and NCIRWMP draft review process. Karen Gaffney distributed a schedule for completion of NCIRWMP, Phase I.

VI. Adoption of NCIRWMP and designation of NCIRWMP regional applicant. The PRP discussed the Adoption of the NCIRWMP, Phase I, and the Regional Applicant. It was agreed that ideally all seven counties should sign on, with a minimum of three needed as the regional applicant (two must have statutory authority over water). All PRP members agreed to bring the adoption of Phase I of the NCIRWMP before their respective Boards for consideration in late June/early July with the understanding that Phase I is the first major milestone in an ongoing adaptive management process for the North Coast.

VII. Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.