



## **Meeting Summary**

### **Policy Review Panel & Technical Peer Review Committee**

**Friday, January 9, 2009: 9:30-3:30**

**Redding National University: 2195 Larkspur Lane, Ste. 200, Redding, CA 96002**

## **Attendees**

### **Policy Review Panel**

Supervisor Jimmy Smith, Chairman, County of Humboldt  
Councilmember Jake Mackenzie, Vice-chairman, County of Sonoma  
Supervisor Marcia Armstrong, County of Siskiyou  
Supervisor Jill Duffy, County of Humboldt  
Supervisor Carre Brown, County of Mendocino  
Supervisor Kendall Smith, County of Mendocino  
Randy Poole (representing Paul Kelley), County of Sonoma  
Mark Lancaster, County of Trinity

### **Technical Peer Review Committee**

Kirk Girard, County of Humboldt  
Sandra Perez, County of Trinity  
Marilyn Seward, County of Siskiyou  
Tom Weseloh, County of Humboldt  
Roland Sanford, County of Mendocino  
Wayne Haydon, County of Sonoma

### **Staff**

Lisa Renton, Sonoma County Water Agency  
Jen Jenkins, County of Humboldt  
Devin Theobald, County of Humboldt  
Karen Gaffney, West Coast Watershed

### **Public**

Rebecca Crow, Winzler and Kelly  
Dan Gjerde, City of Fort Bragg  
Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa  
Dero Forslund, County of Trinity  
Susan Price, County of Trinity

### Meeting

Meeting convened at 9:36 by Chairman Smith, introductions of all attendees. Staff provided a list of retiring PRP and TPRC members, and Chair Smith read draft letters acknowledging and appreciating their service to the NCIRWMP.

**Motion:** Supervisor Duffy moved to recognize alumni with letter. Second Supervisor Armstrong. Unanimous.

Agenda review: Randy Poole requested to add an agenda item regarding energy independence federal funding opportunities. This request was placed under the Prop 84 update. Supervisor Marcia Armstrong requested an opportunity to discuss the addition of Siskiyou's water and wastewater infrastructure needs into the North Coast IRWMP. This was included under funding strategies item. Unanimous approval.

Chairman Smith introduced the new appointees to the PRP (Carre Brown, Mendocino County Board of Supervisors) and TPRC (Wayne Haydon, Sonoma County, California Geologic Survey) and noted that David Lewis would return in May 2009 from sabbatical.

Jen Jenkins and Kirk Girard provided an update on the implementation contract and planning grant, including the stop work order, impacts thereof, and strategies for addressing this problem.

The PRP unanimously directed staff to write letters on behalf of the PRP to state senators and assembly members to outline the impacts of the suspension of bond funding to North Coast IRWMP projects, and to support the County of Humboldt's request for an exemption from this suspension. The PRP will be copied on these letters. Randy Poole asked Lisa Renton to work with the Sonoma County Water Agency's public information staff to draft and distribute a press release highlighting the economic impacts the suspension of bond funds are having in North Coast communities. County of Humboldt staff will attend and make a statement on behalf of North Coast IRWMP projects at the Pooled Money Investment Board meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento.

Karen Gaffney provided an update on the long-term financing strategy and the evaluation of the structure for the NCIRWMP process - an element of the Prop 50 planning grant. The PRP agreed that they were satisfied with the existing contracting and financial structure, and did not wish to make any changes at this time.

Lisa Renton provided a report on the regional acceptance process.

**Motion:** staff is directed to send a letter of support for the proposed regional acceptance process guidelines. Motion: Duffy Second: Mackenzie. Unanimous.

The County of Humboldt indicated their willingness to submit a Regional Acceptance Process application on behalf of the North Coast Region. Humboldt staff will prepare an agenda item for the Humboldt Board of Supervisor's consideration.

Karen Gaffney and Lisa Renton provided an overview of potential funding strategies under Propositions 84 and 1E, and outlined options including pursuing expedited funding, planning and implementation funds.

Randy Poole provided an update on potential federal funding opportunities, specifically focused on energy independence. Randy noted that Northern California will be a key driver in this process, and the NCIRWMP is a recognized leader and logical nexus. Randy asked if the PRP would be interested in participating in the Economic Stimulus/Local Energy Independence program and identifying local energy, carbon sequestration and conservation projects for potential funding. The group was polled by Supervisor Smith and there was unanimous agreement that the NCIRWMP should participate.

The PRP and TPRC were also polled regarding their preference for the options for pursuing Proposition 84 funding.

**Motion:** Vice-chair Mackenzie moved that PRP adopt option 1 under expedited round (planning/technical assistance for infrastructure for disadvantaged communities); option 1 under planning grant (apply for general planning funds); implementation funding as soon as it becomes available; and asked staff to include the exploration of concepts related to climate, water, energy within the NCIRWMP. Supervisor Kendall Smith – second. Unanimous.

Lisa Renton provided an overview of some constraints on turnaround for legislative or potential funding opportunities for the North Coast. Lisa asked the PRP for authorization of the Chair/Vice-Chair and staff to make non-controversial decisions about NCIRWMP participation in legislative or funding opportunities that require an immediate turnaround time. Supervisor Duffy suggested that staff develop guiding principles for what types of decisions would be made, how PRP is notified, and how the decisions get made.

**Motion:** Supervisor Armstrong moved to direct staff to outline a decision-making approach for review by PRP (e-mail). Second Vice-chair Mackenzie. Unanimous.

**Motion:** Supervisor Duffy moved to allow Chair and Vice-Chair and staff to react as promptly as possible in conducting business in support of NCIRWMP, second Supervisor Armstrong. Unanimous.

Karen Gaffney provided an overview of the request for a letter of intent to develop a Regional Sediment Master Plan.

**Motion:** Mark Lancaster: submit letter of intent subject to review and unanimous support of PRP. Second Vice-chair Mackenzie. Unanimous. Staff will request a timeline extension and also send to the Technical Peer Review Committee for review.

Vice-chair Mackenzie and Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa, gave a presentation on the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's proposed basin plan

amendment regarding low threat discharges and asked the PRP for a letter of support for the proposed amendment.

**Motion:** Mackenzie, staff should draft a letter of support for the low threat discharge amendment. Carre Brown second. Comments – Supervisor Armstrong expressed concerned about another layer of regulation. Lancaster – will require concurrence with the RWQCB BMP. Lancaster does not think that this is a PRP decision, should go to individual Boards of Supervisors. Opposed: Lancaster, Armstrong, Seward. Marcia and Mark would like the opportunity to take this to their boards. Mackenzie asked for the motion to be tabled while individual counties place this in front of their respective boards for consideration. Unanimous.

Karen Gaffney presented options for ongoing project identification, in order to ensure that project proponents are aware of funding opportunities, can be included in the NCIRWMP on an ongoing basis, and to provide a mechanism to continually identify the level of need throughout the region.

**Motion:** Supervisor Duffy moved to have staff develop a website template for ongoing project identification and upload. Second Vice-Chair Mackenzie. Unanimous.

Chairman Smith asked for public comment. Councilmember Dan Gjerde expressed concern regarding funding for City of Fort Bragg infrastructure projects. Roland Sanford, Mendocino County Water Agency, clarified the nexus between the Noyo-Big Integrated Coastal Watershed Management Planning effort and the larger NCIRWMP.

Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 2:35 pm.