



NORTH COAST INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (NCIRWMP) Policy Review Panel (PRP) & Technical Peer Review Committee (TPRC) Meeting Summary

January 19, 10 am – 3 pm, Hampton Inn, 1160 Airport Park Boulevard, Ukiah

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Mackenzie /Vice-Chair Smith convened the meeting at 10:00 am, welcomed the meeting attendees and provided introductory remarks. Meeting attendees introduced themselves. Attendee list attached and can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

The following PRP members formed the meeting quorum: Jake Mackenzie, Leaf Hillman, and Supervisors John McCowen, Jimmy Smith, Efren Carrillo, Kendall Smith, Ryan Sundberg, Judy Morris, and Gerry Hemmingsen.

Review and Approve Agenda

Chair Mackenzie requested that the DWR presentation be moved to after lunch and that the NCIRWMP Project Application, Review and Selection Process be moved 12 pm. The agenda was approved with this change.

Public Comment for items not on the agenda

No public comment

Vice-chair Jimmy Smith welcomed PRP member, Supervisor Gerry Hemmingsen and informed the group that unfortunately, PRP representatives from Modoc and Siskiyou counties were unable to make the meeting due to weather. He also stated that the PRP and TPRC were honored to have TPRC member and Modoc County Planning Director Kimberly Hunter participate in the meeting.

Staff direction: to follow up with all representatives who were unable to attend immediately after the meeting.

Update: Executive Committee action

Karen Gaffney provided a presentation regarding the Executive Committee action; the presentation can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

Update: PRP direction and staff action

Karen Gaffney provided a presentation regarding the PRP direction from the NCIRWMP meeting in July and the staff action; the presentation can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

Update: Regional Administrator – contracts and team members

Kirk Girard provided a Regional Administrator presentation; the presentation can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

Kirk Girard described how SWRCB may suspend additional environmental planning/permitting funding for Orick's Prop 50 implementation project until their draft EIR is complete. Staff has met with the project proponents to develop a plan with defined milestones and decision points to help move the project forward.

Kirk Girard announced that Paul Kelley will join the NCIRWMP staff team to provide outreach throughout the region in support of a number of tasks in the planning grant

Kirk Girard announced that the support grant for small, rural and disadvantaged community (DAC) water supply and wastewater service providers was currently under contract with the County of Humboldt. He described how the first step of the project will be to identify the need in the region including the funding needs. Other elements of the project include developing support systems and providing a blueprint to DWR to enable the program to be replicated statewide. He stated that this project will include Tribal outreach and Tribal water suppliers/wastewater entities, and that he will coordinate closely with the RCAC Tribal staff. He indicated that NCIRWMP representatives and other regional associations will receive an announcement for a kick off meeting that will provide opportunities for participation.

Vice-chair Smith explained that this concept originated from the need identified during the Prop 50 implementation grant solicitation. He described how Paul Kelley was involved in the development of the original concept of directing and creating a movement to investigate options for using the NCIRWMP framework to assist DAC and CSDs

Supervisor Kendall Smith suggested that the NCIRWMP should consider folding the State Parks into this program as they could be considered as DACs with failing water systems.

Update: DWR tentative schedule & funding opportunities

Katherine Gledhill provided a presentation regarding DWR's tentative schedule and upcoming funding opportunities; the presentation can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

Update: Legislative news

Tim Anderson, Public Affairs Department, SCWA provided a summary of legislative news:

1. FUNDING FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE – FUTURE IRWM PROGRAMS

WATER BOND 2012 - David Cogdill (R)

North Coast would receive \$315 million for water supply reliability and other water management programs and projects on the North Coast, including:

- Local water storage
- Wastewater treatment
- Water efficient fixtures and meters
- Drought relief
- Dam removal on the Klamath River
- Safe drinking water projects
- Eligible for share of \$3.38 billion in other funding

Designates \$50 million to the Coastal Conservancy for coastal salmon restoration projects. Designates \$45 million for projects under the North Coast IRWM

WATER BOND STATUS

Scheduled for the November 2012 Ballot; would require 2/3s vote to remove or change the bond.

2. FUNDING FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE - WATER PUBLIC GOODS CHARGE

Proposed last term by Sen. Simitian, SB-34

- Alternative to the Water Bond
- Flat fee on retail water deliveries and on agricultural water deliveries
- 50% for statewide infrastructure, 50% for regional programs.

3. ALLOCATION OF AB-32 REVENUES

Governor has proposed that \$1 billion in future carbon revenue be allocated by the state in the FY12-13 budget. \$5.8 billion over 8 years would be directed to CPUC. CPUC opened a proceeding to decide on allocation of the funds. Current recommendations include use of all of the funds for direct payments to utility ratepayers (known as ratepayer relief). A competing proposal suggests that 15% of these funds be used for investments including local government programs. The legislature will take up the issue in the current session.

4. FUNDING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY

Utilities collect money from utility rate payers via the Public Goods Charge. Legislative authorization for the charge expired at year end. Former uses of the funds include the following:

- \$250 million per year for energy efficiency programs
- \$73 million per year for renewable energy programs
- \$70 million per year for RD&D

CPUC continued the program administratively through 2012 and is considering a further extension. It is expected that the legislature will address this in the coming session. Parties are urging the CPUC to allocate a share of the funds for local government energy efficiency programs.

SGC Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and interview input

Karen Gaffney outlined the process to date in the SGC grant application and reviewed the memo sent to the PRP. Staff has worked with SGC staff to review the concept for the NCIRWMP proposal and SGC staff has stated that they are supportive of the approach and suggested that the NCIRWMP apply for \$2 M. Staff is working with engineering, climate change and economic experts to develop the grant and submit via the FFAST program. Karen provided some background information about the approach and the components of the application as provided in the meeting materials

(<http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>).

PRP members expressed support for the approach and stated the staff had done a good job synthesizing the input from the July NCIRWMP meeting and PRP interviews. Grant Davis and others suggested that the funding match should reflect the larger contribution from the region.

Supervisor Morris stated that North Coast counties are required to comply with GHG emission regulations by the state even though they are not the emitters and would like to see an opportunity to balance it with credits for maintaining healthy forest and water benefits. She expressed that the SGC grant should focus on

energy independence and economic independence as short and long term economic vitality is key to sustainable communities.

Supervisor Kendall Smith suggested that the SGC grant should include regional aspects of effective transportation and networking, to blueprint a process that integrates the COGs on a regional basis.

NCIRWM Planning: Tentative schedule (2-3 years)

Karen Gaffney provided a presentation regarding the NCIRWMP schedule over the next 3 years as defined by the NCIRWM planning grant; the presentation can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

NCIRWM Planning: PRP interview summary: next phase of NCIRWM Plan

Karen Gaffney provided a presentation listing key points made by PRP members during the PRP interviews and the PRP interview summary was passed out to meeting participants. The PRP interview summary and presentation can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

Grant Davis suggested that a one day strategic planning session be convened to refine the strategies for the next phase of the planning effort and to overcome the regional challenges identified in the interviews.

NCIRWM Planning: NCIRWMP Leadership action at the local level

Chair Mackenzie suggested that PRP members request board presentations for their respective boards and councils as a mechanism to provide outreach and education about the NCIRWMP. He also stated that there will be workshop opportunities as part of the planning grant that will be a mechanism for outreach, and that PRP members would be encouraged to host these workshops in their counties or Tribal areas.

Vice-chair Smith stated that presentations to boards and councils are key to the success of the program, but most importantly ensure that the small, rural and economically disadvantaged communities have the support, funding and voice that they deserve.

Karen Gaffney stated that whenever staff goes to North Coast communities to perform presentations and interviews they receive invaluable information to inform NCIRWMP planning updates

NCIRWMP Project Application, Review and Selection Process: General Process Description

Karen Gaffney facilitated a discussion regarding NCIRWMP Project Application, Review and Selection Process referenced in the meeting materials which can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

Supervisor McCowen suggested stylistic changes to the general process description including adding on page 10, 'TPRC members shall review all projects they are assigned unless they recuse themselves because of potential conflict of interest'.

There was general consensus on General Process Description and approach with Supervisor McCowen's suggestions.

Motion: Supervisor McCowen; second Supervisor Morris. Unanimous

NCIRWMP Project Application, Review and Selection Process: NCIRWMP Conflict of Interest Policy

Kirk Girard described that the ad-hoc committee wanted a California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC)-plus policy and Supervisors McCowen and Smith stated that the ad-hoc committee had deliberated on this issue at length to come up with a structured policy to provide transparency for the project proponents and public.

Supervisor Carrillo expressed concern that worthy projects would not be considered or evaluated because of some perceived conflict.

Vice-chair Smith described that the TPRC team is the fire wall and should have a sound conflict of interest policies. He suggested that the policy should be reviewed by county counsel.

There was general consensus to move forward with conflict of interest policy after Humboldt and Mendocino County counsel review the proposed policy.

Motion: Vice-chair Smith; second Supervisor McCowen; unanimous.

NCIRWMP Project Application, Review and Selection Process: PRP Directed Guidelines for Project Scoring and Selection

Kirk Girard provided an introduction and described the thinking of the ad-hoc committee.

Vice-chair Smith described the origins of the “no county left behind” criterion. He stated that when you hand the TPRC members a set of numeric and mechanistic criteria you run the risk of forcing the review to a particular outcome which may not meet the objectives of the NCIRWMP. He stated that having targets is useful but it was important to maintain TPRC flexibility to allow for recommendations based on technical understanding.

Supervisor Hemmingsen suggested leaving out item C under regional Representation (Project selection should not take into account past funding round amounts)

Supervisor Smith stated that she sees the importance of targets and flexibility however determining where the flexibility occurs in the process is key to the developing effective criteria and guidelines.

Grant Davis stated that the goals of integration have changed based on funding levels.

Ad-hoc committee direction: the PRP Directed Guidelines for Project Scoring and Selection are moving in the right direction and should be developed with more clarity

NCIRWMP Project Application, Review and Selection Process: On-going Project Inclusion Process into NCIRWM Plan

Supervisor McCowen suggested stylistic changes to provide a more active voice.

There was general consensus to adopt the project inclusion process with Supervisor McCowen’s suggested edits.

Motion: Supervisor Hemmingsen; second Supervisor Morris. Unanimous.

NCIRWMP Project Application, Review and Selection Process: Project Budget Under-runs and Funding Reallocation Process

There was general consensus to approve recommendations for the Project Budget Under-runs and Funding Reallocation Process.

Motion: Supervisor Kendall Smith; Supervisor Morris second; Unanimous.

Presentation: DWR Northern Region Office - Organization & Available Resources

Margie Graham, Dept. of Water Resources, Northern Region Office; the presentation can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

Presentation: Russian River Watershed Association, Update on Draft Phase II MS4 permit

Virginia Porter, Executive Director, Russian River Watershed Association; the presentation can be found at <http://www.northcoastirwmp.net/docs.php?ogid=1000002175>.

Public Comment

No public comment

Next meeting date confirmation: April 19th, Yreka

Meeting adjourned at **3:25**

Meeting Attendees

Policy Review Panel Members

Chair: Vice-Mayor Jake Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park, Sonoma County
Vice-Chair: Supervisor Jimmy Smith, Humboldt County
Supervisor Gerry Hemmingsen, Del Norte County
Supervisor Ryan Sundberg, Humboldt County
Supervisor John McCowen, Mendocino County
Supervisor Kendall Smith, Mendocino County
Supervisor Efren Carrillo, Sonoma County
Supervisor Judy Morris, Trinity County
Leaf Hillman, Karuk Tribe

Technical Peer Review Committee Members

Kirk Girard, Director of Community Development Services, Humboldt County
Patty Madigan, Mendocino County RCD, Mendocino County
Sean White, Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District, Mendocino County
Kimberly Hunter, Planning Director, Modoc County
Dale Roberts, Engineer, Sonoma County Water Agency, Sonoma County
Wayne Haydon, California Geologic Survey, Sonoma County
Toz Soto, Karuk Tribe

Staff and Public

Grant Davis, Sonoma County Water Agency
Tim Andersen, Sonoma County Water Agency
Paul Kelley, Strategic Initiative Facilitation
Margie Graham, North District DWR
Chris Watt, LACO Associates
Tony Shaw, LACO Associates
Matt O'Connor, O'Connor Environmental
Virginia Porter, RRWA
Karen Gaffney, West Coast Watershed
Katherine Gledhill, West Coast Watershed