

# Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

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## AGENDA Board Meeting 34274 State Highway 16 Woodland, CA 95695 Tuesday, April 1, 2008 7:00 P.M.

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In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability and need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, then please contact Christina Cobey at (530) 662-0265 or (530) 662-4982 fax. Requests must be made as early as possible, and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting.

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## AGENDA

- 7:00 1. Board Consideration: The Board will consider adoption of the minutes of the March 4, 2008 Regular, March 21, 2008 and November 30, 2007 Special Board Meetings.
- 7:02 2. Open forum (Limited to five minutes): Guest introductions, unscheduled appearances and opportunity for public comment on non-agenda items.
- 7:07 3. Board Consideration: Adding Items to the Posted Agenda.  
In order to add an item to the agenda, it must fit one of the following categories:  
a) A majority determination that an emergency (as defined by the Brown Act) exists; or  
b) A 4/5ths determination that the need to take action that arose subsequent to the agenda being posted.
- 7:10 4. Rate Hearing: Hearing to receive comments and recommendations regarding increasing District water rates with potential action to increase water rates.
- 7:30 5. Board Presentation: Quagga Muscle prevention presentation by Lake County staff.
- 8:00 6. Board Consideration: Farmers Central Ditch Quitclaim to the City of Woodland.
- 8:10 7. Board Consideration: Consider rescheduling the date for Regular May 2008 Board meeting.
- 8:12 8. Staff Report: Update regarding the canal capacity and drought preparedness program.

- 8:30 9. Staff Report: Update regarding floodSAFE Yolo – pilot program.
- 8:35 10. Directors’ Reports: Each member of the Board will have the opportunity to report on meetings and conferences attended during the prior month on behalf of the District.
- 8:40 11. Attorney’s Report: The District’s attorney will report on current legal and legislative activities.
- 8:50 12. General Manager’s Report: The Board will receive a report from the General Manager or designated representatives regarding current general activities and projects of the District.  
a) Operations, Maintenance and Water Conditions  
b) General Activities
- 9:00 13. General Discussion: Opportunity for Board members to ask questions for clarification, provide information to staff, request staff to report back on a matter, or direct staff to place a matter on a subsequent agenda.
- 9:05 14. Board Consideration: The Board will consider the approval and the payments of bills.
- 9:10 15. Adjourn

The public may address the Board concerning an agenda item either before or during the Board’s consideration of that agenda item. Public comment on items within the Board’s jurisdiction is welcome, subject to reasonable time limits for each speaker. Upon request, agenda items may be moved up to accommodate those in attendance wishing to address that item. Times listed for consideration of agenda items are approximate only. The Board may consider any agenda item at any time during the Board meeting.

I declare that the foregoing agenda was posted at the office of the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, CA on March 28, 2008.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christina Cobey, Administrative Assistant



Y O L O C O U N T Y  
FLOOD CONTROL &  
WATER CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 1, 2008, 7:00 PM

YCFCWCD Offices  
34274 State Highway 16  
Woodland, CA 95695

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The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) was held at 7:00 p.m. on April 1, 2008, at its regular place of business, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, California. Chair Vink convened the meeting. In attendance were:

District Board

Erik Vink, Chair  
Ron Tadlock, Vice Chair  
Ann Brice, Director  
Bruce Rominger, Director  
Dave Scheuring, Director

District Staff and Consultants

Tim O'Halloran, General Manager  
Christy Barton, Assistant General Manager  
Fran Borcalli, Flood Management Program Manager  
Mike Horgan, District Engineer  
Margaret Kralovec, Writer/Editor  
Jen Reed, Project Manager  
Max Stevenson, Water Resources Associate  
Paul Bartkiewicz, Legal Counsel  
Dan Holmes, Librarian Consultant

Members of the Public

Duane Chamberlain, Chair, Yolo County Board of Supervisors  
John Facque  
Pam Francis, Deputy Director, Lake County Water Resources  
Greg Giguere  
Karl Giguere  
Frank Hailey  
Shirley Griffin Hailey  
Dan Howe  
Dolores Neilson  
Don Rominger, Retired District Director  
Dave Pratt  
Robert Ramming  
Rod Scheaffer

Bob Schneider, Tuleyome

**1. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Approval of Minutes**

- 8.8 M/S/C approved minutes for the March 4, 2008, Regular Board Meeting, and the November 30, 2007, and March 21, 2008, Special Board Meetings as submitted.

**2. OPEN FORUM**

No items.

**3. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Adding Items to the Posted Agenda**

Agenda Item 5 to be moved to Item 4.

**4. BOARD PRESENTATION: Quagga Mussel Prevention, Lake County**

Lake County Water Resources Division Deputy Director Pam Francis thanked the Board for providing her with the opportunity to address them on the topic of Lake County's Quagga Mussel Prevention Program. She added that the working relationship between the staff of Lake County and District staff continues to be strong. Accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation, Francis provided an overview of the quagga mussel threat to Lake County and the importance of preventing an infestation, beginning with an introduction to the species and its potential to invade local waterways, to disrupt the food chain, and to encrust all available surfaces. Francis described the potential economic impact of the quagga mussel and the actions taken by the State to prevent its spread into uninfested areas such as Lake County. She indicated that the Lake County Board of Supervisors was not satisfied with the state's response, and was developing a more proactive approach to block their invasion in Clear Lake and other local waters. Francis described the Lake County Aquatic Invasive Mussel Inspection Sticker Program. Lake County residents are required to provide an affidavit agreeing to comply with the clean vessel policy to obtain their stickers which are visibly displayed on their vessels. In addition to providing a signed affidavit, out-of-county vessel owners must submit their vessel for an invasive mussel inspection. Vessels which fail inspection will not be permitted to launch in Lake County, and can be reinspected only with proof of decontamination. Decontamination requires a high pressure washing of the vessels with 140° water. Inspection stations are to be located on Highways 20, 175, and 16. Francis indicated that protecting Lake County from quagga mussels can happen only with diligence and partnership among agencies, and she invited the District to support the County's efforts to prevent the introduction of quagga mussels into Lake County waters.

**5. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Rescheduling May 2008 Regular Board Meeting**

- 8.9 M/S/C change to the May 2008 Regular Board Meeting date from May 6 to May 13, 2008 because of a conflict with the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) conference.

**6. RATE HEARING**

Chair Vink opened the public hearing for consideration of a rate increase for the upcoming 2008

water delivery season. General Manager O'Halloran opened the hearing with a brief review of recent District actions leading to the rate increase request, in keeping with the requirements of Proposition 218. A notice of rate increase was sent to District landowners and water users on February 13 that outlined different rate scenarios depending on available water supplies. The total current supply is 255,000 acre feet (a.f.) in both Clear Lake and Indian Valley Reservoir, and the expected irrigation release, based on March 15 sign-ups by water users, is 220,000 a.f.. O'Halloran explained that if the actual demand exceeds the supply, the District can either allocate irrigation water or shorten the irrigation season that typically runs long to accommodate certain crops. Users who have expressed a preference to O'Halloran have preferred the option of shortening the season rather than allocating irrigation water, in the event that supplies prove insufficient to meet demand. O'Halloran added that he hopes to institute the pump incentive pilot program this season, which could help extend water availability.

Based on water supplies, O'Halloran presented the Board with a rate recommendation of \$17.50/a.f. for agricultural uses, \$50/a.f. for non-agricultural uses, and that other rates based on the agriculture and non-agriculture rates be adjusted accordingly. O'Halloran briefly previewed a 2008 budget total of \$4.4 million, from water sales (\$3 million based on proposed rates), hydroelectric sales (\$300,000), property taxes (\$800,000), and reserves (\$300,000).

Director Scheuring indicated surprise that reserves were included in the projected budget. O'Halloran responded that the alternative to using reserves was to lower the budget, and he would be working with the Finance Committee on that option. In response to a question from the public, O'Halloran indicated that the District's four reserve funds, divided into those set aside for drought and those for capital improvements, total about \$7 million.

In terms of covering the anticipated \$2 million for capital improvements, O'Halloran explained that such expenses could not be paid for by rate increases without driving water users out of business. Grants, cost reductions, energy alternatives, and programs that spread overhead might offer ways to address the anticipated expenditures.

Karl Giguiere, who stated his objection to a decision for a short season because vineyards need water late in the season, asked when the season might end. O'Halloran responded that the supply/demand situation is right on the edge, and though more rains might arrive in April, that might not happen. It will be monitored through the season. A shut-down date is always determined by supply and demand. Furthermore, O'Halloran noted that the pump incentive program might help move the District toward a vision of active conjunctive use, and inspire an approach to groundwater utilization that could lead to more surface supply.

In response to an inquiry about the differential between the budgeted water sales income based on 170,000 a.f., and the expected release of 225,000 a.f., O'Halloran explained that delivery efficiency is reduced by 25% due to evaporation and infiltration.

The proposed non-agriculture water rate of \$50/a.f. is applicable mostly in Lake County and for golf courses and water trucks. In addition, the District will be charging \$5/a.f. to water users for "wheeling" rates, currently set at \$1/day, for moving their own water in the District's canals.

With no further public comments, Chair Vink declared the Public Hearing closed. No public protests were received by mail.

- 8.10** M/S/C increase 2008 water rates to \$17.50 for agricultural uses, \$50 for non-agricultural uses, and other rates based on those 2008 rates are to be set accordingly.

**7. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Farmers Central Ditch Quitclaim to City of Woodland**

District Engineer Horgan presented the Board with the issues related to the Farmers Central Ditch between East Street and County Road 101, which is now developed on both sides. It is currently used for periodic drainage. Two applications for water deliveries have been received for property east of East Street. According to an experienced property appraiser, the value to the District of this segment of the Farmers Central Ditch is nominal. The City of Woodland would accept the District's obligations and interest in order to utilize it as a utility and transportation corridor in accordance with the City's Spring Lake Specific Plan.

Director Rominger asked whether water would continue to be delivered east of Hwy 113 in light of a slowdown in development, with a concern about creating fallow land by cutting off surface water. Horgan indicated that there were wells on the property. Horgan also indicated that Woodland has provided written indication that their system will accommodate needs, including drainage needs during winter flows.

- 8.11** M/S/C adoption of Resolution No. 08.02 declaring a portion of the Farmers Central Ditch as surplus real property, and authorizing a quitclaim of that portion to the City of Woodland.

**8. STAFF REPORT: Canal Capacity and Drought Preparedness Program**

O'Halloran reported that staff and District Legal Counsel Bartkiewicz developed a draft agreement that will be presented to the Board at the May Board Meeting. The incentive program is designed to utilize private wells when they are not otherwise in use for purposes of improving canal capacity or in drought circumstances. Identifying and defining the incentives is important: tenants are interested in operations and maintenance incentives while landowners are interested in capital maintenance incentives. Approximately 10 agreements are slated for approval. O'Halloran indicated that he would like to get the program moving sooner than next month's Regular Board Meeting, and that he might request a Special Board Meeting to accommodate the shorter time frame.

**9. STAFF REPORT: floodSAFE Yolo pilot program**

Program Manager Fran Borcalli reported that the District was able to capture data that, combined with a detailed topographic study by the Department of Water Resources, will provide countywide topographic data. The data is expected to be available by late summer or early fall. Concerns about vegetation growth interfering with the quality of the data were not realized.

**10. DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

Chair Vink reported that the March 27, 2008, 2x2x2 meeting of the District, Yolo County, and the City of Woodland was a good meeting at which Borcalli and O'Halloran led a discussion of floodSAFE Yolo. Director Scheuring indicated that he was concerned about how to go public with the project, a topic left unresolved at this meeting. There was a determination to gather

again to discuss outreach on floodSAFE Yolo.

Chair Vink reported on the March 19 Northern California Water Association (NCWA) meeting on Bay-Delta policy, with many legislators briefing NCWA representatives.

## **11. ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

District Legal Counsel Bartkiewicz reported on recent activity related to Bay-Delta water issues and the State Water Resources Control Board. Because Cache Creek lacks hydraulic continuity with the Delta, the District has no obligation to water quality issues in the Delta at this time. NCWA is concerned that the Strategic Workplan's reliance upon the public trust doctrine for balancing competing demands for Bay-Delta water may place an unfair burden upon upstream holders of water rights as established by the water right priority system. NCWA could support a Delta conveyance system, but under a "beneficiary pay" principal that protects upstream water interests.

## **12. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **a. Operations, Maintenance, and Water Conditions**

O'Halloran thanked the Operations and Maintenance staff for the work they accomplished over the past six weeks during which they completed a number of important tasks while water was out of certain canals.

For the first time, SCADA was used to control releases at the Cache Creek Dam. O'Halloran noted the contributions of staff members Tim Ireland, Max Stevenson, and other contributors who helped oversee this new SCADA application, which is expected to provide flexibility in labor management at the dam.

O'Halloran reported that the hydroelectric system at Indian Valley (IV) is operational.

### **b. General Activities**

The District is continuing to develop its administrative processes, including its data base, and electronic and paper filing systems. Librarian Dan Holmes has been developing a union catalog of known Cache Creek information in Yolo County collections (e.g., the District, UC Davis, the Yolo County Resource Conservation District, the Water Resources Association of Yolo County, and Yolo County records). The catalog contains more than 5,000 citations, and every reference includes the locations for every document. The catalog will soon be available through the Water Resources Archive as a public service.

O'Halloran noted that the damtender disputes have been successfully concluded.

Tim Quinn, Executive Director of ACWA visited the District. He advocated building sustainability into irrigation systems, and maximizing current supplies with green strategies.

Assistant General Manager Barton notified the Board that required training on sexual harassment issues will be scheduled by Christina Cobey. The online course takes about two hours.

**13. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Director Rominger asked about the correct forum for addressing income needs and gravel income. Chair Vink and Vice Chair Tadlock as the Finance Committee will discuss the issue with staff.

**14. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Payment of Bills**

**8.12** M/S/C approval for the following claim(s) for payment:

Yolo Flood Control Checks: # 40535-40562

**15. ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

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Erik Vink, Chair

ATTEST:

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Tim O'Halloran, Secretary



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