

# Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

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## AGENDA Board Meeting 34274 State Highway 16 Woodland, CA 95695 Tuesday, September 2, 2008 7:00 P.M.

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Documents and materials relating to an open session item that are provided to the District Board less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting will be available for public inspection and copying at 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, CA.

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 August 5, 2008 Regular Board Meeting.
- 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. Board Consideration: End of irrigation season issues.  
a) Review of water releases from storage criteria; and  
b) Application of “wheeling” rate for post-season water deliveries.
- 7:30 5. Board Update: Capay Dam capital improvement project.
- 8:00 6. Staff Presentation: District goals review.
- 8:20 7. Board Consideration: Adoption of policy protecting whistle blowers.
- 8:25 8. Board Update: Pilot Groundwater Pump Program status report.

- 8:30 9. 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.
- 8:35 10. Attorney's Report: The District's attorney will report on the following:  
a) Current legal and legislative activities.
- 8:45 11. 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) General Activities  
b) Operations, Maintenance and Water Conditions
- 8:55 12. 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.
- 9:00 13. Board Consideration: The Board will consider the approval and the payments of bills.
- 9:05 14. 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 August 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, September 2, 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 September 2, 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  
Jim Mayer, Director  
Bruce Rominger, Director

District Staff and Consultants

Tim O'Halloran, General Manager  
Christy Barton, Assistant General Manager  
Mike Horgan, District Engineer  
Margaret Kralovec, Writer/Editor  
Max Stevenson, Water Resources Associate  
Paul Bartkiewicz, Legal Counsel  
George Sabol, Stantec Consulting, Inc.

Members of the Public

Blake Harlan  
Dave Pratt  
Don Rominger, Retired YCFC&WCD Director  
Bob Schneider, Tuleyome  
Blair Voelz, Chair, Yolo County Resource Conservation District

**8.30** **1. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Approval of Minutes**  
M/S/C approved minutes for the August 5, 2008, Regular Board Meeting as submitted.

**2. OPEN FORUM**

No comments were made.

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

No items.

**4. BOARD CONSIDERATION: End of Irrigation Season Issues**

a. Review of Water Releases From Storage Criteria

General Manager O'Halloran updated the Board on current levels and governing considerations for water storage levels, including the Solano Decree for Clear Lake, and fishery and Spring Valley requirements for Indian Valley Reservoir. He projected the end of the 2008 irrigation release season to be September 16, 2008, but that projection relies upon as-yet unknown water requests in the coming days.

b. Application of "Wheeling" Rate for Post-Season Deliveries

O'Halloran presented challenges of charging a set wheeling rate to farmers who want to use District canals to move their own water after the season ends. According to rates set last May, the District can charge a wheeling rate of up to \$5 a day. Unknowns include the number of people who intend to use the canals to move their water, the percentage of those users who would inform the District, and the amount of staff time involved in the process. Furthermore, a flat rate, while simplest to administer, offers some inherent inequities to users. Blake Harlan proposed that farmers must consider the benefits of moving water against the losses occurring as a result, which may offset those benefits. Don Rominger thought that few users would opt to use the canals for moving their water. Director Mayer suggested the District look at their experience this fall, and consider setting appropriate charges in the future based on that information. O'Halloran stated that because cooperative conjunctive use takes place in an environment of good faith among all water parties, he would support foregoing charging a wheeling charge, Legal Counsel Bartkiewicz indicated that the discussion of wheeling rates satisfied the definition of policy direction and required no motion from the Board to permit O'Halloran to proceed with preparing for off-season canal usage.

**5. BOARD UPDATE: Capay Dam Capital Improvement Project**

Stantec Consultant George Sabol reported on progress of the Capay Dam rehabilitation activities. Stantec has considered numerous options for replacing the dam's apron, the most vulnerable problem challenging the integrity of the dam, and has eliminated all but five options for the District's consideration. Remaining options are similar in design, but differ in the kind of concrete used. Rolled, compacted concrete offers a relatively new dam construction material that is quick to install and structurally comparable to the more traditional steel-reinforced structural concrete. Vice Chair Tadlock expressed his confidence in the quality of reinforced structural concrete, and his unfamiliarity with the quality of a rolled, compacted concrete product. Stantec recommends the Board adopt Option 1, but Sabol described each of the five options for consideration. The apron repair must be completed within a narrow construction

window following the irrigation season and preceding the winter rainy season because the water behind the dam must be emptied out. Stantec also recommends that Option 1 be paired with a Grade Control Structure placed downstream, which would consist of a concrete structure that would not extend above the streambed, but which would stop degradation of the bed at the site, and provide a standard by which to measure streambed degradation nearby. The left and right abutment walls show signs of unevenly mixed concrete consistent with construction quality at the time of the dam's construction, and concrete cracks and holes. In spite of visible wear to both walls, Stantec's assessment concludes that the walls are structurally adequate.

Stantec also assessed the feasibility of hydropower using three possible scenarios: year around discharge, non-irrigation season discharge only, and variable discharge throughout the year. Sabol reported their analysis revealed a positive benefit only in the case of a constant year-around discharge through a Capay Dam hydro plant of more 100-150 cfs, which makes it an impractical option for the District under current circumstances.

As regards future fish passage, Stantec feels that current rehabilitation options under consideration for the Capay Dam would not preclude the installation of a fish passage at a later date should one be desired or required.

On other topics, Sabol reported the need for environmental compliance and permitting on approved work, an easement boundary survey on either side of the dam, and an inspection of the upstream face of the dam and its headworks, scheduled to occur this October.

Sabol indicated that Stantec would be providing a scope of work for developing final design plans and construction management services to the District in the middle of September, 2008, with construction possible for next fall.

## **6. STAFF PRESENTATION: District Goals Review**

General Manager O'Halloran provided an overview of District goals as an introduction for newly appointed Director Mayer, and as a refresher for other Directors in preparation for a possible strategic planning retreat. O'Halloran noted existing conditions related to business transition planning, declining infrastructure, financial sustainability, and outreach, and then reported on District progress or status in each area. He also noted a retrospective of events and initiatives over the last few years that have absorbed the time and attention of District staff. O'Halloran completed his presentation with a look at the District's current focus on drought response, conjunctive use, County water governance, information management, and the rehabilitation of Capay Dam, noting that all aspects of the District's efforts must continue to be evaluated in light of their relevance to the District's purpose, as expressed in its Mission Statement.

Prior to the next Board meeting, O'Halloran and Chair Vink are to work on establishing a Board retreat date in January or February, 2009.

## **7. BOARD CONSIDERATION: Adoption of Policy Protecting Whistle Blowers**

Assistant General Manager Barton presented proposed wording for a District whistle blower policy that establishes a protected means for employees to bring information to the District's attention. Legal Counsel Bartkiewicz tailored whistle blower policy language for District

adoption. Once adopted, such a policy is to become part of the employee handbook.

**8.31 M/S/C adoption of policy protecting whistle blowers.**

**8. BOARD UPDATE: Pilot Groundwater Pump Program Status Report**

General Manager O'Halloran announced that West Yost Consultant deBarruel will be providing a final report with analysis of the 2008 pilot pump program later in the fall. Yolo County Resource Conservation District Director Voelz and O'Halloran agreed to meet to discuss lessons learned and potential for implementing a pump program for Dunnigan Water District.

**9. DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

None.

**10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Legal Counsel Bartkiewicz informed the Board that Assembly Bill 2175, which would have mandated water conservation for agricultural as well as for municipal and industrial uses, failed to pass. Though District income from property taxes has not yet been appropriated to help resolve the State's budget shortfalls, discussions continue and this option remains a possibility. Bartkiewicz noted that Northern California Water Association remains active in Delta issues, and in the development of the Delta Vision report expected to be published in October. While the Delta Vision advisory committee does not have the authority to establish new policies, the legislature is actively considering the implementation of its proposals in a first phase which addresses water quality standards, and a second phase which addresses water rights, including those of upstream users. He also indicated that the proposed Water Bond is not going to make the November ballot.

**11. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

a. General Activities

General Manager O'Halloran reported that the District will be restarting 2x2 meetings with the Lake County Board of Supervisors. Director Rominger and Chair Vink will represent the District at the September 2x2, on a date yet to be determined.

b. Operations, Maintenance, and Water Conditions

Topic covered in Agenda Item 4.

**12. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

General Manager O'Halloran announced that Program Manager Reed had prepared a District booth for the Yolo County Fair, and had earned a blue ribbon for the display.

O'Halloran reminded Board Members of the availability of two tickets per Director to the Yolo Land Trust fundraiser event on Sunday, September 7, 2008.

Director Rominger restated the importance of obtaining a detailed analysis of the pilot pump program in order for the Board to participate with informed decision-making about the future of the program.

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

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

Yolo Flood Control Checks: # 41291-41305

**14. 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