

**GLENN COUNTY
WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Glenn County Department of Agriculture
720 North Colusa St., P.O. Box 351, Willows, CA 95988
Phone: (530) 934-6501 Fax: (530) 934-6503

E-mail: wateradv@countyofglenn.net Web Page: www.glenncountywater.org

MINUTES

Meeting Date: April 14, 2009

Time: 1:30 pm

Place: Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
344 East Laurel Street
Willows, CA 95988

Water Advisory Committee Members Present:

David Alves	Princeton-Codora-Glenn ID
Thad Bettner	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
Larry Domenighini	Glenn County Farm Bureau
Leigh McDaniel	Glenn County Supervisor
Mark Lohse	BOS District 5 P P
Larry Maben	BOS District 3 Private Pumpers
Rosanna Marino	City of Willows
Del Reimers	West Colusa Basin P P
Ted Trimble	Western Canal Water District
Mike Vereschagin	Orland-Artois Water District
James Weber	East Corning Basin P P

Water Advisory Committee Members Absent:

Donnan Arbuckle	Resource Conservation District
Jack Baber	Reclamation District No. 1004
Gene Clark	Reclamation Dist # 2106 & 1004
Bob Coruccini	Willow Creek Mutual Water Co.
Wade Danley	Kanawha Water District
Joel Mann	Glide Water District
Jere Schmitke	City of Orland
Ken Sullivan	OUWUA
Elwood Weller	Provident Irrigation District

Technical Advisory Committee Members Present:

Mark Black	Glenn Co. Dept. of Agriculture
Lance Boyd	PID/PCGID
Andrew Farrar	East Area
Kelly Staton	Department of Water Resources
Ben Pennock	Central Area

Others in Attendance:

Tina Brothers	WAC/TAC Secretary
Eugene Massa Jr.	CBDD
Lester Messina	Glenn Co. Dept. of Agriculture
Bill Menke	GCID
Dan Ramos	Capay Rancher
Andrea Schmid	Newfields
Rachelle Valverde	GCID

- I. INTRODUCTIONS: Those in attendance introduced themselves.

- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from February 18, 2009 meeting were approved as mailed.

III. AGENDA ITEMS:

A. **Public Comment:** None.

B. **Discussion & Action Items:**

1. **Continue Discussion on Strategic Planning for Water Resources -**

1) Water Transfer Guidelines Review by TAC. The TAC met and reviewed the guidelines and the only change and recommendation they made is on page 1, ph 2 under Evaluate Water Transfer Guidelines. The TAC recommends considering: Surface water originating in Glenn County. Lester mentioned that the TAC feels that each project needs to be looked at individually as far as a monitoring and/or mitigation program is concerned. Ted Trimble, Western Canal emailed edits and observations that were provided by their counsel regarding this document. Copies were handed out to all present. After review and discussion the WAC decided to send this document back to the sub-committee to review the edits and comments. Thad raised some great questions, however Lester asked that he put them in writing and submit them to the sub-committee for discussion. Mike asked that Ted, Thad and Leigh be present at the next sub-committee also.

2. **Groundwater Levels**

1) Spring DWR Measurements –Lester reviewed the Spring 2009 Groundwater Level measurements spreadsheet along with the corresponding graphs that were provided in the meeting packet. Some Orland/Artois area wells, 21N03W18B02M and 21N03W22H01M (highlighted in red) have been declining for the last two years, now falling below a stage 2. It was recommended for the TAC to start with a review of the 18B02 area and report to the WAC at the next meeting.

Looking at the trends of these two wells, they will decline even more this year and may experience difficulty during the peak of the irrigation season. All yellow highlighted wells are not far from being below the first stages of concern. According to crop reports (1998-2008), Glenn County has had a 30% increase in permanent crops; or an increase of about 18,000 acres. The Department of Agriculture has started gathering all the information we can and compare it with old DWR land and water use surveys along with field visual evaluations. Lester mentioned that he provided this information to see if the WAC wants to have more discussion on land and water use changes as it relates to BMO compliance.

2) Spring BMO Compliance Discussion-Kelly Staton, DWR gave a brief review of a spreadsheet she prepared showing spring 2008 to spring 2009 groundwater elevation change statistics by well depth and well use for Glenn County. There are a total of 136 wells used in the analysis with an average change in groundwater elevation showing a 3.5 feet decrease overall throughout the county. It was suggested to send out a press release regarding this issue.

3) Fall BMO Compliance Discussion-Lester reviewed the previous fall BMO's for groundwater levels in sub-area 9 and 10. Five of the six wells identified as being below the established BMO stage 2 level recovered to being above the average for the period of record for the BMO, taking them out of the stage 2 level. Well #21N02W23G01 did not recover and it was recommended for TAC review and report to the WAC at the next meeting.

3. **Drought Water Bank**

1) Fallowing, Substitution, etc-Ted mentioned that there is a request for up to 80,000 acre feet from the Northern Sacramento Valley. Western Canal may be fallowing ground to provide some water, but if they do not receive answers to their concerns by next week they may consider not participating in the program. Thad does not know what GCID will be doing at this time. Ted mentioned that three environmental groups filed lawsuits against DWR, the BOR, and the Governor yesterday regarding the Drought Water Bank for CEQA violations.

- 2) Local Pumping Programs-That mentioned that the BOR will not allow growers with diesel engines on their wells to be part of a program. Otherwise there are no local pumping programs being considered.
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4. **Water Supply Forecast Changes**
 - 1) CVP Settlement Contractors- 100%
 - 2) CVP Service Contractors- 5%
 - 3) State Contractors- 100%

C. **Communications:** None.

D. **Member Reports:** None.

The next WAC Meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2009 at 1:30 pm.

The next TAC Meeting at this date has not been scheduled.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Sincerely submitted by,
Tina Brothers, WAC/TAC Secretary