

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE FOR THE  
FLORIN RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT/ELK GROVE WATER DISTRICT**

**Wednesday, May 27, 2015  
5:30 PM**

**9257 Elk Grove Blvd.  
Elk Grove, CA 95624**

**Public Comment – Please complete a Request to Speak Form if you wish to address the Board.**

Members of the audience may comment on matters that are not included on the agenda. Each person will be allowed three (3) minutes, or less if a large number of requests are received on a particular subject. No action may be taken on a matter raised under "Public Comment" until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. Items listed on the agenda will be opened for public comment as they are considered by the Board of Directors.

**1. Conservation Committee Minutes (March 4 and March 17, 2015)**

Public Comment

**2. Florin Resource Conservation District Conservation Activities (Information)**

Public Comment

Adjourn to: Next Conservation Committee Meeting to be determined.

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Conservation Committee  
of the  
Florin Resource Conservation District Board of Directors**

**Wednesday, March 4, 2015**

**Attendance:**

Committee Members: Tom Nelson, Vice-Chairman – present  
Elliot Mulberg, Director – present  
Jeanne Sabin, Director – absent

Associate Members: Mike Schmitz – present

Staff: Mark J. Madison, General Manager  
Stefani Phillips, Board Secretary  
Bruce Kamilos, Associate Civil Engineer  
Ellen Carlson, Finance Manager  
Cindy Robertson, Administrative Assistant II (Confidential)

Sloughhouse RCD: Ronald Lowry, Director  
Jay Schneider, Director  
Amanda Platt

Lower Consumnes: Doug Chan, Director  
Mike Stokes, Director

Public: None

This was a posted meeting and no one of the public was present.

**Discussion of Regional Groundwater Management**

Mark J. Madison, General Manager, provided background information as to why the Florin Resource Conservation District (FRCD) is no longer meeting as the 2x2x2 Committee. It was established at the FRCD Board meeting on January 28, 2015 that the FRCD Board would meet as the Conservation Committee.

Introductions were made around the table for all that attended the meeting.

Jay Schneider, Director, Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SHRCD) discussed the history of the Consumnes River water loss; it is not clear where the water is going. A study is being performed. He stated that a goal would be to approach as a group (FRCD, SHRCD, and Lower Consumnes) and actually find out where the water basin is and find a government agency to represent that basin. He stated he would like to give the government agency an opportunity to actually have all the facts. Discussion followed regarding who that government agency would be.

Bruce Kamilos, Associate Civil Engineer, stated that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is gaining traction on reestablishing boundaries based on County lines.

Mr. Madison gave background regarding Groundwater Sustainability 2014 that will lead to groundwater regulatory management. Much discussion followed during the presentation.

Comments and inquiries include:

- Would technology studies be accepted as method to change boundaries?
- Would the state even entertain changing boundaries?
- Who should be the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)?
- Joint Power Authority (JPA) would be a good GSA which is part of the Sacramento County Groundwater Authority (SCGA)
- SHRCD is not interested in teaming up with SCGA
- Who approves GSA?
  - Department of Water Resources will authorize GSA

Mr. Madison stated SCGA is having a board meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 and will be discussing the implementation of the sustainable groundwater management act and suggested all members attend this meeting.

Adjourn to next meeting scheduled March 17, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Stefani Phillips, Board Secretary

SP/CR

## **Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Conservation Committee of the Florin Resource Conservation District Board of Directors**

**Wednesday, March 17, 2015**

### **Attendance:**

Committee Members:	Tom Nelson, Vice-Chairman Elliot Mulberg, Director Mike Schmitz, Associate Director
FRCD/EGWD Staff:	Mark J. Madison, General Manager Stefani Phillips, Board Secretary Bruce Kamilos, Associate Civil Engineer
Sloughhouse RCD:	Ronald Lowry, Director Jay Schneider, Director Amanda Platt, Board Secretary
Lower Consumnes RCD:	Doug Chan, Director Amanda Platt, Board Secretary
Public:	None

### **Public Comment**

Jay Schneider, Director Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SHRCD), provided background on a study regarding the Department Water Resource (DWR) basin in Sacramento County. The title of the study, "Feasibility of groundwater banking under various hydrologic conditions in California USA," was published on June 1, 2014 and it was accepted on June 25, 2014 by Saad Merayyan. He stated that the study defines groundwater banking up to 10,000 acre feet and if not greater than 10,000 acre feet, it would not be beneficial. Amanda Platt will send the link of the study to the group who attended this meeting. He also mentioned a grant opportunity for groundwater banking by Omochumne-Hartnell Water District. The grant calculates what goes into the underground. He then recommended that each RCD participate in regional mitigation.

### **1. Joint Funding Agreement Between Florin Resource Conservation District, Lower Consumnes Resource Conservation District, and Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District for Conservation Grant Services**

Mark J. Madison, General Manager, provided background information on the joint funding agreement between Florin Resource Conservation District (FRCD), Lower Consumnes Resource Conservation District (LCRCD), and Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SHRCD) for conservation grant services. In summary, there was a discussion held after the March 4, 2015 Conservation Committee meeting using a consultant from Conservation Strategy Group, to seek grant monies and look for various opportunities for all three RCD's jointly or independently combining efforts to promote more conservation in the three districts. Everyone in the room agreed to this idea. EGWD staff proposed the idea to the FRCD Board of Directors to authorize staff to enter the joint funding agreement with the two other districts to fund one-third of the total cost which equates to \$4,000/year per RCD. The FRCD has approved this motion and is waiting for the LCRCD and SHRCD Board to meet. The LCRCD and SHRCD are not scheduled to meet until April 8, 2015.

Comments and inquiries include:

- What should the process be for contract?
- Do we want the consultant contracted with one RCD and the other two RCD's back billed?
- Have the three RCD's in a contract with the consultant
- Would the consultant bill each RCD individually?
- Have the invoice come in with all three RCD's names on it, but have the mailing address listed as the FRCD
- Have a joint agreement amongst all three RCD's
- LCRCD and SHRCD to discuss the option of joint funding with their boards
  - This can be sorted out in time
- Have Amanda Platt, Board Secretary, named as point of contact on the bill since she is the staff person for both LCRCD and SHRCD
- SHRCD would like to have the consultant come out and do a presentation

Ms. Platt will let this group know when the LCRCD board meeting will occur so the FRCD can contact the consultant group for a presentation.

FRCD will email Ms. Platt their documentation on the joint funding agreement that was approved.

Ms. Platt will email the FRCD available dates from LCRCD and SHRCD to see when the consultant from the Conservation Strategy Group could meet.

## **2. Discussion of Potential Conservation Activities**

Comments and suggestions include:

- Tri- colored Black Bird
  - A suggestion was made to put in a check dam near the creek that is on the west side of Excelsior and runs to Laguna Creek
  - By adding a check dam it would provide more water to the ground and provide a habitat
  - Nesting areas have been destroyed
  - Is there environmental or permitting challenges that are in existence for the check dam idea?
  - There was a comment made calling this a stock water pond and a suggestion to get a permit through DWR under the stock water pond title
  - Does this water belong to the nursery? Is it their run off?
  - Ms. Platt stated that the CARCD would support this type of project for collaborative efforts
- Bee Pollinator Habitat
  - Ms. Platt handed out the Watershed Coordinator Grant to provide ideas
- Wildlife Conservation Board
  - California Stream Flow Enhancement Program - \$200M that the Wildlife Conservation Board would like to spend and don't know how. California Stream Flow Enhancement Program will fund projects that will enhance stream flows. In order to receive funding projects, they must be consistent with California Water Action Plan and Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan objectives and benefit fish and wildlife.
  - Two interests points:
    - Further the studies to find out where the groundwater is and where to bank it
    - Improving the flows on the Consumnes River
    - Mr. Madison will verify if the money is coming from Proposition 1

- Mr. Madison brought an idea to the group of water trading. He further explained that the water is sent down the Consumnes River to enhance stream flows for either fishery purposes or to help farmers (In turn the supplies could effectively be offset by recycled water through expansions of the Sacramento Regional supplies back to farmers to let the water go back into the Consumnes River).
  - Mr. Madison would like to have a follow up meeting with Mike Wackman and Ms. Platt to further explore this option
- Explore Ground Water Banking
  - Ms. Platt will verify the grant requirements and the grant application process
- Innovation Grant Opportunity
  - Pre-application is due April 10<sup>th</sup> – something to look into next year since the NRCS does this every year
  - Money comes from NRCS
  - Grants are matched at 50%
  - Pre-proposal should not be greater than 3 pages

Mr. Madison stated he would like to encourage each RCD to brainstorm. Mr. Madison stated he would like to have the Conservation Strategy Group Consultant come out and meet to discuss ideas.

ACTION: See if the other RCD's will meet with their boards to see if we can move forward with the consultant.

ACTION: Jay Schneider will ask Jeremy Wire to write a proposal that complies with guidelines and explanations.

Adjourn to next Conservation Committee meeting to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

*Stefani Phillips*

Stefani Phillips, Board Secretary

SP/CR