

**MINUTES OF THE  
NAPA COUNTY TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL  
REGULAR MEETING**



Wednesday, February 22, 2006  
5:30 p.m.

I. Roll Call; Call to Order.

The Napa County Technical Advisory Panel met during regular session on February 22, 2006 with the following members present: Chairperson Dennis Scherzinger; Phill Blake; Dennis Rinehart; Rolf Ohlemutz; Bill Bennett; Tony Norris; Jo Ann Busenbark; and Vice-Chairperson Barbara Stafford. Larry Bahr was excused.

II. Public Comment.

Muriel Fagiani asked if the property on the corner of Soscol Avenue and McKinstry Street has been transferred to the Napa Valley Wine Train and if it would possibly be a better site for the proposed transit center that is part of the Soscol Corridor project rather than it being at the proposed site at Fourth and Sixth Streets. (The property in question is currently owned by the District and was acquired for the sole purpose to relocate the Napa Valley Wine Train parking lot, which was necessary due to the construction of the future bypass channel and to compensate for the loss of parking spaces on Eighth Street.)

Jim Hench stated he has received several questions as to whether or not tide levels have any effect on flooding. Mr. Hench presented a diagram created by Graham Wadsworth, Senior Civil Engineer, City of Napa Public Works Department, in which he superimposed the predicted tide levels during the New Year's Eve flood. The diagram illustrated that there is an effect up to a certain level but then there is no effect at all beyond that point. He would make the diagram available to anyone who requested a copy.

Bernhard Krevet added that he would like to emphasize what Mr. Hench said in that a lot of people make this implication that the tide is actually the cause of flooding and why isn't the Flood Project handling this. When he tries to respond to these questions, the person questions his scope of authority. He would like to request the Panel or District publicize in the Napa Valley Register or on an official site that the tide doesn't have any influence on flooding.

III. Approve Minutes of the January 25, 2006 Regular Meeting.  
Minutes approved.

LB    BB    PB    JB    TN    RO    DR    DS    BS  
X

- IV. Report on Removable Floodwall Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Meeting.  
**Julie Lucido, Civil Engineer, reported on the subcommittee meeting of February 15 with Members Ohlemutz and Bennett in which they discussed the goal of and items related to removable floodwalls and their feasibility. Ms. Lucido went over the starting assumptions, concerns, and criteria to date as outlined in the agenda item staff report. Ms. Lucido went over a map of the Project and trails in respect to the floodwall and stated there are two areas within the Project that may outweigh the risk of having removable floodwalls, which are the areas from Imola Avenue to Tannery Row on the westside of the Napa River, and north of the River Terrace Inn to North Bay Drive. The subcommittee also discussed access to future boat docks, possibly using fill behind the floodwall to lessen the effect of its height, and the possibility of having a permanent stem-base wall in the removable sections at the top. Other items that will be reviewed at future subcommittee meetings would be the Army Corps of Engineers' structural standards for removable floodwalls, FEMA operations requirements, and the review of photos of the two regions identified. Member Ohlemutz added that the group had discussed a lot of criteria but that they should meet again to foster a location-specific suggestion, and the criteria for this would be brought back to the Panel at the next meeting. Member Bennett added that in review of the sites, there might be issues of wall height at the Tannery Row facility but that there didn't appear to be any issues upstream and downstream from this point, as these areas are mainly commercial. Member Bennett had a concern regarding the assembly of removable floodwalls in an emergency situation. The item was opened for discussion.**
- V. Hatt to First Contract Update.  
**Heather Stanton, Project Manager, anticipated a meeting among the relevant parties would take place within a month. (R & L Brosamer had their Value Engineering proposal in place but had not yet submitted it to the Corps of Engineers.)**
- VI. Flood Project Status Report and Update.  
**Rick Thomasser, Watershed and Flood Control Operations Manager, stated there was no change to the construction schedule, but there was the addition of italicizing certain tasks that might be delayed indefinitely if the State Subvention Fund reimbursement, which is in arrears at \$68 million, continues to be at a standstill. The item was opened for discussion.**
- VII. Agenda Items for Future Meetings.  
**Report on Removable Floodwall Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Meeting.**

VIII. General Comments from the Panel. (This is an opportunity for Panel members to informally discuss items and ask questions.)

**Member Blake commented on Jim Hench's presentation on tides and that the information is good. Heather Stanton stated the District would incorporate it in its newsletter and website if provided a copy. (Bernhard Krevet said Mr. Hench would oblige.) Vice-Chairperson Stafford mentioned she had similar situations wherein someone would mention a high tide and she would tell the person it doesn't really have an impact, so the document would be good back-up material. Member Rinehart added it does have an influence but at the lesser frequency situation. Member Ohlemutz likened the subject to fighting an urban legend, but the more information that is out there, the better.**

IX. Confirm Next Meeting Date of March 29, 2006.  
**Meeting date confirmed.**

X. Adjourn.  
**Adjourned to the next Regular Meeting of the Technical Advisory Panel on Wednesday, March 29, 2006, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Flood Control District Conference Room.**

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DENNIS SCHERZINGER  
Chairperson

ATTEST:

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HEATHER STANTON  
Secretary

By: 

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GREG MORGAN  
Supervising Office Assistant

KEY

Vote: LB = Larry Bahr; BB = Bill Bennett; PB = Phil Blake; JB = Jo Ann Busenbark; TN = Tony Norris;  
RO = Rudolf Ohlemutz; DR = Dennis Rinehart; DS = Dennis Scherzinger; BS = Barbara Stafford

Notations Under Vote: N = No; X = Excused; A = Abstained