

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



Wednesday, March 27, 2013
5:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order; Roll Call.

The Napa County Technical Advisory Panel met during regular session on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Dennis Scherzinger; Tony Norris; Chris Craiker; Bill Bennett; Vice-Chairperson Rolf Ohlemutz; Barbara Stafford; and Chairperson Dennis Rinehart. Chip Bouril and Bob Zlomke were excused.

II. Election of Officers

Chairperson Rinehart stated he was willing to serve as Chairperson again due to the limited amount of business in the last calendar year. Chairperson Rinehart and Vice-Chairperson Ohlemutz were nominated and re-elected to their respective positions.

BB	CB	CC	TN	RO	DR	DS	BS	BZ
	X							X

III. Adoption of 2013 Meeting Calendar.

Meeting calendar adopted as presented.

BB	CB	CC	TN	RO	DR	DS	BS	BZ
	X							X

IV. Public Comment.
None.

V. Approve Minutes of the December 12, 2012 Regular Meeting.
Minutes approved.

BB	CB	CC	TN	RO	DR	DS	BS	BZ
	X	A						X

VI. Review and Approve Proposed Amendment to Technical Advisory Panel Guidelines.
Phil Miller, District Engineer, reported an amendment to the Guidelines had been prepared to be approved by the Flood Board based on the TAP's recommendation that the required minimum meeting frequency be at least twice a year instead of every quarter. The proposed amendment to the Guidelines was approved.

BB	CB	CC	TN	RO	DR	DS	BS	BZ
	X							X

VII. Flood Project Status Update.

Andrew Butler, Associate Civil Engineer, reported on the status of the Napa Creek construction and distributed some pictures of the permanently installed trash rack and creek channel. The Behrens Street pedestrian bridge is scheduled to be put in some time during early April. The contractor, Proven Management, also has to finish up stream work, parking and then it's on to the punch list and contract close-out. There had been some erosion damage during the last storm events that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is handling. Proven is supposed to be finished in late May unless there is some extension of the contract by the Corps to do some cleanup of the erosion work, and the paperwork for the close-out can take a few months thereafter.

Rick Thomasser, Watershed and Flood Control Operations Manager, reported on operations and maintenance activities. There was a storm event in December that created response in the streams and was equated to a five-year flood. Although nothing major happened and there was no flooding in Napa Creek, the City observed that if the improvements hadn't been in place that there most likely would have been some flooding in the creek neighborhood. Mr. Thomasser referenced two annual reports on maintenances activities. The first report, which is sent to the resource agencies and the Corps, focuses on Flood Project monitoring and maintenance activities. The second report details post-winter inspections and planned maintenance for the summer. The District is performing maintenance activities on completed Flood Project elements even though the Corps has yet to officially hand them over. Another report that is done every five years is on vegetation monitoring, which details the status of mitigation, primarily in the South Wetlands Opportunity Area. The first two reports were produced by the Corps, and the most current report was produced and funded by the District. Habitat creation called for in the Flood Project's Environmental Impact Report appears to be on track, and the only real work the District has to do in this area is keeping a watch on invasive plants, such as pepperweed. The report also incorporates bird monitoring courtesy of the Audubon Society. Anyone interested in a copy of the reports can email Mr. Thomasser. Mr. Thomasser also reported that the City of Napa is out to bid on the Main Street Boat Dock (formerly known as the Fourth Street Boat Dock), but the Regional Water Quality Control Board requires some mitigation for the dock. Mr. Thomasser brokered an agreement between the City and the Water Board to have some rocks that are in higher than average piles in the Napa River removed by the City in 20 locations between the Soscol Avenue Bridge and Wine Train commissary area. If the work goes well, the District may contribute to having similar work done in this area annually dependent on available funding.

Phil Miller, District Engineer, reported on his recent lobbying trip to Washington, DC with Jill Techel (City of Napa Mayor and Flood Board Chair), Bill Dodd (County Supervisor District 4 and Flood Board Vice-Chair) and Steve Lederer (County Director of Public Works) and distributed copies of the lobbying brochure. The purpose of the trip was to seek \$23 million in funding for the construction of the Bypass. The contingent met with staff members from Senator Boxer's and Feinstein's offices, as well as Congressman Mike Thompson, his staff members and two representatives from the Corps. Those with whom the contingent met spoke

Item VII...Continued

favorably of the Flood Project and said it is highly recommended. Due to the absence of congressional earmarks, recommendations for funding are now made to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in which the details are unknown. With the positive feedback the Flood Project has received, there is hope that the OMB looks favorably upon funding the Bypass for the full amount. The contingent was told the Corps has \$300 million unspent in their construction fund for federal Fiscal Year 2013, but it is not known if the Flood Project would receive any of it. The contingent conveyed they would be happy to receive part of the funding in federal Fiscal Year 2013 and the rest in federal Fiscal Year 2014. For projects to qualify for this funding, they cannot be new, they must be authorized and they had to have been funded in some level in federal Fiscal Year 2012, which all apply to the Flood Project. The contingent anticipated the President's budget for federal Fiscal Year 2013 before they left, but this budget still has not been passed and there is doubt that it ever will, so the focus for Flood Project funding may shift to federal Fiscal Year 2014.

Mr. Miller and Mr. Thomasser provided the status of the BurgerFi development at the old Riverside Garage on First Street. Mr. Miller stated the developer submitted plans to the District through the City's process. District staff determined the development wouldn't adversely affect the Flood Project and conveyed this to the City. Member Stafford expressed concerns of the development possibly affecting the continuity of the river trail and wanted to note this was in the Panel's interest but recognizes this isn't under their jurisdiction. Mr. Thomasser replied the City owns the small gap between the development and The Bounty Hunter building and they wouldn't allow it to be blocked or reduced.

Mr. Thomasser provided an update on the formation of a dredging assessment district. The District and the City have been in discussions with the City being the lead agency since dredging serves a recreational element. Both agencies are splitting the \$50,000 cost of an evaluation to form a dredging assessment district. Part of the watershed assessments received from property taxes helps the District provide dredge spoils site maintenance. Because the Corps is under-funded to provide dredging, the District has agreed to do sampling of sediment spoils, which was approved by the DMOO. The City is dredging the Main Street Boat Dock area this year and plans to dredge the Kennedy Park area next year. The District hopes that some funding will become evident and that the City will be able to do additional dredging in 2014, and the District would be ready to help by taking the dredge spoils. The District has two of its own dredge spoils sites, but there will be an additional site at the Cullinan Ranch that will be available for a few years. Using this site would provide significant savings to the District, as the spoils could be left there unlike at the District's two dredge spoils sites wherein they have to be emptied for reuse. A conditions survey done in spring 2012 shows there is 400,000 cubic yards of material in the entire Napa River, which highlights the need for dredging. However, the District only has the capacity to store 350,000 cubic yards at its two dredge spoils sites.

- VIII. Agenda Items for Future Meetings.
Member Norris mentioned hearing about the Copia plans rolling again and assumes they will make their way to the Panel for a finding of consistency.
- IX. General Comments from the Panel. (This is an opportunity for Panel members to informally discuss items and ask questions.)
Member Norris provided some Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District stickers for anyone who was interested.
- X. Confirm Next Meeting Date of April 24, 2013.
Meeting date confirmed.
- XI. Adjourn.
Adjourned to the next Regular Meeting of the Technical Advisory Panel on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Flood District Conference Room.

DENNIS RINEHART
Chairperson

ATTEST:

PHIL MILLER
Secretary

By:

GREG MORGAN
Supervising Office Assistant

KEY

Vote: BB = Bill Bennett; CB = Chip Bouril; CC = Chris Craiker; TN = Tony Norris; RO = Rolf Ohlemutz;
DR = Dennis Rinehart; DS = Dennis Scherzinger; BS = Barbara Stafford; BZ = Bob Zlomke
Notations under Vote: N = No; X = Excused; A = Abstained