

*Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District*

**MINUTES OF THE  
FLOOD CONTROL ZONE 3 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
HELD MONDAY JUNE 27, 2016  
AT THE TAMALPAIS VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER  
203 MARIN AVENUE, MILL VALLEY, CA 94941**

<b><u>Advisory Board (AB) Members Present</u></b>	<b><u>District Staff (Staff) Present</u></b>
Penelope Alexandris (PA)	Tony Williams, Principal Civil Engineer
Robert Burton (RB), Chairperson	Hannah Lee, Associate Engineer
Dan Frost (DF)	Scott McMorrow, Assistant Engineer
Garry Lion (GL)	
Linda Rames (LR)	
<b><u>Advisory Board (AB) Members Absent</u></b>	<b><u>Others</u></b>
Curry Ecklehoff (CE), Vice Chairperson	Leslie Alden, Aide to Supervisor Sears

Chairperson Burton began the meeting at 6:32 p.m. with PA, RB, DF, GL, and LR present. Public Works Staff were introduced.

**Item 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: March 17, 2016**

RB noted a typographical error on page 2, item 4.f, last sentence of first paragraph: the word “present” should be “presented.” GL noted a typographical error on page 3, second paragraph: the dollar amount “\$10 million” should read “\$18 million.”

**Action by Advisory Board:** Approve minutes as amended above.

**M/S:** GL/DF, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Abstain:** None

**Item 2. Open Time for Items Not on the Agenda**

A member of the public, Steffen Bartschat, inquired about the timing for mowing the grass near Enterprise Concourse. Staff responded that the work order for that project went out approximately three weeks ago, and that staff will research the matter and report back to Mr. Bartschat.

Advisory Board (AB) member Rames noted that she observed an otter in Coyote Creek near Bothin Marsh, and that she felt this was a sign of a healthy creek.

**Item 3. Zone Engineer Report**

**a. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Funding Opportunity**

Please see the June 27, 2016 staff report for background information regarding what was presented. Staff noted a community meeting regarding the funding opportunity for home elevation projects was held in Tiburon on April 14 and was well-attended by Mill Valley residents. The AB requested broader public notification of these opportunities in the future and to be copied on all related outreach in the Zone.

**Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District**

Staff noted that there is a \$4 million dollar cap on the home elevation program countywide (per grant program limits) and about \$13 million dollars worth of home elevation projects were submitted by residents. Approximately 10 of the homes with the highest benefit to cost ratio in the county were located in Mill Valley near Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio.

The next step in the application process is for Cal OES to review applications and select projects to submit to FEMA this fall. FEMA will then begin an environmental review phase before the official project award occurs.

A member of the public stated that he attempted to get a cost quote from a contractor regarding raising his home, and that the contractor was reluctant to do so. The contractor had noted that the program is run differently in Sonoma County and that the required application time- window with the Marin program was too short. Staff agreed that the grant application turnaround time was fast, and staff was recently advised by FEMA to notice availability of funds to residents as soon as federal disasters are declared in California rather than waiting for an announcement of funding availability. By notifying residents of potential funding when a disaster is declared, residents should have more time to fill out applications for funding.

GL asked if a floodwall could be built around an individual property to achieve the same level of flood protection as offered via the FEMA program. Staff responded that this was submitted with the grant application as one of the required project alternatives. However, currently a private floodwall program is not a part of the County of Marin's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Projects and programs must be a part of this Plan in order to be eligible for hazard mitigation funding through FEMA. Staff will explore FEMA funding opportunities for this idea and consider if it is appropriate to include in the upcoming Marin County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan being prepared this year.

**b. Coyote Creek Levee Update**

**i. Coyote Creek Levee Evaluation Project Report**

Please refer to the June 27 staff report for background information on what was presented. Additionally, staff reported that the Evaluation addressed the following three separate flood protection scenarios:

- Baseline – 20-year event protection: upgrades existing levee system to meet the original US Army Corps of Engineers water surface elevation design flow
- FEMA Accredited – 100-year event protection
- FEMA Accredited with Sea Level Rise – 100-year event protection and Sea Level Rise protection based on projected year 2050 MHHW predictions (12.8 feet NAVD 88)

The Evaluation stated estimated costs for each of these scenarios. Each scenario has a cost range based on the type of protections deployed (i.e. floodwalls vs. earthen levees), and these ranges were presented to the AB as follows:

**Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District**

Baseline:	\$10M to \$18M
FEMA Accredited:	\$19M to \$57M
FEMA Accredited with SLR:	\$25M to \$72M

A member of the public asked how such a project might be paid for, given that the Zone 3 budget was not adequate to fund such an undertaking. Staff responded that a likely method could be a special parcel tax, and that no recommendations have been made by the AB, and that staff was currently undertaking an outreach effort to the Tam Valley community to help determine the desires of the community.

ii. USACE Rehabilitation & Inspection Program Compliance

Staff reported that the draft System-Wide Improvement Framework (SWIF) Plan for the Project will be completed in July. While staff develops and implements a SWIF plan for the Projects' right bank, the right bank will remain eligible for reimbursement for the cost of repairs to the levee following a federally declared emergency.

iii. Next Steps for Coyote Creek

Staff outlined the following next steps for Coyote Creek:

- Community survey of Tam Valley residents to gauge levels of flood protection and aesthetic variables involved with selecting a project.
- Survey and model the Middle and Lower reaches of Coyote Creek to identify any need and utility of sediment removal.
- The Corps of Engineers will be conducting an inspection of the Coyote Creek Flood Control Project in July.
- Sediment removal in the concrete box section of Coyote Creek is tentatively scheduled to occur in September.
- Rehabilitate four penetrating pipes in Coyote Creek, and abandon 3 penetrating pipes in Coyote Creek. This work is part of the proposed draft SWIF plan.
- Clean, ream as necessary, and inspect pipes that drain directly to Coyote Creek.
- Utilize recently purchased muscle walls and/or sandbags as needed.
- Following completion of the Southern Marin Watershed Guide, discuss process for arriving at preferred improvement alternatives and funding strategies.
- Finalize the SWIF work plan and begin first phase of implementation.

c. **Tam Valley Community Survey**

Please refer to the June 27 staff report for background information on what was presented. Members of the public began a discussion that included the following input regarding what the survey might include/address: include sensitivity testing to gauge needs of the community; develop the case to study options over time; educate the community on the potential project scenarios; enhance people's awareness of the existing conditions of the levees; and ensure adequate outreach occurs to involve all members of the community.

**Action by Advisory Board:** Recommend Tam Valley Community Survey.

*M/S: GL/LR, Ayes: All, Nay: None, Abstain: None*

**d. Coyote Creek Sediment Removal in Concrete Channel**

Staff is in the process of procuring the permits required to complete this work. An estimated 560 cubic yards of material would be removed.

**e. Survey and Model the Middle and Lower reaches of Coyote Creek**

Staff reported that the updated survey results will be compared to the 2003 post-dredging survey conducted on Coyote Creek. Based on this comparison, an evaluation will be made as to the need for dredging in the near future.

**f. Update on Marin City Drainage Study RFP**

Staff reported that the District has conducted interviews with seven potential consulting firms for the Study, and it is anticipated that the final funding agreement and consultant contract will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors in August.

A member of the public asked if this Study will address issues of flooding in the shopping center area, and if the project will address the possibility that there are cross-connections between storm drains and sewer lines in the area. Staff responded that the Study will address the lower Marin City Drainage area, including the Gateway Shopping Center.

**g. Projects in Mill Valley**

Please refer to the June 27, 2016 staff report for background information on what was presented. Staff reported that draft funding agreements have been prepared and are scheduled to be presented to the Board of Supervisors on July 19, 2016.

**Item 4. Watershed Program Update**

Staff updated the AB on the following: (Please refer to the June 27, 2016 staff report for background information on what was provided.)

**a. Southern Marin Watershed Guide**

**b. Draft Project List**

GL noted a typographical error on one of the project list items. Staff responded that this will be corrected and re-posted at [http://www.marinwatersheds.org/documents/Binder1\\_005.pdf](http://www.marinwatersheds.org/documents/Binder1_005.pdf).

**c. Richardson Bay Shoreline Study: Sea Level Rise Impacts Assessment and Concept Level Alternatives Evaluation**

**d. Video of Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio Watershed**

The video is still in production. Staff showed a portion of a draft version of the video to the AB.

**e. Marin Bay Waterfront Adaptation Vulnerability Evaluation (BayWAVE)**

Supervisor Sears' Aide Leslie Alden provided a brief summary of this effort and an update.

**Item 5. Schedule Next Meetings**

Staff suggested the next regular meeting be held on November 17. The AB suggested that the meeting date be moved a week earlier to prevent any conflict with the Thanksgiving holiday. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.