MINUTES OF
THE FLOOD CONTROL ZONE ONE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2013
7025 REDWOOD BLVD., NOVATO

Board Members Present
Bill Long (BL) - Chairman
Dietrich Stroeh (DS)
Jim Grossi (JG)
Ernie Ganas (EG)

County Staff Present
Craig Tackabery (CT)
Tracy Clay (TC)
Hugh Davis (HD)
Liz Lewis (LL)
Hannah Lee (HL)
Pat Balderama (PB)

Board Member(s) Absent
Drew McIntyre (DM)

Other (s)

The meeting started at 6:33 PM.

ITEM 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: November 5, 2012

M/S DS/EG: Approval of minutes of the November 5, 2012 Advisory Board (AB) meeting, as written.

Ayes: *Four*
Nay: *None*

ITEM 2. Open Time for Items not on the Agenda

Staff reported that FEMA's remapping update in San Francisco will include Marin County.

Staff informed the AB that "No Fishing" signs have been installed in Vineyard Creek to prevent fishing in a pool where steelhead has been observed.

ITEM 4. Vineyard Creek Post-Construction Monitoring

Vineyard Creek Post Construction Update agenda item was heard prior to the Novato Watershed Program Update.

a. Geomorphology Report

Staff reported the 2012 Geomorphology Report is forthcoming and that the report will be posted on the FC District's website.

b. Summary of Field Meeting with Residents

Staff reported that on November 14, 2012, along with the geomorphic consultant, they met with the residents to inspect the site and address the resident's concerns about revegetation and sedimentation. Staff made a power point presentation showing an overview of the project before and after-construction which showed that the design improvements are performing well and that permit requirements are being met.

A member of the audience stated that a tree was downed within the creek upstream of the Vineyard Creek Project. Staff said that they would research the location to determine property ownership and contact the homeowner to remove, if necessary.

Staff affirmed that the sediment build-up at the Center Road bridge will be removed regularly and cattails, including root balls, will be removed as necessary as part of the Zone's annual creek maintenance program.

A member of the audience raised the matter of stocking the creek with fish. Staff responded that they are currently working with NMFS regarding steelhead improvements in Vineyard Creek.

Item 3. Novato Watershed Program Update

Staff gave a power point presentation of the Novato Watershed Program (Program). The Program includes a hydraulic study that identifies creek flows required to develop alternatives that will maintain or improve the current level of flood protection in Novato, reduce dredging cost and impacts, improve sediment transport, increase habitat values and prepare for sea level rise impacts.

The Program also includes hydrologic modeling that has been completed for three historic storm events and the working model will be used to evaluate a range of flood flow events with a separate model for the Nave Gardens area. A schedule for the completion of the hydraulic study was presented and staff said that program updates and studies will be posted at:
http://www.marinwatersheds.org/novato.html.

The following suggestions were received from the Advisory Board:

a. Consider Bowman Canyon as a stormwater detention basin
b. Consider wastewater reclamation alternatives.
c. Prepare a comprehensive evaluation of Program's probable cost.
d. Install more flow meters on Novato Creek.

ITEM 5. Novato Creek Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) Railroad Bridge Update

Staff gave a presentation on the status of the Novato Creek Bridge design being done by SMART's design-build contractor. Staff informed the AB that the current design proposal being pursued by SMART for the Novato Creek Bridge is to incorporate bent spacing at 14 feet and the piers aligned with the creek flow. The bridge will be raised above the 100-year water surface elevation. SMART considers this proposal an improvement of the current condition. Staff cited that there was a funding shortfall of about $980,000 for the option which would include 28 feet bent spacing. SMART management informed the DPW Director that this option is not viable due to construction scheduling constraints.

Staff informed the AB that the District and SMART will be meeting on April 8, 2013 to discuss creek hydraulics, debris loading, sea level rise and other pertinent issues. The AB remains adamant about having a Novato Creek bridge design that is beneficial to the flood control needs of Zone 1. Chairman Long suggested that Zone 1 wait for answers received at the April 8 meeting to decide the zones recommendations for action.

ITEM 6. Winter Storm Report

Staff informed the AB that a damage claim has been submitted to the District as a result of stormwater overflow at Paper Mill Creek. Staff informed the AB of the location and information of flooding issues at Papermill Creek.

ITEM 7. Schedule Next Meeting

Per the Zone By-Laws the next meeting was scheduled on May 23, 2013.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM.