

Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

**MINUTES OF THE
FLOOD CONTROL ZONE NO. 7 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2013
AT THE OSHER MARIN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER (ISAACS GALLERY)
200 N. SAN PEDRO RD., SAN RAFAEL**

Item 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: January 14, 2013

Action by Board: Approve minutes with two amendments: add to item 2e that ice on N. San Pedro Road is neither the Zone's responsibility *nor liability*; and to Item 3e that resident reported minor seepage through the levee not apparently related to the pipe.

Item 2. Open Time for Items Not on the Agenda

No comments made.

Item 3. Annual and Preventative Maintenance Program

Staff reported on plans for upcoming maintenance on the following items. See more information in staff report.

- Pump stations
Bids for major pump maintenance came in under budget.

The tide gate at Pump Station No. 5 will be considered for repair, replacement, or abandonment.
- Intercepting drains – Staff reported that sediment removal does not appear to be necessary in the interceptor drains this year, except at La Pasada, however Meadow Way sediment levels are high enough to warrant close monitoring this winter.
- Vegetation – Staff clarified that the fire fuel reduction mowing is performed by Roads on the marsh levee in early summer after the grass browns. There is possibly an added benefit to delaying until summer because it may allow baby gopher snakes to become more established and better able to control the gopher population. In the fall, before the first major rains, the Conservation Corps North Bay (CCNB) performs in-channel vegetation management at Estancia Ditch (levee toe drain). All cuttings associated with these operations will be raked from the ditch.
- Levees and Redwood Box Floodwall – Levee and Floodwall inspection and routine maintenance is conducted every two years. 105, 107, and 207, 211 Vendola Dr. were selected for repairs this fiscal year. It is also anticipated that concrete anchors and tie rods will be connected to the redwood box at 803 Vendola Drive. This approach is recommended for other properties whose residents initiate projects to fill behind their levees. Next fiscal year it is anticipated that 809, 811, and 813 Vendola Drive will be repaired and the full levee will be inspected late this summer. During the District's inspection of the redwood box wall, we will note locations in need of repair in both the near term and over the longer term. Additional properties may be repaired immediately after the inspection if they fit in the budget. Staff noted that costs for annual floodwall repair are anticipated to continue to rise as the facility ages.

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AB asked if, given the possible future levee improvements, cheaper floodwall repairs with a shorter service life could be utilized.

- **Rodent (Gopher) Control** – Continued rodent abatement is planned for this year however it may be less extensive than recent years do to an apparent decline in gopher activity.

Item 4. Seek AB Recommendation on Zone Boundary Amendment - 650 N. San Pedro

See summary in staff report. The planning application for the development at 650 N. San Pedro was approved by the BOS and the conditions of approval allow for the area to be annexed into the Flood Zone. The exact words of condition 50 are: "The owners of the properties shall not object to Flood Zone 7 boundary amendment that incorporates the entire property by the Marin County Flood Control Board." A map of the area being considered for annexation was presented to the Board.

If annexation proceeds, these are the steps that would be required:

1. The conditional approval requiring the development to accept (or not object to) annexation is made **(done)**.
2. The Advisory Board recommends that Board of Supervisors (BOS) annex the area into the Zone.
3. BOS meeting to approve Resolution of Intent and Notice of Public Hearing.
4. Public Hearing to be held at BOS Chambers.
5. BOS make a Resolution Amending Zone Boundary.

A resident pointed out that annexing the area would not result in an increase in ad valorem tax revenue to the zone and that a special tax would have to pass in order to obtain tax revenue from the new development, provided the property does not become public.

No action was made by the Advisory Board but they asked staff to report back with answers to the following questions to help them make a recommendation:

1. What are the historic voting patterns for flood related parcel taxes in the Zone?
2. What is the percentage of parcels below vs. above N. San Pedro Road?

Item 5 . Project Status Report

Staff provided a report on active projects / initiatives occurring in the zone. See staff report for more information.

a) Gallinas Creek Flood Protection & Watershed Program

The results of the existing system model and alternatives analysis should be available by the end of 2013.

b) Las Gallinas Creek Levee Evaluation

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Flood Control District staff are in the process of finalizing feasibility study documents. AB asked that staff report back in August.

c) Pump Station No. 2 Afterbay Reconstruction

Linscott Engineering Contractors, Inc. will be coordinating construction of the afterbay with the pump maintenance contractor's schedule for removal and replacement of the No. 2 pump before the rainy season. The District is aiming for work to be completed on the afterbay next month.

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d) La Pasada Interceptor Drain Improvement

Construction is expected to begin in September and should take about a month to complete. AB expressed concerns that starting construction so late in the year may make it difficult to complete the project before the rainy season. Staff explained the construction timing in this location is very restricted because of the potential presence of special status species. However, if construction extends beyond October 15 the District would coordinate with National Marine Fisheries Service to avoid impacts to threatened fish.

e) Storm Drain Near 503 Vendola

Staff is ready to proceed with abandonment of the storm drain through the levee near 503 Vendola Drive.

Action by Board: Recommend to proceed with the project to abandon drain this summer unless projected costs exceed \$12,000.

M/S: EM/TR, Ayes: Four, Nay: One, Abstain: None

Minority opinion: Nay vote would support the project if the cost remains below \$10,000.

f) Santa Venetia Citizen Storm Response Plan

Staff reported on the potential for volunteers to be trained to manually operate the existing portable pumps on Estancia Way which are deployed each winter. Advisory Board members requested that staff obtain a quote to rent an automatic pump, but to implement the Santa Venetia Citizen Storm Response Pilot Plan at as a back-up plan if pump rental is not feasible.

Item 6. Community Requests and Responses

Staff provided a summary of recent community requests and responses. See staff report for more information.

a) 911 Response

Resident who expressed the concern about Sheriff's Dispatch response offered to send a recording to the District of her calling and the line being busy or off the hook .

b) Properties along Birch Way

The resident at 105 Birch Way attended the meeting to express continued concern over this item.

Item 7. Zone Budget for FY 2013-2014

See budget summary in staff report.

Action by Board: Recommend Board of Supervisors approve budget.

M/S: MP/JK, Ayes: Three, Nay: None, Absent: Two

Item 8. Review and Amend By-Laws

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Item 9. Next Meeting

The bylaws specify that the next meeting be held on Tuesday, August 6, 2013.