

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

**MINUTES OF THE  
FLOOD ZONE 9 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD  
7:00 PM WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015  
AT SAN ANSELMO TOWN HALL  
525 SAN ANSELMO AVENUE, SAN ANSELMO**

**Board Members Present**

Tom McInerney (TM), Chairperson  
Chris Martin (CM)  
Peter Hogg (PH)  
David Weinsoff (DW)  
Richard Gumbiner (RG)  
Sandra Goldman (SG)

**District Staff Present**

Scott Lyle, Ross Valley Program Manager  
Russ Eberwein, Senior Civil Engineer  
Hugh Davis, Associate Civil Engineer  
Carey Lando, Senior Planner  
Felix Meneau, Assistant Engineer

**Board Members Absent**

Dan Hillmer (DH)

**Item 1. Approval of meeting minutes for April 16, 2015**

**Action by Board:** approve April 16, 2015 minutes as written.

**M/S:** RG/SG, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Absent:** DH, **Abstain:** None

**Item 2. Open time for items not on the agenda**

No public comments.

**Item 3. Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed Program Updates**

a) **Flow Reduction Study Presentation**

District staff presented an update regarding the Flow Reduction Study, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

District staff discussed having contacted owners of Sunnyside Nursery former growing yard, San Domenico School, Bothin Park Youth Center, Marin Stables, Camp Tamerancho Lake, Pine Mountain tunnel, Hidden Valley Elementary School, Brookside Elementary School, Manor Elementary School, and Deer Park regarding interest in their property as a potential measure within the Flood Protection Program.

DW asked District staff to describe in the meeting minutes the specific correspondence with private property owners whose properties were included as potential measures within the study.

Specific correspondence with each of the private property owners is included in the Staff Report for the June 16, 2016 Advisory Board meeting.

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### b) Flood Emergency Response Planning Grant Update

District staff provided an update regarding the Flood Emergency Response Planning Grant, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

### c) Federal Emergency Management Agency Community Rating System for Unincorporated County Areas

District staff provided an update regarding the Federal Emergency Management Agency Community Rating System for Unincorporated County Areas, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

### d) Strategic Communications Plan Implementation Update

District staff presented an update regarding the Strategic Communications Plan Implementation, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

PH asked if District consultants were helping to address the Memorial park Initiative. District staff answered that the District was not addressing the Initiative directly. Staff continues to provide technical information regarding the project to Town of San Anselmo.

CM asked how many outreach opportunities were anticipated in the near future. District staff responded that 2 or 3 community events were expected in addition to separate neighborhood creek clean-up efforts such as the grass-roots effort recently implemented by the Sleepy Hollow community. CM recommended the program participate in as many outreach events as possible. CM suggested District staff reduce the outreach costs for FY 15/16 or provide additional explanation and clarification regarding the FY 15/16 cost estimates.

DW and RG asked for more details regarding the cost line item breakdown. District staff responded that more details will be provided at the next AB meeting.

Public input was provided by Sam Wilson of San Anselmo regarding possibility of reducing future creek clean-up efforts upstream of Morningside neighborhood as a potential way to help alleviate flooding in the downstream neighborhoods.

Public input was provided by Amy Skewes-Cox of San Domenico School requesting that San Domenico School receive formal communication from the District regarding any proposed plans on School property resulting from the Flow Reduction Study.

## **Item 4. Project Status Updates (Information Item):**

### a) Phoenix Lake Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Retrofit Project

District staff provided an update to the Phoenix Lake IRWM Retrofit Project, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

CM asked if cost estimates had been refined using recent data from sediment sampling or other field tests. District staff answered that after conceptual alternatives development is completed by September of this year the project cost estimate would be updated.

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b) Memorial Park Dual-Use Facility

District staff provided an update to the Memorial Park Dual-Use Facility, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

TM asked if the Town and District would proceed with funding the project's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) phase of work prior to knowledge of whether the Memorial Park Initiative obtains sufficient signatures and is adopted. Town staff answered that commencement of CEQA work is dependent on the results of the signatures required for the Initiative to proceed to a vote and the results of the vote during the next Town general election are known.

c) Lefty Gomez Field Dual-Use Facility

District staff provided an update to the Lefty Gomez Dual-Use Facility, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

DW asked when District staff will meet with Ross Valley School District to discuss next steps in the project, such as a Memorandum of Understanding to proceed with the CEQA and design. District staff responded they would arrange a meeting with the School District after completion of the feasibility studies. District staff would provide additional plans for future coordination with the School District during the next June 16, 2015 Flood Zone 9 Advisory Board meeting.

d) Loma Alta Dual-Use Facility

District staff provided an update to the Loma Alta Dual-Use Facility, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

e) Bridge Replacements in Town of San Anselmo

District staff provided an update to the San Anselmo Bridge Replacement projects, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

TM, District staff, and Town staff discussed latest information on upcoming grant opportunities for Building Bridge #2. PH recommended a final date be set in which the project would proceed even without award of outside grant funding. SG commented that any project expense or loan obtained from the District to further develop the project would risk making any past expense incurred to date ineligible for future grant funding reimbursement.

f) Winship Avenue Bridge Replacement in Town of Ross

District staff provided an update to Winship Avenue Bridge Replacement project, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

g) Azalea Avenue Bridge Replacement in Town of Fairfax

District staff provided an update to Azalea Avenue Bridge Replacement project, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#).

PH asked if there has been a grant application submitted for Azalea Avenue bridge replacement, and District staff answered it is already on the Caltrans list but funding has not yet been allocated.

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### h) Corte Madera Creek Units 3 and 4 Project

District staff provided an update to the Units 3 and 4 Project, see [Staff Report dated May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015](#). District staff described that the USACE National Economic Development (NED) process will determine the most efficient of several possible scenarios being studied.

Public comment provided by Sam Wilson regarding why Sleepy Hollow bridge replacements, especially Mountain View Ave. bridge replacement, are not included within the 10-Year Work Plan Baseline Measures?

### **Item 5. Lower Corte Madera Creek Improvement Project**

District staff provided an update to the Lower Corte Madera Creek Improvement Project, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#). The Advisory Board did not recommend approval of the draft Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Larkspur. The Board recommended the matter be brought before the Board at a future meeting when Board member Hillmer was present and should include specific project and cost share to be shared between City and FZ9.

TM asked what the District would be committed to by agreeing to the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#). District staff responded no specific commitments would be made through execution of draft MOU.

PH requested clarification regarding:

- the original intent of the draft MOU,
- why two separate definitions were listed within pages 1 and 3 of draft document,
- why dredging was referenced in regard to the draft MOU if dredging work had most recently only been performed outside of City limits, and
- why page three described the Bon Air Road Bridge Replacement Project pump station project without similar references in other pages of the document.

PH suggested a specific cost share agreement be drafted for the pump station project or any other project undertaken by City of Larkspur once the project was sufficiently developed to better understand anticipated costs to be incurred by FZ9.

SG suggested the intent of the draft MOU was needed because originally the 10-Year Work Plan adopted by the Advisory Board on April 3, 2012 did not include any projects within lower Corte Madera Creek, although the sediment management project was added to the 10-Year Work Plan in a subsequent meeting. Therefore the draft MOU would serve as a platform to continue development of the Lower Corte Madera Creek Improvement Project.

Public comment was provided by Steve Lamb of San Anselmo regarding if any coordination had been made between District and the City of Larkspur Bon Air Road Bridge Replacement Project. District staff answered that encroachment permits had been issued for the project by the District, and that plans were underway by City of Larkspur to design a pump station which would have potential to reduce the future dredging footprint.

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PH asked if replacement of the rowing club dock described in the Marin Independent Journal article was part of the Bon Air Road Bridge Replacement Project. District staff answered that it was their understanding that the dock replacement was a mitigation measure for the Bon Air Road Bridge Replacement Project.

### **Item 6. Annual Budgets – FY 2015-16**

District staff presented the proposed modified FY 14/15 and FY 15/16 budgets, see [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#). District staff explained that 10-Year Budget Projections were for information only, but that the Advisory Board was only being asked to approve FY 14/15 and FY 15/16 proposed budget. District staff described that some 10-Year Work Plan projects, such as the Phoenix Lake IRWM Retrofit Project and the Memorial Park Dual-Use Detention Basin Facility, were shown as proceeding with budgeting within FY 14/15 and FY 15/16 even while continuing to seek additional grant funding needed to meet or exceed the 70% outside funding target stated within the program principles and goals. Attachment A of [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#) tabulates Phoenix Lake IRWM Retrofit Project to date has secured \$7,661,000 of \$12,079,150, or 55% of that required to meet the 70% outside funding target. Similarly Memorial Park to date has secured \$8,720,500 of \$12,343,578, or 71% of that required to meet the 70% outside funding target. Please see Attachment A of [Staff Report dated May 20, 2015](#) for a complete listing of projects and what percent of total project costs have received grant funding to date.

DW asked that staff think about how the District can move ahead with projects without relying on award of state and/or federal grants. Is it possible to borrow the money?

The Advisory Board recommended approval of the proposed FY 15/16 budgets but with a reduction in Program expenditures of \$25,000 for Professional Services relating to program outreach services and another reduction of \$25,000 for Miscellaneous Services relating to program website design services, both shown within pages 2 and 4 of the FY 15/16 budget document.

**Action by Board:** approve FY 14/15 and FY 15/16 budgets as revised above.

**M/S:** PH/RG, **Ayes:** All, **Nay:** None, **Absent:** DH, **Abstain:** None

### **Item 7. Adjourn, Schedule Next Meeting for June 16, 2015**

The Advisory Board and District staff set the next meeting for June 16-, 7:00pm at the Sir Francis Drake High School Student Center. Pending confirmation of absent Board member, the Advisory Board and District staff rescheduled future September 15<sup>th</sup> Advisory Board meeting to Monday, September 21 at 7:00 PM.