

**Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
RWMG Meeting
March 17, 2010
1:00-3:00 pm
Monterey County Water Resources Agency**

Attendees:

Kevin O'Connor
Sierra Ryan
Michael Ricker
Lisa Emanuelson for Bridget Hoover
Eric Tynan
Ross Clark
Dawn Mathes
Bill Phillips
Ken Ekelund
Gary Rogers
Robert Johnson
Horacio Amezquita
Elizabeth Krafft
Michelle Dooley – non RWMG member – DWR staff rep
Susan Robinson – non RWMG member – Plan Coordinator
Butch Kronlund
Amy Vanderwarker
Paul Robins

Meeting Minutes:

The agenda was changed to accommodate some members that needed to leave early. Goals and Objectives were moved to the first agenda item.

Agenda Item #1 (changed order on the agenda): Goals and Objectives

The Goals and Objectives were moved by Butch K and seconded by Ken E. The vote was unanimous with 17 yes votes. The committee agreed to send the response to comments for the Goals and Objectives and also post the final Goals and Objectives on the web site.

Agenda #2: Overview of Public Workshops

Paul reviewed the public workshops held in Salinas, Big Sur and King City. The workshops were attended by approximately 50 people in total. A few requests that came up included putting sample letters of support on the web site for project applicants and helping applicants with possible contacts for coordinating their projects. This can be done easily and Paul can provide some sample letters for the web site.

The question also came up about whether we should accept concept proposals as IRWMP new guidelines do not seem to support planning grants except for disadvantaged communities. The application form could be changed to capture types of projects that are not implementation such as planning, research, and concept projects. There were discussions about whether the GMC-IRWMP plan should still capture these projects as other programs and grants often request what the status of a specific project is for consideration under grant programs.

There was discussion about whether the new guidelines support planning grants for projects not just updating or doing new IRWMP Plans. Michelle (DWR) offered to look further into this issue for clarification.

Project Application Form – Susan feels that we should revise the Project Application Form and send that out to the workshop attendees right away. There was discussion about what stage of economic analysis would be needed for the project application submittal. P. 51 of the Guidelines refers to Project Selection Criteria for ranking projects in the Plan. The RWMG decided to include language on the Project Application Form to identify the need for economic analysis for projects and project applicants. It was discussed that these full blown analyses would be pushed to grant submittal stage and that in a sense a second ranking of project would be done then. The greenhouse gas/climate change impact analysis requirements will also be further investigated by Michelle.

Agenda Item #3: Project Committees – Next Steps

The RWMG members on each of the Project Committees will discuss how they will call the potential members of the committee to solicit their involvement and explain what is needed from them. Bill, Rob and Elizabeth will also try to come up with an estimate of time involvement needed from committee members so that is available. Susan will also provide additional information for committee solicitation and process to each RWMG committee members so they have that for sharing with potential committee members.

There was discussion about whether we need planning and land use more represented on our RWMG or in the Project Committees. Bill Phillips and Scott Hennessy will both be helpful for addressing this gap.

Integration Committee members so far: Bill P., Ross C., Gary, Kevin, Bridget

Agenda Item #4: Project Ranking – discussion of response to comments and final proposed project ranking system – possible vote to approve final ranking system

The RWMG accepted the Response to Comments prepared by Susan on behalf of the Project Ranking Subcommittee to Amy Vanderwarker and Nancy Isaksen. The Project Ranking Subcommittee will revisit the questions raised by the new IRWM Guidelines and come back with final version of the project ranking system to the RWMG in April.

Agenda Item #5: Resource Management Strategies – part II for choosing resource management strategies for inclusion in the IRWMP

Crop idling for water transfers does not apply here in our region so it will not be included. The RWMG discussed “additional” resource management strategies (beyond those included in the California Water Plan Update 2009), and selected an additional nine strategies for inclusion in the Plan.

Agenda Item #6: Any other business

Next month’s meeting is April 21st from 1-3 at Moss Landing or MBNMS office.