

MINUTES OF THE
TULARE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSIONERS MEETING
June 22, 2012

Commissioners present: Walter Bricker, Dale Brogan, Mark Larsen, Steve Martin, Dale West, Dan Vink

Commissioners absent: None

County Representation: James May –Flood Control District Engineer, Kuna Muthusamy & Alfredo Reynoso-Haro from Tulare County RMA

Visitors: Carol & Peter Clum, Shane Smith – KDWCD

Meeting called to order at 8:06 AM

Approval of April 27, 2012 Minutes, approval was moved by Walter Bricker, second by Steve Martin. Unanimous vote.

Item 3. Public comments: None

Item 4. Staff report on Flood Control District matters.

A. Staff was not prepared to discuss the Flood Control District Budget.

B. An explanation of the process was given, continuing inability to locate a candidate the Commission recommended contacting Supervisor Worthley for possible candidates.

C. A detailed report on the potential projects was given by Flood Control Division representative Alfredo Reynoso-Haro.

- 1) Chairman Vink repeated the Commissions' objective of recommending to the Board of Supervisors viable projects for funding in the FY 13/14 budget cycle. That we need to be prepared for a Feb/Mar 2013 budget inclusion.
- 2) Following Commissioner Brogan's request, downstream effects of the selected projects have been evaluated, and mitigations determined. Two tables Project Scope and Funding Schedule were presented. Commissioner Larsen asked about the purpose of the levees at the Juvenile Detention Facility (Juvy) and if the land was entirely farmland. Alfredo explained that the storage capacity of the levees will be approximately 700 AF, and that the land is all County owned ag land. The intent of the project is to detain flood flows while protecting Juvy and Avenue 368, avoiding a changed condition to downstream flow. It was pointed out that levees east of the 368 Pit may require levee work on private property. Another of the mitigations is the construction of the Avenue 360 Cottonwood Creek crossing

culverts being built as part of the Road 80 Widening project. Commissioner Bricker asked about work anticipated west of Road 80. Alfredo explained that we are investigating additional weirs upstream of the St Johns River confluence with Cottonwood Creek.

- 3) Discussion of the funding schedule ensued with explanation of the FCD budget revenues of \$560 K with fund balance of \$164K and \$50K interest presently going to Success Dam projects.
- 4) Chairman Vink challenged the projection of Success completion at 2035 due to unknowns in the Army Corps program and whether the Remediation portion will actually occur. Our projection is but one of many possible scenarios.
- 5) Commissioner Brogan asked about status of the filling of Success Lake. Chairman Vink explained that the current level restriction has been raised to 645 ft. Commissioner Bricker offered that equates to 65K AF of the 80K total full capacity.
- 6) The State's obligation is 1/3 of the enlargement cost. Continuing the discussion Chairman Vink and Commissioner Bricker explained that the Enlargement projects 35% non-federal share is shared by the State as well as locals. With the 2/3 of the 35% picked up by the State, and 1/3 shared by the locals. The State pays 90% of flood control versus water supply 90% flood control and none on water supply.
- 7) The Feds pay 98.5% of costs for flood control, and 98.5% of remediation. It was suggested that we verify the payments with Richard Schafer.
- 8) Using the estimated costs determined without the correct funding percentages, staff estimated that using the only the \$2.5M in reserves, repayment funds on the 30 year Success Dam loan would be exhausted in 20 years.
- 9) Kuna Muthusamy expressed concern that any project recommendation to the Board of Supervisors must include fixed funding amounts and schedule.
- 10) Using the only \$214K carry over balance for projects we are able go as for as project #1 ending in 2014.
- 11) Commissioner Brogan asked for an explanation and timing of expenditures, what was going to Success and what will now go to projects. It was noted that the \$2.5 Million would stay in place and the interest from that reserve along with prior carry over balance would go to projects.
- 12) Using the concept of alternative funding, 2 projects annually could be completed. Commissioner Larsen suggested that some of the projects would likely fall under alternative funding sources.

- 13) Chairman Vink noted that to effectively program projects a basic understanding of the flood control budget will be essential. Kuna asked if a single year would be acceptable or a forecast of future years.
- 14) Commissioner Brogan stated that staff work needs to be on two numbers for next meeting: expenditures and revenue prior, current and projected two years ahead. What is our General Fund revenue. What are routine expenses.
- 15) Chairman Vink suggested that the Commission have a hand in development of the Flood Control Division budget.
- 16) Commissioner Larsen recommended that the Commission be able to assist and participate with budget preparation with the Board.
- 17) Alfredo provided the process flow chart for project development.
- 18) Chairman Vink noted that FCD should not bypass grants if available and utilize reserves if necessary to secure any grant fundings.
- 19) Commissioner Bricker asked about CEQA timing with projects.

Item 6 – Other Business: James May announced that the June 22, 2012 Commission meeting would be his last as Flood Control District Engineer due to pending retirement from Tulare County RMA. Recruitment of his replacement has not yet begun. Kuna estimated the hiring process should begin in a couple of weeks. In the interim Kuna and Alfredo will assume the duties of Flood Control Engineer.

Commissioner Larsen offered a project proposed by KDWCD that has flood control potential on Yokohl Creek flows that presently discharge into Consolidated Peoples Ditch. At Johnson Slough about 1 mile south of the confluence of Yokohl and CPD the District is purchasing land on Lort Drive at the Johnson Slough for detention of peak flows to avoid throttling of CPD at the Lower Kaweah and subsequently throttling at McKay Point.

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday July 27 at 8:00 AM. With hopes that Denise will be able to provide insight for financial needs.

Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Vink at 9:10 AM.