



MINUTES

FLOOD CONTROL ZONE 2A – Petaluma River Watershed

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

December 10, 2020 ~ 1:00 P.M.

Meeting held virtually using Zoom.

Attendees - Committee Members: Chariman Ned Orrett, John FitzGerald, Mayor Teresa Barrett, Craig Jacobsen, Paul Efron. Absent: Andy Rodgers, Bob Martin. City: Gina Benedetti-Petnic, Jason Beatty. Sonoma Water: Kent Gylfe, Carlos Diaz, Susan Haydon, Jon Niehaus, Chase Takajo. Prunuske Chatham: Lucas Walton. Members of public: Ted Cabral, Rick Savel, Roger Leventhal.

1. **OPENING/INTRODUCTIONS**

Ned Orrett welcomed everyone and called meeting to order at 1:06pm. Susan Haydon (SH) acknowledged the public posting of meeting notices on Agency and County Clerk websites and notices in Press Democrat and Argus Courier newspapers. SH recognized committee members present: Chairman Orrett, John FitzGerald, Mayor Teresa Barrett, Craig Jacobsen, and Paul Efron. Andy Rodgers absent (conflict with Groundwater Sustainability Agency meeting). Bob Martin, absent. SH reviewed protocols for virtual meeting and noted full agenda and timing considerations.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT-** None.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

John FitzGerald motioned to approve minutes of the October 28, 2020 with a correction to notation re: average gpm being pumped by dredgers (17,000 gpm). Second by Craig Jacobsen. Motion carried.

4. **LICHAU CREEK FLOOD AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS**

Carlos Diaz, Sonoma Water engineer, gave a high level overview of two feasibility analyses recently performed by Prunuske Chatham Inc. Two flood feasibility studies include: stormwater management concept (detention) on Roberts Creek and floodplain enhancement concept in Penngrove area. The stormwater management study results meet objectives at this early concept stage. Sonoma Water seeks new budget request in next fiscal year budget to advance our understanding and perform design level evaluation associated with this project at Coyote Family Farm. To provide ample time for presentation and Committee review, these two projects will be brought forth in future meeting (March 2021) for further discussion as informational item.

5. **STREAM MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

Chase Takajo presented an update on the stream maintenance activities conducted during 2020 including vegetation management and sediment management work.

6. **FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 BUDGET**

SH presented recommended budget, providing overview and explanation of budget categories and requests for fiscal year 2021/2022. Sonoma Water is expecting reduced revenue from taxes due to anticipated

delinquencies related to economic downturn from COVID 19 pandemic. Committee discussion held on proposed sediment management study with Chairman Orrett noting regional practices can be included and Mayor Barrett noting that direction from Petaluma City Council is forthcoming on how to integrate regional practices such as sediment retention and regenerative soil techniques. Committee discussed need to understand actual expenditures.

John FitzGerald motioned for Agency to provide actual expenditures vs. approved budget as an additional item for next year's budget review. Second by Craig Jacobsen. Motion carried.

Teresa Barrett motioned to approve the recommended budget as presented. Second by John FitzGerald. Motion carried.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ted Cabral reported on increased activity observed along the river in the vicinity of Old Redwood Highway and Industrial Avenue with folks living along the river corridor. He wished to make the Committee aware and call for a new approach to coordinated stream maintenance work and increased partnerships with City and other resources for the shelterless in addressing impacts on our waterways. He has personally approached folks and educated them on floods coming and resources available. He noted that effective stormwater management and issues like homelessness and its effects should be considered a part of future development planning, making the correlation that new development increases runoff through additional impervious cover and rooftops and can exacerbate existing flooding and river management issues.

Rick Savel noted that Roberts Creek and Cold Springs Creek are essentially the same tributary. He also mentioned need for continued consideration of other areas of recurrent flooding such as homes in Pengrove area. Savel commended PCI for their outstanding work and noted he was pleased to see this important work advanced by the Agency.

8. NEXT MEETING – Tentative date: March 25, 1pm.

Chairman Orrett adjourned meeting at 3pm.