



Watershed Planning and Outreach Workgroup Meeting #2
March 12, 2008
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

County of San Diego
5201 Ruffin Road, Suite P
Watershed Protection Conference Room

Attendance

Present

Sheri McPherson, County of San Diego Department of Public Works (facilitator)
Sue Varty, Olivenhain Municipal Water District
Bill Simmons, San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Kathy Weldon, City of Encinitas
Rob Hutsel, San Diego River Park Foundation
Karen Franz, San Diego CoastKeeper
Kimberly O'Connell, UC San Diego Environmental Affairs
Linda Flournoy, Planning & Engineering for Sustainability
Mark Stadler, San Diego County Water Authority
Roselyn Stewart, RMC Water and Environment

Absent

Cathy Pieroni, City of San Diego
Todd Snyder, County of San Diego

Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Sheri McPherson welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ms. McPherson will serve as facilitator until a Workgroup chair is elected. Introductions were made around the room.

Workgroup Administration

Ms. Sheri McPherson explained the responsibilities of the chair, which include facilitating Workgroup meetings, reviewing agendas and meeting minutes, and preparing for the meeting with the consultant. The group voted to elect Bill Simmons as Chair and Rob Hutsel as Alternate.

The group discussed composition of the Workgroup. One representative per hydrologic unit is preferred structure. Mark Stadler, Karen Franz, Sue Varty, Linda Flournoy, and Rob Hutsel will all contact watershed representatives to inquire about joining the Workgroup; confirmed contacts will be sent to RMC.

The group discussed the possibility of meeting at various locations in the Region to encourage participation. Bill Simmons and Mark Stadler will look into space availability.

Update on Tri-County FACC

Ms. Sheri McPherson provided an update on the Tri-County FACC activities, which include developing and adopting an MOU for inter-regional coordination and collaboration. The Tri-County FACC will work to identify common projects and programs within the Overlay Areas; however, those projects will be ranked independently by each Region's project prioritization process. Workgroup comments and suggestions:

- Concern was expressed that Tri-County watersheds might receive unbalanced attention and/or grant funding. All watersheds should receive comparable attention.
- Inquiry was made if letters of support from RAC and Workgroup (for the RAP Application) will be invited. RWMG will make announcement over email.

Review Watershed Policy Proposal

The goal of the IRWM program is to facilitate good water resources planning, including watershed management and protection. The policy proposal seeks to identify how to expand role/activities of the IRWM program beyond proposition grant funding and in support of watershed groups. Workgroup comments and suggestions:

- The Watershed Workgroup should help to identify and highlight regional priorities.
- The IRWM program should make a commitment putting watershed councils in place.
- Suggestion to develop a flow chart conceptualizing project review and identifying how watershed groups feed into it.
- Watershed coordinators should have a clear path for collaboration with the IRWM program, including how to raise up projects.
- Suggestion to incorporate coastal issues by watershed in IRWM Plan. ASBS issues in La Jolla ICWM will be addressed in Peñasquitos HU.

The group decided that a Workgroup subcommittee shall refine the Policy Proposal. Rob Hutsel will lead the subcommittee effort; members include Karen Franz, Sue Varty, Bill Simmons/Craig Adams, Sheri McPherson, Linda Flournoy, and Mark Stadler.

Watershed Organizations/Agencies and Contacts

Ms. Sheri McPherson and Ms. Rosalyn Stewart provided an overview of the watershed data compiled by RMC. The maps and table identify water agencies, sanitation districts, cities, flood control districts, and environmental organizations located within each of the region's 11 watersheds. This data will be useful for the watershed groups in developing project partnerships for the Proposition 84 funding cycle.

Workgroup members provided additions and corrections to the table. RMC will upload the revised information to a website for additional contributions by Workgroup members.

Outreach Strategies for 3 Levels of Watershed Groups

The group discussed outreach strategies for different types of watershed groups. Workgroup comments and suggestions:

- Need to distribute a “Call to Action” to participate in the IRWM process and submit projects. Need to clarify minimum requirements for projects (partnerships, multiple benefits).
- Need to identify watershed leaders! Start w/Watershed Management Plan partners and stakeholders.
- Workgroup members should support outreach and integration.
- Suggestion to establish a regional Watershed Council that meets quarterly. Council members would then be responsible for outreach to their own groups.
- Watershed groups should develop and prioritize lists of projects! Targets and metrics in IRWM Plan could be used as guidance.
- Why participate? This approach would give the watershed groups a voice in prioritization of watersheds projects.

Critical Water Supply and Water Quality Needs of DACs

Ms. Sheri McPherson explained that targeted outreach to DACs is necessary in order to understand their critical water needs. The group was invited to brainstorm and/or provide direction to early outreach efforts. Workgroup comments and suggestions:

- County DEH small water systems
- Groundwater contamination in San Dieguito and San Diego basins
- Water conservation education to DACs in urbanized areas (Pueblo/Otay)
- Chollas Creek TMDL (metals, bacteria)
- Flooding at creek constrictions
- Support for LID techniques
- Leaking septic systems
- How to pay for conversion to advanced water treatment

Action Items

- Mark Stadler, Karen Franz, Sue Varty, Linda Flournoy, and Rob Hutsel will all contact watershed representatives to inquire about joining the Workgroup; confirmed contacts will be sent to RMC.
- Bill Simmons and Mark Stadler will look into space availability.
- RWMG will make announcement about RAP letters of support over email.
- Rob Hutsel will lead the subcommittee effort to refine Policy Proposal; members include Karen Franz, Sue Varty, Bill Simmons/Craig Adams, Sheri McPherson, Linda Flournoy, and Mark Stadler.
- RMC will check Brown Act for meeting noticing for Workgroup or subcommittee.

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- RMC will confirm if Proposition 84 bond language addresses watershed coordinators.
- RMC will upload the revised watershed matrix to a website for additional contributions by Workgroup members.