



MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 26, 2008
TO: Carmel River Advisory Committee
FROM: Larry Hampson, Water Resources Engineer
SUBJECT: Packet for December 4, 2008 Committee Meeting

Enclosed is the meeting packet for the next meeting of the Committee, which will be held on:

**Thursday, December 4, 2008
10:00 A.M.
Mid-Carmel Valley Fire Station Community Room**

You may also download the meeting packet from the following website:

<http://www.mpwmd.dst.ca.us/programs/river/crac/cracinfo.htm>

For directions, contact Larry Hampson at the Carmel Valley field office at 659-2543 or by e-mail (larry@mpwmd.dst.ca.us).

Enclosure



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Carmel River Advisory Committee Members

John Dalessio, Chair
Lawrence V. Levine,
Vice Chair
Vincent Frumkin
Thomas D. House, Jr.
Lance Monosoff
Susan Rogers
Clive Sanders

Public Comment

Anyone wishing to address the Committee on a matter not listed on the agenda may do so during Public Comment.

DRAFT **AGENDA** **CARMEL RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, December 4, 2008
10:00 A.M. at

Mid-Carmel Valley Fire Station Community Room

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**
 - a. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER LANCE MONOSOFF**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
3. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
 - A. **Consider Approval of Minutes from the September 11, 2008 Regular Meeting.**
4. **UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON CARMEL RIVER WATERSHED ACTIVITIES – Clive Sanders**
5. **DISCUSS EMERGENCY RESPONSE ALONG THE CARMEL RIVER TO IMPACTS FROM THE BASIN COMPLEX FIRE**
6. **STAFF REPORTS**
 - a. **INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING**
 - b. **VEGETATION REMOVAL IN THE RIPARIAN CORRIDOR NEAR HIGHWAY 1**
 - c. **CARMEL RIVER RIPARIAN CORRIDOR IRRIGATION**
 - d. **ELEVATION –CAPACITY STUDY OF LOS PADRES RESERVOIR**
7. **ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON FUTURE AGENDAS**
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Staff notes regarding these agenda items will be available for public review on Monday, December 1, 2008 at the District office in Monterey.

**MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
CARMEL RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

December 4, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

a. INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER LANCE MONOSOFF

2. PUBLIC COMMENT - Anyone wishing to address the Committee on a matter not listed on the agenda may do so during Public Comment.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes from the September 11, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Carmel River Advisory Committee Regular Meeting are attached as **Exhibit A**.

ACTION REQUIRED: The Consent Calendar contains routine items that will be approved or accepted upon ratification of the Consent Calendar. A Committee member may request that a Consent Calendar item be considered separately by the Committee.

4. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON CARMEL RIVER WATERSHED ACTIVITIES

This is a regular agenda item. Clive Sanders, Administrator for the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy (CRWC), will update the Committee about CRWC activities.

RECOMMENDATION: No action is required. This is a discussion item.

5. DISCUSS EMERGENCY RESPONSE ALONG THE CARMEL RIVER TO IMPACTS FROM THE BASIN COMPLEX FIRE

BACKGROUND: The Basin Complex fire burned more than 60% of the watershed draining into the Los Padres Reservoir and has destabilized large areas within the watershed, especially on the upper portions of steep, south-facing slopes. The State Emergency Assessment Team Report, which can be downloaded at http://hazardmitigation.oes.ca.gov/state_emergency_assessment_team, describes the potential for a significant increase in runoff and debris flows in this watershed this coming winter. It is also likely that there will be a significant increase in soil erosion over the next one to five years. There is little that can be done to prevent this condition.

MPWMD staff, Monterey County Office of Emergency Services staff and Captain Sydney Reade from the mid-Carmel Valley Fire Station, will describe the steps that are being taken to prepare for the potential impacts along the Carmel River from the recent fire.

RECOMMENDATION: No action is required. This is a discussion item.

6. STAFF REPORTS - Staff will report on the following:

- a. INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING (Hampson)
- b. VEGETATION REMOVAL IN THE RIPARIAN CORRIDOR NEAR HIGHWAY 1 (Christensen)
- c. CARMEL RIVER RIPARIAN CORRIDOR IRRIGATION (Christensen)
- d. ELEVATION –CAPACITY STUDY OF LOS PADRES RESERVOIR (Hampson)

7. ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON FUTURE AGENDAS

Committee members should bring up any new business at this time to determine whether it should be included on a future meeting's agenda.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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MINUTES
MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
CARMEL RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
10:00 A.M. Regular Meeting at
Mid-Carmel Valley Fire Station Community Room
September 11, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Dalessio, Vince Frumkin, Tom House, Larry Levine, Richard H. Rosenthal, Clive Sanders

MEMBERS ABSENT: Susan Rogers (excused absence)

PUBLIC PRESENT: Margaret Robbins, Charles Franklin, Todd Norgaard, Rod Mills, Robert Greenwood, Marjorie Ingram-Viales, Tim Sanders

STAFF PRESENT: Andy Bell, Thomas Christensen, Larry Hampson, Elizabeth Geisler

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – There were no comments under this item.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR – **Clive Sanders made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 12, 2008 Regular Meeting. Tom House seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

4. PRESENTATION ON THE REGIONAL PLENARY OVERSIGHT GROUP (REPOG) PLANNING PROCESS BY JIM HEITZMAN, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT (MCWD) – Paula Risso assisted Mr. Heitzman in making a detailed presentation of the REPOG [now known as Water for Monterey County] proposal for solving water supply problems in the Monterey Peninsula and north Monterey County areas. The presentation can be downloaded from the Carmel River Advisory Committee web page at <http://www.mpwmd.dst.ca.us/programs/river/crac/cracinfo.htm>

The presentation was similar to one given by Lyndel Melton to the MPWMD Board of Directors at their March 17, 2008 regular meeting [the Board took no position on the proposal]. Mr. Heitzman described that many projects were considered by the REPOG group and winnowed. Desalination would supply the largest volume of water, but he pointed out that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is considering regulations on brine discharges to the ocean from desalination plants that could limit the salinity of such discharges [Note: SWRCB staff recommend establishing an objective that includes a limit that would not exceed a certain percentage of natural background and that would give Regional boards some flexibility in setting standards.] More information on this issue is available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/

Committee members raised questions about the availability of recycled water and Salinas Groundwater Basin water, the costs for Salinas River surface flow diversion, and the potential for importing water from the Central Valley. Mr. Heitzman replied that: 1.) some recycled water that is owned by the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA) is available, but that the REPOG group could not meet the terms set by MRWPCA for its use; 2.) export of groundwater from the Salinas Groundwater Basin is prohibited by Monterey County ordinance; 3.) agricultural

water users paid for the recycled water projects and the rubber dam project across the Salinas River; 4.) major water supply projects in California [Central Valley Project and State Water Project] are already oversubscribed, such that newer users are the first to be cut during shortages. The dependability of a such a supply for the Monterey Peninsula would be questionable.

Mr. Heitzman described that computer simulation modeling of the 180-foot groundwater aquifer in the Salinas Groundwater Basin shows that locating and operating intake wells for a desalination plant near the coast in the vicinity of the existing landfill in Marina could result in shrinking the seawater-intruded area almost to the coast within 50 to 60 years [the 180-foot aquifer is currently intruded by seawater between the coast and the outskirts of the City of Salinas]. Reversal of this condition would be accomplished by pumping out brackish water, which would alter the freshwater/seawater gradient that currently allows seawater to flow inland within the aquifer to a gradient that would cause fresh water to flow toward the coast. The REPOG proposal is for California American Water to contract with MCWD for the water, which would contract in turn with the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. However, Mr. Heitzman pointed out that current County ordinance prohibits export of groundwater outside of the Salinas Groundwater Basin.

Mr. Heitzman stated that one of the risks of the Coastal Water Project [described in the California Public Utilities Commission EIR for the project] includes the potential for \$50 million in lawsuits concerning the route of the proposed pipeline through the Elkhorn Slough for delivering desalinated water from Moss Landing to the Monterey Peninsula.

5. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON CARMEL RIVER WATERSHED ACTIVITIES – Clive Sanders said that there may be Prop. 84 funds available to move the Water for Monterey County proposal forward. He also described potential funding through the Ocean Protection Council (formed in 2006) for work at the lagoon to address concerns about local flooding and protection of steelhead.

6. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED FALL 2008 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ALONG THE CARMEL RIVER – Thomas Christensen described the removal of an old concrete slab in the channel bottom at Rosie’s Bridge that impacted spawning habitat and pool development [MPWMD believe the slab was a part of a center support for a bridge built prior to World War II]. Mr. Christensen also reported that all vegetation management work had been completed.

The Committee discussed the potential for selective vegetation management downstream of Highway 1 in the south overbank area. Mr. Christensen volunteered to contact Ken Gray at State Parks to discuss the work.

7. STAFF REPORTS – Mr. Bell explained that the rate case filed by CAW with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) was the largest in the history of MPWMD and, if approved, would result in a 120% increase over existing rates. The case includes rate increase requests for increased water conservation, measures proposed in the draft Cease and Desist order from the SWRCB to reduce water use, work associated with the Coastal Water Project and REPOG, San Clemente Dam seismic safety project costs, and smaller projects related to office costs. Mr. Bell encouraged Committee members to attend CPUC hearings. He also said that he anticipates that water rates may triple in the future.

Larry Hampson reported on the effects to the watershed above Los Padres Reservoir from the Basin Complex fire. Richard Rosenthal requested that the Committee hold a meeting prior to winter rains to get an update on emergency preparation. Mr. Dalessio suggested asking a member of the Burned Area Emergency Response Team or Office of Emergency Services to speak to the Committee.

8. ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON FUTURE AGENDAS

Committee members tentatively scheduled December 4, 2008 for the next meeting and requested that the following item be placed on the agenda:

- a. Emergency response to fire impacts and flooding

9. ADJOURNMENT – the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

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