



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 454-2022 FAX: (831) 454-3128 TDD: (831) 454-2123

AGENDA

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday June 7, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

Fifth Floor Conference Room, Room 510 - County Governmental Center
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

A. **OPENING**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Election of Officers: Chair and Vice-Chair

B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 5, 2017**

C. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on matters that are within the Commission's area of responsibility, but not on today's agenda.

D. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Opportunity for Commissioners to report on matters that are not on today's agenda.

E. **STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

F. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS – *indicates items for discussion**

1. Pajaro Valley Groundwater Management Issues
2. **Santa Margarita Groundwater Management Issues***
Adoption of New Joint Powers Authority for Groundwater Sustainability Agency
<http://smgwa.org/news/>
3. Water Conservation Efforts, Countywide
4. Update on County Water Resource Management Efforts
5. Mid-County Water Issues
6. County Commission on the Environment
7. Update on Conjunctive Use
8. Karst protection zone proposal
9. Environmental Code Compliance
10. Water Supply Planning
11. County-wide Drought Response

12. Water Advisory Commission Role and Work Program*

Including coordination with Other Commissions,
And topics for discussion at Joint meeting on September 27
Background Material Attached

13. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act*

Request to Board of Supervisors for County to become Interim Groundwater Sustainability agency for West Santa Cruz Terrace (3-026) and Purisima Highlands (3-002.02)

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Managing Land to optimize groundwater recharge**
2. **Impact of groundwater pumping on Streamflow**
3. **Consider appointment of a subcommittee to review and develop comments on the Cannabis Cultivation EIR**

I. INFORMATION AGENDA

J. CORRESPONDENCE

K. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER:

1. February 17, 2017 – 37 - Approve fiscal year 2016-17 Fish and Game Fund allocations to nine entities, in the total amount of \$15,000.

2. May 23, 2017 – 28 - Authorize the County Administrative Officer to execute on behalf of the County a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for creation of the Santa Margarita Groundwater Management Agency; Appoint County representatives to the Santa Margarita Groundwater Management Agency, with the First and Fifth District Board members as the Directors, and the Health Services Agency's Water Resources Division Director as the Alternate Director; and adopt a resolution designating the County as the groundwater sustainability agency for the West Santa Cruz Terrace, Purisima Highlands, and other residual minor groundwater basins.

3. May 23, 2017 – 26 - Authorize the Auditor to process payment from the fiscal year 2016-17 Zone 4 budget to the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County in the amount of \$50,176 for provision of services rendered to County of Santa Cruz staff and Santa Cruz County residents for projects and programs related to storm damage repair, cannabis cultivation, and natural resource management.

L. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

M. ADJOURNMENT:

PLEASE CONTACT JOHN RICKER, (831) 454-2750, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. The meeting room is located in an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and you will require special assistance in order to participate, please contact Teresa Lautenschlager at 454-2022 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, to make arrangements. As a courtesy to those persons affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 454-2022 FAX: (831) 454-3128 TDD: (831) 454-2123

ACTION MINUTES

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday April 5, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

Fifth Floor Conference Room, Room 510 - County Governmental Center
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

A. OPENING:

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Hamilton-Monkerud called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM

2. **Roll Call:**

Present: Hamilton-Monkerud, Wilson, Spencer, Sharp
Absent: Berry (Excused), Edgemon, Gregorio
Staff: John Ricker, Dr. Leff, Environmental Health
Others: Becky Steinbruner

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

December 7, 2016 – revised
February 1, 2017

Approved

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS : *There was a suggestion that the Commission recommend that the Board of Supervisors reconsider the 2016 Water Resources Status Report and that the Board hold a public hearing to consider declaring a groundwater emergency.*

D. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

No Action

E. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Action

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – *indicates items for discussion

1. **Pajaro Valley Groundwater Management Issues**

Not discussed

2. **Santa Margarita Groundwater Management Issues***

Pending Request for Adoption of New Joint Powers Authority for
Groundwater Sustainability <http://smgwa.org/news/>

No Action

3. **Water Conservation Efforts, Countywide**

Not discussed

4. **Update on County Water Resource Management Efforts**

Not discussed

5. **Mid-County Water Issues**

No Action

6. **County Commission on the Environment**

Discussed under Item 12

- 7. **Update on Conjunctive Use** *not discussed*
- 8. **Karst protection zone proposal** *not discussed*
- 9. **Environmental Code Compliance** *No Action*
- 10. **Water Supply Planning** *not discussed*
- 11. **County-wide Drought Response** *not discussed*
- 12. **Water Advisory Commission Role and Work Program*** *No Action*
 Including coordination with Other Commissions
- 13. **Sustainable Groundwater Management Act*** *Commission concurred*
 Request to Board of Supervisors for County to become Interim
 Groundwater Sustainability agency for West Santa Cruz Terrace
 (3-026) and Purisima Highlands (3-002.02)

G. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. **Managing Land to optimize groundwater recharge*** *No Action*
- 2. **Impact of groundwater pumping on Streamflow*** *No Action*

I. INFORMATION AGENDA *None*

J. CORRESPONDENCE *None*

K. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER *None*

L. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: *not discussed*

M. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 PM

Minutes Prepared by: John Ricker, EH Staff

Background Material on Commission Coordination: Water Advisory, Fish and Wildlif, Comm on the Environment

Santa Cruz County Inter-Commission Coordination Working Group (ICCWG) (10-17-14?)

*Water Advisory Commission (WAC) Fish
and Game Commission (FGC)
Commission on the Environment (COE)*

Purpose:

To define the work focus areas for the commissions for the forthcoming year and more clearly identify roles, responsibilities and coordination within and between the other commissions.

Commission Coordination Process:

Due to the inherently overlapping scopes of these three commissions, there is a need for greater clarity in roles and responsibilities, as well as exploration of efficiencies and ways to synergize efforts of each commission. The following structure is proposed to improve inter-commission coordination:

1. Each commission shall appoint a standing Commission Coordination Subcommittee (CCS) which will identify priority focus areas for their respective commissions for the forthcoming year. Currently the WAC representatives to the CCS are Tony Gregorio, Ned Spencer and Chris Berry; the COE representatives are Ross Clark, Greg Pepping and John Hunt; and the FGC representatives are Chris Berry, Isaac Shikuma and Matt Freeman.
2. Each CCS will appoint one representative to meet with the representatives of the other CCSs on an ad hoc basis as the ICCWG to facilitate information exchange and ensure that there is not redundancy in efforts, as well as to look for opportunities for synergies through commission collaboration.
3. The CCSs and the ICCWG shall meet in the intervening months between regularly scheduled commission meetings.
4. By virtue of their not being comprised of a majority of their respective commissions, these subcommittees shall not be obligated to comply with the Brown Act.
5. The representative from the WAC and FGC to the ICCWG for 2014 shall be Chris Berry. The representative from the COE to the ICCWG for 2014 TBD.
6. The representative from the ICCWG shall report back to the CCSs and at their regularly scheduled commission meetings on the activities of the CCS and ICCWG.

Work Plan:

Priority work focus areas for the forthcoming year include:

Water Advisory Commission - Specific

1. Soquel/Santa Cruz Supply Development
2. Pajaro and Santa Margarita Groundwater Management

3. County Environmental Planning and Code Compliance Performance
4. Karst Protection Zone Program Development
5. Pajaro River Flood Control
6. Others as needed

Fish and Game Advisory Commission - Specific

1. Grants program
2. Others as needed

Commission on the Environment - Specific

1. *inform the Board on the implementation of AB32 and related executive orders and legislation*
2. *impacts on the local environment due to climate change*
3. *Conserving local natural resources and preventing pollution*
4. *Enhancing, restoring and preserving local habitat and open spaces.*
5. *Energy conservation and renewables (CCA)*
6. *Riparian/watershed protection*

Coordinated with other Commissions

1. Code Compliance
2. Drought Response
3. Coho recovery
4. Cannabis cultivation
5. San Lorenzo River Alliance
6. Others as needed

Notes:

- 1) We should fill each work focus area heading out with a paragraph summarizing the issue and perceived needs moving forward, roles/responsibilities, etc. ...perhaps as an attachment to this overview doc?

Update 4/1/16

Among items the Fish and Game Advisory Commission (FGAC) is tentatively going to work on during the next few months are:

- Open Space District formation
- Low flow fishing closures
- Trout in the Classroom
- Cannabis cultivation ordinance
- Proclamation for Karen Christensen

In the long term, we will continue to focus on:

- Coastal Lagoons
- Coho Recovery
- Instream flows
- Riparian Conservation
- Code Compliance
- Grants program

The focus of the Water Advisory Commission (WAC) in the near term includes:

-Karst Protection Zone policy

Over the longer term, the following issues will continue to be focused upon:

-Supply Development

-Sustainable Groundwater Management Act implementation

-Water Conservation

-Water Rights

-Water Quality

The Commission on the Environment (COE) is currently focusing on:

-Climate Action strategy

-Development/implementation of Community Aggregation Energy policy

Items requiring future inter-commission coordination:

-Climate effects on local salmonid populations

-Climate effects of supply development

-Flood control management

-Other?

Update: March, 2017

"Issues the ICCWG identified for coordination and as agenda items for the joint meeting:

- Climate change adaptation involves the three commissions in their responsibilities for riparian corridor management, water quality and supply, fire, flood and sea level rise planning. A particular focus may be the coordination between the county, cities, FEMA and the Coastal Commission on climate change adaptation and the local coastal plan.
- County and State strategies to manage environmental (and human) resources may have to be substantially revised in anticipation of severe cuts by the federal government. Many State and local regulations are enabled by federal legislation that could be eliminated. An example is state water quality protection through Regional Water Board enforcement of the US Clean Water Act. How can state and local governments maintain resource management when federal enabling legislation and financial support are withdrawn? How can the commissions help?
- The F&WC anticipates asking the BOS to write a letter to the White House emphasizing the good relations between the county and federal agencies such as the National Marine Fisheries Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service, and asking that their programs affecting the county be maintained. The other commissions may want to support this request.
- The commissions should coordinate on protection of potential groundwater recharge areas and the availability and quality of water for recharge.
- County actions related to nutrient inputs and *Microcystin* contamination of Pinto Lake.
- Storm water management in general, and possibly specifically in terms of commission recommendations related to specific large developments, such as the Aptos Village.

- Impaired water body listings, total maximum daily loads, regulations and county actions in the San Lorenzo River watershed and other potentially 303d listed waters. Do the data support the listings?
- Trash management, especially in the Pajaro River. The county has identified funding and has initiated actions. The commissions may wish to request an update.
- Recent high stream flows have highlighted issues related to the riparian corridor ordinance. The commissions may wish to receive presentations and coordinate on review and implementation of the ordinance."