

**TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
COORDINATED AB3030 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2005**

Present: Bill Richardson; Gary Antone; Bob Steinacher; Roger Sherrill. Absent: Tom Heffernan; Jim Lowden; Walt Mansell; Kevin Borrer; Steve Kimbrough. Also present: Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager; Dan McManus; Brett Wykoff, Carol Anacker Hubbard and Lisa Babcock of State Water Board.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. There was no quorum. These minutes are for information only.
2. Introductions: Doti Watkins, Tehama County Transportation and GIS; ???? Dept. Water Resources of the Water Quality Unit.
3. Approval of February 28, 2005 minutes: Hold over to next meeting.
4. Public Comment:
 - Ernie Ohlin distributed Northern Sacramento Valley Water Forum information. The next meeting is April 1, 2005.
 - Roger Sherrill added this no cost meeting is important to attend.
 - Information was distributed by Ernie Ohlin regarding the new position of Dan Keppen, former Water Resources Manager.
 - Ernie Ohlin provided updated information on Sun City. The 1,000 ft. production well has been completed and rate testing is proceeding.
 - Dan McManus added that the observation well showed a 38' drawdown after the 4-day testing.
 - Roger Sherrill requested the TAC be updated regarding applicants for the TAC membership and perhaps members can suggest someone to fill the position. Alan Abs was suggested.
 - Ernie Ohlin answered that only one person re-applied, but Alan would be approached.
5. Four County Regional Drinking Water Quality Management Plan: Ernie Ohlin updated the members on the recent stakeholder meeting. Discussions on development and awareness of projects that could affect water quality in various counties and the importance of public awareness.
6. Voluntary Domestic Well Assessment Program: Carol Hubbard explained the GAMA Program with an overhead presentation, and how the program came to Tehama County including testing of wells. Areas of testing were: Cottonwood; Bend; Los Molinos; Red Bluff. Testing will begin April 5th and must be completed by June 15th due to the contract ending.

Information from the Assessors Office provided information for mass mailings in Tehama County. Owners were mailed information and could voluntarily participate in the program. Samples taken from the well along with any information the owner may have on their well is done. Wells are tested for organic compounds, bacteria, and metals. Results are provided to the owners.

Ernie Ohlin questioned how this information will be provided to our County. Also, if the GPS on the domestic well is done by your agency, and if there are owner changes, how will you identify the well? This is important due to the wells not being in a State database.

Ms. Hubbard answered that if a waiver is signed, it will be provided to those agencies. No answer was provided to staff as to how the Board would identify the well.

Gary Antone questioned who will have access to this information.

Ms. Hubbard answered that certain agencies, and those that have signed a confidentiality contract.

Ernie Ohlin questioned the 200 responses from Tehama County. Reporting should be clear and that it represents the overall County. Not just areas with particular groundwater concerns.

When questioned as to how the areas of testing were chosen, Ms. Hubbard answered that areas were chosen after discussions with Tehama County Environmental, DWR, and DHS. Staff within Flood Control and this membership was not contacted, but will be included in future testing situations.

Ernie Ohlin questioned if review will be given to staff before information is given to the public or newspapers.

Ms. Babcock answered that historically, data summaries are sent to Environmental Health.

Ms. Hubbard added that the owners of tested wells receive the information first. Then it is distributed to Environmental Health.

Information received by the newspaper for El Dorado County was discussed and how it came about. Reports submitted for approval to public agencies become public information and it was suggested the educational process should be done correctly. The newspaper was quoted as saying, "According to unpublished test results...". Staff felt if it was unpublished results shared with the media, and this is a concern of how the project is perceived.

Bill Richardson requested the information gathered should be accessed by our agencies. Coordination between the program and our County should be done.

Roger Sherrill added that it is not a problem shared by the larger program. USGS does a good job making sure everyone in the area is familiar with the program before it is launched. Seeking out key individuals involved with groundwater in the area tested and making sure they sit at the table and provide assistance.

Bill Richardson requested this County, and not just Environmental, be kept informed. This group in particular should be informed through staff.

Staff requested a copy of the GIS layer and areas chosen for testing.

Ms. Babcock questioned if the desire of this group was to make sure the County of objectively covered. Staff answered it would have been good to see the areas covered and to have the ability to add more areas.

7. Next Meeting Date April 18th.
8. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.