

YOLO COUNTY HABITAT JOINT POWERS AGENCY
YOLO NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

JPA BOARD MEETING

Draft Minutes: November 16, 2009

Prepared by: Maria Wong,
Executive Director

JPA Board Members present:

Marjorie Dickinson, UC Davis (ex officio)
Martie Dote, City of Woodland
Matt Rexroad, Yolo County
Stephen Souza, City of Davis
Helen Thomson, Yolo County

JPA Board Alternates present:

None

Staff present:

Maria Wong, Executive Director
Kate Montieth, Assistant to the Director
Susan Garbini, Graduate Fellow

Minutes

1. **The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m.**
2. **Approval of Agenda Order**
- (Dote moved and Rexroad seconded 4-0)
3. **Public Comment – None**
4. **Board Correspondence -**
Wong advised the Board that the Steering Advisory Committee member representing education might need to step down due to new work responsibilities. Member Dickinson agreed to work with staff to recruit a steering advisory committee member from the UC Davis community.
5. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
 - (a) **Approval of Board Minutes – September 21, 2009.**
 - (b) **Approve Third Amendment to the SAIC consultant contract amending the scope and budget.**
 - (c) **Adopt Resolution amending the FY 2009-10 Budget authorizing one additional FTE limited term position and increasing the available funding for staff support by \$41,750.**
 - (d) **Receive and File Special District Financial Transaction Report for FY 2009-09**

Approved as submitted (Souza moved and Dote seconded 4-0)

REGULAR AGENDA

6. Executive Director Report.

The Board welcomed Kate Montieth, the new administrative assistant. Ms. Montieth will assist staff at Board meetings regularly throughout the year.

Wong provided an update on the status of the HCP/NCCP planning effort. The Board received an update on staffing, the EIR/EIS process, the status of the HCP/NCCP planning effort, and an update on fiscal issues.

EIR/EIS: Only one response was received from the second round of RFQs. ICF Jones & Stokes submitted a valid proposal; staff will bring back a contract proposal for the Board's consideration in January.

HCP/NCCP process:

Covered activities – a working draft of the Covered Activities chapter has posted to the website and was submitted to the wildlife agencies for review and comment. The wildlife agencies are asking for more detail on covered activities from all of the HCPs than they have in the past. Staff is working with the agencies to reach the appropriate balance between level of detail and flexibility over the long term.

Conservation strategy – The three major habitat zones - upland, agriculture, and riparian – are in various draft stages of completion. **Dote** inquired if agricultural activities will be covered in the NCCP. Wong responded yes, but that it may not be possible to cover all of the activities farmers undertake. **Souza** asked if wind farms are anticipated in the plan; **Wong** replied that wind farms are difficult to cover in a programmatic way because they create unique impacts based on location and scale. The Steering Advisory Committee has convened a series of riparian workshops to assist them in developing recommendations regarding the riparian conservation strategy. Wong advised the Board that the Pollinator Conservation Strategy has been completed and posted to the webpage. **Thomson** asked staff to let the Farm Bureau know it was available.

Public Outreach – Wong advised that staff will be actively engaged in public outreach beginning in January. Activities include Quarterly Newsletters, updates to community groups, and focused meetings.

Related planning efforts – staff will continue to participate in the SACOG/ACE wetland inventory project, the BDCP process, and the RUCS project. **Thomson** informed staff that the RUCS project is scheduled for completion in May 2010. Wong informed the Board that a statewide coalition of HCP entities has formed; the coalition is currently working on federal funding issues of common concern and compatibility between HCP/NCCPs and SB 375.

7. Board adjourned at 6:50 to December 14, 2009

Helen M. Thomson, Chairwoman
Board of Directors