



County of Santa Cruz

SUSAN A. MAURIELLO, J.D., COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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AGENDA: September 15, 1998

September 5, 1998

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Santa Cruz

701 Ocean Street

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Water Resources Management

Dear Members of the Board:

On August 4, 1998, your Board received a report on water resources management and you set September 15th as the date to receive input and recommendations from the water districts on the report and to consider further actions relative to water management staffing.

To date, the County has not received additional written input from the districts on the report. However, the district's managers have proposed to work in conjunction with County staff to present their input in the form of proposed revisions to the report at some time in the near future. The District staffs have indicated that they would like the opportunity to discuss proposed changes with county staff and that their issues can be addressed through proposed revisions to the material which can be generated as a product of these discussions.

As previously directed, County staff met with water district representatives on August 31, 1998. The structure and format of the working group, the goals, objectives and strategies section of the report and the proposed staffing were discussed. With regard to the structure of the working group, County staff stressed the importance of focusing the group's efforts toward action oriented results which are geared to developing regional action plans for consideration by your Board and the District Board's to address the Water Resources Management Report goals, objectives and strategies.

The County staff will continue to work to focus the group's work on policy recommendations for your consideration, not just technical information. As you are aware, the water management report is in fact a County document, and as such it reflects the understanding and belief of County professional and technical staff. Due to the complexity of hydrology and the many (sometimes conflicting) technical documents

involved, it is natural that some disagreement might occur in interpreting and presenting such information. County staff believes that as long as general agreement exists on the overall imperiled status of water resources, as well as overall needs and goals, achieving a more detailed consensus may unnecessarily divert time and attention from developing and implementing an action plan to address water resources problems.

With regard to the goals, objectives and strategies, the working group began discussing these aspects of the report, and was able to reach conceptual agreement on changes to the goals portion of the material. The objectives and strategies are yet to be discussed by the group. Upon the completion of the review of these aspects, the working group would present any proposed revisions to our respective Boards.

Lastly, the working group discussed the proposed staffing recommendations, as contained in the Water Resources Management Report. The District's managers indicated support for proceeding with filling of the three positions, with the understanding that the County's intent was to attempt in good faith to work cooperatively with the water districts, through the Working Group, to achieve the identified goals, objectives and strategies.

In conclusion, our office supports continuing to work cooperatively with the water districts to address the critical water quality and quantity issues facing our County. It is our belief that because of the severity and broad nature of these water quality and quantity problems, they will require regional solutions. Such solutions are likely to have significant cost, but will also benefit residents in broad areas of the County and will require cooperation of water agencies throughout the County.

It is therefore recommended that your Board:

1. Direct the Personnel Department to complete the classification process for the three new positions;
2. Direct the Planning Department and Environmental Health Services to proceed with filling the positions as soon as possible upon completion of the personnel classification process;
3. Direct County staff to continue to participate in the Water Resources Agency Working Group; and

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4. Direct the Planning Department and Environmental Health Services to report back on January 19, 1999 with a status report on Water Resources Management efforts.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan A. Mauriello". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and a stylized "M" at the end.

Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

cc: Water Districts, Planning, HSA, County Counsel



SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

13060 Highway 9 • Boulder Creek, CA 95006 • (408) 338-2153

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September 4, 1998

FAXED
9/8/98

Board of Supervisors
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT REPORT

Dear Members of the Board:

Our agency reviewed the report regarding Water Resources Monitoring and Management in Santa Cruz County. We support most of the recommendations, in particular, increased water quality monitoring and watershed management activities, particularly within the San Lorenzo River Watershed, development and implementation of a comprehensive erosion control program and fishery habitat protection and restoration.

By correspondence dated August 2, 1998 the General Managers of all Santa Cruz County Water Agencies proposed a formalized cooperative working group with a recommended initial work program. The Board of Directors of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District unanimously supports the proposal as presented. Our agency believes the proposal will foster collaboration between all agencies relative to water resource management. We urge the Board of Supervisors to also support the proposal presented by the Water Agencies General Managers.

Our District is committed to working cooperatively with all agencies relative to water resource planning which will ensure a long-term and reliable supply of water for all users.

Sincerely,

Dexter Ahlgren, President
Board of Directors

DA/JAM: kas

**SOQUEL CREEK
WATER DISTRICT**

5180 SOQUEL DR.

P.O. BOX 158

SOQUEL, CA 95073

TEL 408-475-8500 / 408-688-2288

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August 21, 1998**DIRECTORS****DANIEL F. KRIEGER**
President**JAMES M. BARGETTO****JOHN W. BEEBE****KRISTEN COZAK****GARY E. HAZELTON****LAURA D. BROWN**
General Manager

Ms. **Susan A. Mauriello, J.D.**
County **Administrative Officer**
county **of Santa Cruz**
701 Ocean Street, Suite **520**
Santa **Cruz**, CA 95060

Subject: County Water Resources Management –
Proposed Cooperative Working Group

Dear Susan,

The General Managers of **all** Santa **Cruz County** Water Agencies have recently met to discuss the County's Water Resources Management Plan in preparation for the upcoming August 31 Meeting with County **Staff**. The discussion focused on how water agencies might best **contribute** to the water **resources** management **effort** being **proposed** by the County.

It was the unanimous agreement of **all** managers to accept the County's offer **to** work cooperatively with the Water **Agencies**, **and** to that end, the Water Agencies are proposing **that** we formalize a **Water** Resources Management Technical Working Group.

Enclosed is an outline **defining** the structure and purpose of the proposed **Technical** Working Group. At the August 31 Meeting, the Water Agencies **would** like to **focus discussion on** this concept. We believe agreement on this would **lay** the groundwork for a productive **effort** in addressing the issues of water resources management **throughout** the county.

As you can see **from** the outline, the recommended initial work program for the Technical Working Group would be **to refine** and agree upon the proposed County Water Resources Management documents. We believe this **will** assure that 1) the **documents** are **accurate**, and 2) actions **with**

Ms. Susan A. Mauriello, J.D.
County Administrative Officer
County of Santa Cruz
August 20, 1998
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respect to water resources management are directed towards areas that will be most beneficial in enhancing and protecting the water supplies throughout Santa Cruz County.

Sincerely,

SOQUEL CREEK WATER DISTRICT

Laura D. Brown

Laura D. Brown
General Manager

LDB:jjy

cc: Mr. Peter Cota Robles
Santa Cruz County Water Agency Managers

WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

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Membership:

County Water Resources Manager – Group Coordinator
County Hydrologist
County Water Quality Program Manager
City of Santa Cruz Water Director
City of Watsonville Public Works Director
Soquel Creek Water District General Manager
Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency General Manager
San Lorenzo Valley Water District General Manager
Scotts Valley Water District General Manager
Lompico County Water District General Manger
Central Water District General Manager
Pajaro Sunny Mesa County Water District General Manager

County Water Rights Attorney to serve as Legal Advisor to the group

Purpose:

- Share resource monitoring data on a regularly scheduled basis
- Share all on-going work on water supply, demand, conservation and planning
- Identify areas of data collection or technical studies needed to further the agreed upon goals and collectively agree on responsible agency
- Identify opportunities for regional solutions to supply issues

Authority:

Working group members have the authority to provide information from their respective agencies and develop recommendations. Any actions involving policy or appropriation of funds require approval by the governing boards of the affected agencies.

Meeting Schedule: Monthly, 3-hour sessions

Sub-groups may be formed and meet on an as-needed basis

Initial Work Program:

- Correct Facts within the County's Water Resources Documents
- Develop Goals, Objectives and Strategies
- Refine the Work Plan Proposed by the County to be Consistent with the Goals and Objectives
- Agree Upon Roles and Responsibilities of the Various Agencies, including Cooperative Efforts