

**PLUMAS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
PLUMAS WATERSHED FORUM
COUNTY OF PLUMAS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**MEETING OF THE PLUMAS WATERSHED FORUM
COUNTY OF PLUMAS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
HELD IN QUINCY ON MAY 14, 2004**

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

None.

3. PLUMAS WATERSHED FORUM

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FEATHER RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT STRATEGY DOCUMENT PREPARED BY ECOSYSTEM SCIENCES (Mark Hill).

Mark Hill, Managing Partner of Ecosystem Sciences is present and presents the Forum with a revised document of the Feather River Watershed Management Strategy including changes addressed at the meeting of March 15, 2004. The Chair states that he believes positive changes have been made and that the document is more accommodating for the purpose. Dwight Russell, representing the Department of Water Resources would like the Forum to consider the document a "living document" that may be changed in the future as needed. Supervisor Meacher asks that all members understand that funds are not constrained or limited, that there could be projects outside the scope of approach and that there should be additional guidelines. Supervisor Meacher believes that A and B funds should not be used for this document only but that the B funds should be used for the watershed project overall. He further states that education outreach is not listed with further goals. Supervisor Pearson agrees that the public needs to be better educated re: watershed projects to understand what the Forum is trying to achieve. Supervisor Meacher informs the members that as a result of Plumas County using their General Fund dollars to contract the Ferguson Group in Washington DC that the District is benefiting from the monies they are able to get for the County, and would ask if it is feasible for the District to pay back Plumas County's General Fund? Dwight Russell would like the funds identified for the different projects and bring a report back to the Forum at which time all of the benefits will be discussed. Supervisor Meacher also points out that the Board of Supervisors meets once a week and when important issues are discussed at those meetings needing funding from the Forum, that going to the Forum for approval of funds isn't possible regarding that at the time of the Board of Supervisors meeting. Plumas County needs to have discretionary funds set aside for this purpose and asks the Forum members to set aside \$100,000 as administrative overhead. Tom Hunter states that the By-laws require that the County provide a financial report to the Forum every October and by doing so, the funds would be monitored. Dwight Russell agrees that \$100,000 is to be set aside with an accounting of these funds in October.

Motion is made by Forum Member Dwight Russell, seconded by Supervisor Meacher and unanimously carried to approve the Feather River Watershed Management Strategy Document as presented.

John Coburn informs the members that the document will be published and available on the Plumas County and Department of Water Resources website.

REVIEW PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF ACCEPTING AND AWARDED PROJECT APPLICATIONS

Dwight Russell states that the Project Application process was noticed in the newspaper and the proposals are due on August 6, 2004 at which time the Forum will meet to discuss the final projects submitted.

We don't know yet the total number of proposals we will receive and will schedule August 12th – 17th for TAC review and recommendation and August 23rd – 27th for the Forum Meeting to review TAC recommendations. So far Tom Hunter has received 10 applications and expects to receive around 10 or so more. Supervisor Meacher would like to know where we are on the Sierra Valley Project. Tom Hunter states that Corps. of Engineer's sent Todd 2001 RFP and will prepare a tentative RFP out to Todd in the near future. Supervisor Meacher asks the Forum if a progress report should be submitted and who should submit one. John Sheehan states that there is no requirement for the first round however, one should be demanded for the second round with some kind of schedule. Dwight Russell would like a quarterly report on funds and activity to expedite the project with a formal report from John Sheehan. John Sheehan states that he does not handle all of the projects and that each entity needs to respond. Dwight Russell discusses the importance of status of expenditures to date and what the percent complete of projects is. Tom Hunter will have the information before applications are discussed. Supervisor Meacher discusses the interest of Cal-Fed wanting to independently review and monitor their projects. David Okita would like to receive more information from Cal-Fed so the projects are not slowed down. Dwight Russell would like to know if Cal-Fed states that a certain project won't fund water, will the committee have to accept, are we funding consultants, what is their significance criteria and what part does the Forum play. Tom Hunter informs the committee that the Department of Water Resources will be a heavy player regarding the monitoring. Supervisor Meacher states that we will ask Cal-Fed to put their proposal in writing and after we receive it we will have a conference call with them and the Forum.

Motion is made by Supervisor Meacher, seconded by Supervisor Nelson and unanimously carried to approve schedule of accepting and awarding project applications.

CONSIDER FUNDING OF STAKEHOLDER COSTS TO ATTEND TAC OR FORUM MEETINGS

The TAC has made a request to fund meals and miles only for stakeholders. Supervisor Pearson agrees to fund meals, miles and lodging, if necessary, with no hourly rate. Dwight Russell would offer we only pay to non-profits. David Okita states in addition to non-profits, to help resource conservationists and rely on Tom Hunter to approve requests for reimbursement. Tom will create an application for reimbursement which will include asking if entity is funded or not.

Motion is made by Supervisor, seconded by Dwight Russell and unanimously carried to approve payment of expenses for non-profit stakeholders to include meals, mileage and lodging, if needed, and maintain a list of the Technical Advisory Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The Forum adjourns at 10:05 a.m. to meet again the week of August 23rd – 27th, 2004 depending on the number of proposals received for review.

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Deputy Clerk, Board of Supervisors