

**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 OCTOBER 26, 2004**

1. INTRODUCTIONS

The Forum convenes at 10:00 a.m. with Plumas County Supervisors Robert Meacher, BJ Pearson and Vice Chair, William Dennison present. Members from the Department of Water Resources include Dwight Russell, Dan Flory, Nancy Quan, Todd Hillaire and Katie Spanos. Members from the State Water Contractors include John Coburn, Tim Quinn, Tom Hurlbutt and David Okita.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Holly George, County Director of Cooperative Extension is present and addresses the Forum. Ms. George presents the Forum with information in regards to implementation of a grant proposal (Prop 40/50 Ag Water Quality Grant) to establish and implement a program to address water quality issues related to discharge from irrigated agricultural lands in the upper Feather River watershed area.

Kelley Goldsmith, a member of the public and property owner in the Sierra Valley, addresses the Forum opposed to the use of Monterey Settlement money to fund the Sierra Valley Floodplain study because the study was never subjected to criteria that other projects had to meet and because it will not meet the strategy goals.

**3. PLUMAS WATERSHED FORUM
FY 2003/2004 BUDGET EXPENDITURES**

Tom Hunter, Director addresses the Forum. At the August 31, 2004 Forum Meeting, Mr. Hunter delivered budgetary material which included a list of expenditures from the Minority and Majority funds. Subsequent to the Forum meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee met in Oroville on September 10, 2004. At that time the list of expenditures was discussed. Most of the comments dealt with costs for consultants, and those costs were requested to be moved from the Majority funds to the Minority funds totaling \$81,966.

As recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee, motion is made by Forum Member Dwight Russell, seconded by Forum Member BJ Pearson and unanimously carried to transfer \$81,966 from the Majority funds to the Minority funds for consultants' fees, and upon receipt of the next Monterey Settlement payment in June 2005.

Mr. Hunter further reports that another item within the review was the expenditures within the Minority funding for FY 2003/2004 for Attorney Michael Jackson. There is \$149,184 that was paid to Mr. Jackson in the last fiscal year. \$74,000 of that amount was fees related to the settlement meetings.

Forum Members from the Department of Water Resources refer to minutes of the Plumas Watershed Forum from August 13, 2003. The Forum agreed that costs for Attorney Michael Jackson as outside counsel to the Plumas County Flood Control District shall be funded outside the Monterey Settlement. John Coburn, representing the State Water Contractors informs the Forum that in the past years there has been concern about Mr. Jackson's involvement in the Monterey Amendment lawsuit. Forum Member Robert Meacher believes this is a broad approach. Mr. Meacher states that overall forest health is important to all, protection to the watersheds, etc, and from time-to-time requires legal representation.

It is the intent of the County to pay the \$149,184; \$74,000 out of the Judicial Arbitration Mediation Services (JAMS) and the remainder will be paid from funding to be determined.

FY 2004/2005 MAJORITY FUNDS

Tom Hunter, Director gives an overview of the proposed budget for FY 2004/2005 Majority funds. The budget includes \$244,130 for half of the cost for the Sierra Valley Floodplain Study. Kelley

Goldsmith, a member of the public and property owner in the Sierra Valley addresses the Forum opposed to use of the Monterey Settlement to fund the Sierra Valley Floodplain Study. The Forum concurs with the budget presented.

FY 2004/2005 MINORITY FUNDS

Tom Hunter, Director presents the Forum with a proposed budget for FY 2004/2005 Minority Funds. The proposed budget represents \$60,000 for Attorney Michael Jackson for legal services. John Coburn, representing the State Water Contractors informs the Forum that they are opposed to the use of Monterey Settlement funds for the retention of Attorney Michael Jackson to represent Plumas County in the Lake Oroville FERC Project 2100 relicensing negotiations. The State Contractors believe that Mr. Jackson is not cooperative or supportive in the Lake Oroville collaborative negotiations. Dwight Russell, representing the Department of Water Resources concurs with Mr. Coburn. Forum Member Robert Meacher believes this is a matter that needs to be reconciled. Jim Murphy, City of Portola Administrator informs the Forum that the City will continue to work with the County in regards to the Lake Davis Treatment Plant. The Forum concurs with the budget presented and agrees that it is at the discretion of Plumas County to retain Attorney Michael Jackson.

FIRST ROUND PROJECTS, PHASE II

On August 31, 2004, the Forum approved two projects from the Majority Funding, Charles Creek for \$35,000, and two monitoring wells for the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District for \$151,700.

Upon report and recommendation of Tom Hunter, Director, motion is made by Forum Member BJ Pearson, seconded by Forum Member Dwight Russell and unanimously carried to approve the remaining projects for Phase II of the First Round as follows:

<u>Beckwourth Ranger District</u> (“A” Majority Funds) Partial funding to relocate 3.9 miles of road	\$ 63,500
<u>Burkhard Bohm</u> (“B” Minority Funds) Isotop monitoring	\$ 23,000
<u>Feather River CRM</u> Two Creek Restorations (“A” Majority Funds) Project Coordination & Monitoring (“B” Minority Funds)	\$115,000 \$ 70,000
<u>Sierra Valley RCD</u> (“B” Minority Funds) (\$25,000 for three years)	\$ 25,000
<u>Feather River RCD</u> (“B” Minority Funds) (\$17,500 for three years)	\$ 17,750
<u>Plumas Corporation</u> (“B” Minority Funds) QLG & Forest Watershed Participation	\$ 50,000

STATUS OF EXISTING PROJECTS

Sierra Valley Floodplain

The Forum has approved \$475,000 for this project. The lowest responsible proposal is from Steve Devin for \$488,260. **Following discussion by the Forum, motion is made by Forum Member BJ Pearson, seconded by Forum Member David Okita and unanimously carried to increase the funding for the Sierra Valley Floodplain Study by \$13,260 from "A" Majority Funds for a total of \$488,260 with an understanding that if the Flood Control District receives any funding from the Army Corps. of Engineers there will be a reduction in project costs, and if costs for the floodplain study exceed \$488,260 the overages will be funded from "B" Minority Funds.**

Charles Creek

The Board of Supervisors approved this contract in early September 2004 and construction is underway.

Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District

The Board of Supervisors approved the contract with the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District on October 19, 2004. The well areas have been secured by easements to the District and the well drilling has been completed.

SECOND ROUND PROJECTS

Following review, the Forum concurs with the schedule, as presented, for the second round of projects.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Tom Hunter, Director addresses the Forum. At the last meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) there was discussion regarding the TAC membership and how project would be approved. The TAC is recommending that all applications for membership be entertained and approved by the Forum. Forum Member BJ Pearson encourages the City of Portola to apply as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee.

NEXT MEETING OF PLUMAS WATERSHED FORUM

The next meeting of the Plumas Watershed Forum is scheduled for May 24, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in Quincy, California.

ADJOURNMENT

The Forum adjourns at 12:15 p.m. to meet again on May 24, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in Quincy, California.

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors