

**Water Resources Committee
January 13, 2014
Meeting Summary**

Directors Present: J. Greci, A. Machaevich, B. Stevens

Staff Present: J. Chahal, J. Duerig, A. Flores, C. Mahoney, C. Winey, T. Church, K. Arends,
M. Katen, T. Rooze

Director Stevens called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

1. Public Comment on Items Not on Agenda

There were no public comments.

2. Preliminary Lake Use Evaluation for Chain of Lakes

Dr. Flores introduced the purpose of the evaluation, the underlying assumptions, and walked through each of the primary and secondary uses evaluated for the Chain of Lakes.

Ms. Church summarized the preliminary scores for each of the uses. Lakes that scored 50% or above were considered “suitable;” however, not all uses are compatible. Ms. Church presented a Use Compatibility Matrix as preliminary guidance for considering multiple uses of a lake. As specific project proposals are put forward, actual compatibility will be more closely evaluated based on site-specific conditions, and the design and operation associated with the use being considered.

Applying the results of the evaluation, staff developed preliminary near-term recommendations for Lakes H, I and Cope Lake. Ms. Winey walked through the recommended Primary and Secondary Uses lake-by-lake. Staff recommends the following:

- **Lake I:** Surface Water Storage and Conveyance, Groundwater Recharge (Primary Uses); Education/Passive Recreation (Secondary Use).
- **Lake H:** Surface Water Storage and Conveyance, Stormwater Detention (Primary Uses); Habitat Conservation/Corridor (Secondary Use)
- **Cope Lake:** Surface Water Storage and Conveyance, Stormwater Detention (Primary Uses); Habitat Conservation/Corridor, Active Recreation (Secondary Uses)

Ms. Winey outlined the next steps for the Committee’s consideration which included presentation to the Board in February 2014 for acceptance of the draft report, and approval of preliminary near-term recommendations for Lakes H, I, and Cope Lake.

Director Machaevich asked for clarification about “active” versus “passive” recreation with specific emphasis on boating. Ms. Winey stated that any recreation activity requiring access to the slopes was considered active recreation

Don Kahler, Pleasanton Gravel Company, inquired about the ability of Cope Lake to accommodate flood waters. Staff responded that the Stream Management Master Plan Update is currently underway, which includes a hydraulic model to determine the flow rates and volumes of stormwater that need to be detained in the COLs area and help evaluate the operation of the lakes needed for flood protection.

Director Stevens noted that it is very expensive for businesses to export soil from a development site. He recommended that, as part of the long-term COL planning process, Zone 7 consider the possibility of charging a dump fee from local developers and filling in Lake A, which will help make the slopes safer in the lake. Director Stevens clarified that this is for future long-term consideration, and did not need to be addressed in the report.

Director Stevens also noted that the Valley should consider alternative uses of recycled water (e.g., potable reuse via recharge of the groundwater basin), given the increasing challenges of water supply reliability. Connie Cox, Valley Trails Resident, responded that no one wants to smell or drink recycled water and stated her concerns about using Cope Lake for recycled water storage if it will make it less available for flood protection. Director Greci asked about the current level of treatment of recycled water in the Valley. General Manager Duerig described the use of recycled water in the Valley for landscape irrigation in the dry months, which requires tertiary treatment and disinfection, and the potential for year-round production of recycled water if a storage solution can be found, citing the MOU with DSRSD to explore storage options. She noted that Lake F appears to be a relatively strong candidate for recycled water storage; if a specific project proposal for recycled water storage is put forward, Zone 7 would have to consider the necessary modifications to Lake F, and potentially adjacent lakes, to serve that purpose. Additional discussion followed about designating a lake for recycled water storage, with staff referencing the Use Compatibility Matrix.

Director Greci stated that he views the Chain of Lakes as the Valley’s salvation to deal with drought and it will put Zone 7 ahead of other agencies.

The Committee recommended adopting the near-term recommendations and going to the Board in February for presentation of the draft report and near-term recommendations. Director Stevens asked if the report could be circulated. Staff advised that the draft report is posted on the website as part of today’s committee package.

3. Salt Management Plan Update

Mr. Rooze began with a review of the methods and preliminary results he presented to the Water Resources Committee on October 20, 2013. He then presented a series of updated salt loading graphs that compared the projected basin-average total dissolved solids (TDS) concentrations for several combinations of recycled water use and groundwater demineralization capacities. The

results were projected out to 2070, whereas, previously the results only went to 2050. By extending the timeframe, the Committee was able to see the effects of the full Chain of Lakes storage and recharge project coming online in approximately 2058. The Committee was told that the “most likely scenario” included planned expansion of retailer recycled water use and implementation of second phase of groundwater demineralization in 2030 and the anticipated “Delta Fix” in about 2027.

Also presented was a set of similar graphs that compared the projected basin-average TDS of the “most likely scenario” from the first series with those from two “no Delta fix” scenarios; both from Zone 7’s Water Supply Evaluation (i.e., “In-Valley Portfolio” and “Intertie Portfolio”). The “most likely scenario” projects the most favorable salt loading and TDS results.

Mr. Rooze then described the next steps which included sending the updated results to the Retailers for review followed by staff presenting these results to the RWQCB for comment. Staff will bring back the presentation along with the Retailer and RWQCB comments to the Water Resources Committee if the comments are significant or to the full Board if the comments are minor.

Director Stevens confirmed that Zone 7’s current groundwater demineralization operations were in Pleasanton, and asked that the results be sent to all of the local cities that Zone 7 serves. General Manager Duerig stated that Livermore and Pleasanton are already included as Retailers and that DSRSD handles these matters for the Cities of Dublin and San Ramon.

Director Stevens opined that the public does not understand these groundwater matters and could use more access to the information. General Manager Duerig explained that all of the public meetings, including this one, are publicly noticed with an agenda attached. She also mentioned that the agency uses the Zone 7 website and e-newsletters to get the information about the project and related meetings out to the public.

General Manager Duerig stated that Zone 7 is not required to do an update because having a Salt Management Plan adopted by the RWQCB allows the existing plan to be “grandfathered in.” Zone 7 is voluntarily going through this extra effort to bring the SMP into conformance with the new Recycled Water Policy which was adopted in 2009 by the State Water Resources Control Board.

Director Machaevich added that this effort is important and that he was glad Zone 7 is doing it.

4. Verbal Comments

There were no verbal comments.

5. Adjournment

Director Stevens adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.