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Chairperson

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**MEMBERS**

- Steve Sinton  
District 1
- Bill Garfinkel  
District 2
- Sherri Danoff  
District 3
- Jim Garing  
District 4
- Greg Grewal  
District 5
- Barbara Harmon  
Arroyo Grande
- Roberta Fonzi  
Atascadero
- Barbara Nicolls  
Grover Beach
- Matt Makowetski  
Morro Bay
- Christopher Alake  
Paso Robles
- Sheila Blake  
Pismo Beach
- John Ashbaugh  
San Luis Obispo
- Bob Gresens  
Cambria CSD
- John D'Ornellas  
Heritage Ranch CSD
- Louis Tornatzky  
Los Osos CSD
- Dan Gaddis  
Nipomo CSD
- Mary Lucey  
Oceano CSD
- Anthony Kalvans  
San Miguel CSD
- Charles Grace  
San Simeon CSD
- Tina Mayer  
Templeton CSD
- Linda Chipping  
Coastal San Luis RCD
- Michael Broadhurst  
Upper Salinas RCD
- George Kendall  
County Farm Bureau
- Kurt Bollinger  
Agriculture At-Large
- Lowell Zelinski  
Agriculture At-Large
- Eric Greening  
Environmental At-Large
- Sue Luft  
Environmental At-Large
- Annie Gillespie  
Environmental At-Large
- Greg Nester  
Development At-Large
- John Neil  
Atascadero MWC
- Scott Buffaloe  
California Men's Colony
- John Reid  
Camp SLO
- Edralin Maduli  
Cuesta College
- Anthony Lindstrom  
Golden State Water

March 3, 2016

Honorable Lynn Compton  
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors  
County of San Luis Obispo  
1050 Monterey Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Subject: Water Resources Advisory Committee 2015 Annual Report

Honorable Madams and Sirs:

This brief report is submitted to your Board to summarize the highlights of the activities of your Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) for the calendar year 2015.

The WRAC serves as an advisory committee for your Board. The committee is currently composed of 34 members representing the following agencies or groups: all five Supervisorial Districts, all seven incorporated Cities, eight water-serving independent Community Services Districts, Atascadero Mutual Water Company, Golden State Water Company, two Resource Conservation Districts, California Men's Colony, Camp SLO, Cuesta College, County Farm Bureau, and at-large members for environmental, development, and agricultural interests. On average, over 45 members, alternates, staff from various agencies, and interested members of the public were in attendance at the meetings.

What this Annual Report does not report, and you should know, is that presentations and action items often evoke diverse and lively dialog and questions from those in attendance. Your review of this report will show there are action items that are approved by clear majorities, as well as those that fail with very close votes.

A summary of the meetings held in 2015 and the attendance lists for members and guests are provided in the following attachments.

On March 2nd, the WRAC approved this report for submittal to your Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Chipping  
Chairperson, Water Resources Advisory Committee

cc: San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors, All Districts

Attachment: WRAC 2015 Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors  
WRAC 2015 Member and Guest Attendance Lists

**Purpose of the Committee**

To advise the County Board of Supervisors concerning all policy decisions relating to the water resources of the SLO County Flood Control & Water Conservation District. To recommend to the Board specific water resource programs. To recommend methods of financing water resource programs.

*WRAC By-Laws dated August 28, 2012*

**Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)  
2015 Annual Report to the  
San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
Board of Supervisors**

**SUMMARY OF MEETINGS**

**January 7, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on Paso Robles Groundwater Basin management efforts and IRWM program.
- Received presentations on County stormwater program and protection of waterways, the 2012/14 Draft Biennial Resource Summary Report for the Resource Management System (RMS), and the County implementation strategy on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
- Approved the formation of a subcommittee to review and provide comments on the 2012/14 Draft Biennial Resource Summary Report (21-0-0).

**February 4, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on Paso Robles Groundwater Basin management efforts, IRWM program, SGMA, and County Planning's Water Neutral New Development program.
- Received a presentation on the recommended Public Works organizational plan to support water resources management efforts.
- Approved the subcommittee report on the review of the 2012/14 Draft Biennial Resource Summary Report (14-2-6).

**March 3, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on County Planning's agricultural offset program.
- Approved to submit the WRAC 2014 Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors (23-0-1). The WRAC elected Member Linda Chipping as Chairperson (22-0-1) and Member Tina Mayer as Vice Chairperson (22-0-1).
- Received a presentation on the Paso Robles Basin groundwater model update project.

**April 1, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on Paso Robles Groundwater Basin management efforts, IRWM grant application efforts, SGMA, and County Planning's Water Neutral New Development Program and Water Waste Prevention Program.
- Received a presentation on the County Drought Task Force activities and outlook.
- Approved the formation of a subcommittee to review the Final EIR for the Laetitia Agricultural Cluster Subdivision (23-0-1).
- Courtney Howard presented on the Flood Control and Water Conservation District FY 2015/16 budget and priorities. The WRAC approved the formation of a subcommittee to review the Flood Control and Water Conservation District FY 2015/16 budget and priorities (21-0-2).

**May 6, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on Paso Robles Groundwater Basin management efforts and IRWM grant application efforts.
- Approved to continue review of the Flood Control and Water Conservation District FY 2015/16 budget and priorities and continue the discussion at the June 2015 WRAC meeting (20-1-0).

- Regarding the Draft EIR Countywide Water Conservation Program, the WRAC approved to forward both the urban water subcommittee report (18-0-3) and the agricultural subcommittee report (17-2-2) to the County Planning Department for utilization in their ordinance work. Additionally, the WRAC approved to submit a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting an analysis of water conservation measures and consideration of future application of urban and agricultural programs to the entire county (17-4-0).
- Approved the subcommittee report of the review the Final EIR for the Laetitia Agricultural Cluster Subdivision for submittal to the Board of Supervisors (18-0-1).

### **June 3, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on Paso Robles Groundwater Basin management efforts and expiration of the urgency ordinance.
- Received a presentation on groundwater recharge by direct injection of advanced treated recycled water.
- Approved the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) recommended list of projects for inclusion in the Proposition 84 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) 2015 Implementation grant funding application (23-1-1).

### **July 2015**

No meeting was scheduled.

### **August 2015**

No meeting was scheduled.

### **September 2, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on Paso Robles Groundwater Basin management efforts, Countywide Water Conservation Program, desalination opportunities, Proposition 1 grant funding, and SGMA.
- Considered the formation of a subcommittee that would advise on water conservation measures. No motion was made. Input regarding the focus, purpose and type (e.g., ad-hoc or standing) of a conservation subcommittee was solicited from WRAC members to be considered at the October 7, 2015 meeting.
- Considered submitting a letter to California Department of Water Resources (DWR) addressing the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program project rating system. The letter addresses the need for projects from smaller agencies that are neither ready-to-proceed nor within a disadvantaged community to fairly compete for IRWM grant funding. A motion was made to submit the letter to the Board of Supervisors recommending that they forward it on to DWR. The motion failed (7-11-4).

### **October 7, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on Paso Robles Groundwater Basin management efforts, Countywide Water Conservation Program, and SGMA.
- Received a presentation on the newly formed Water Resources Division within Public Works and a percolation zone study of groundwater basins within Santa Rosa Creek and San Luis Obispo Creek watersheds.
- Staff received input from WRAC members on the focus and purpose of a conservation subcommittee, including whether it should be a temporary (ad-hoc) or standing committee. WRAC members discussed a variety of options in which the WRAC may address

conservation and how to focus efforts. Upon deliberation, the WRAC approved the motion to create a standing item on the regular agenda where WRAC members or members of the public can openly report on opportunities, updates, and information on water conservation (15-5-0).

#### **November 4, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on Paso Robles Groundwater Basin management efforts, Countywide Water Conservation Program, SGMA, and open reporting on water conservation opportunities and information.
- Received a presentation on the historical and current water supply issues for the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA), which includes the Cities of Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, Pismo Beach and Ocean CSD.
- Approved support of the County application for the Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning (SGWP) *Counties with Stressed Basins* grant (21-0-0).

#### **December 2, 2015**

- Received ongoing updates on Paso Robles Groundwater Basin management efforts, Countywide Water Conservation Program, SGMA, and open reporting on water conservation opportunities and information.
- Received a presentation on the proposed ordinance for land application of biosolids, including the environmental review process. Comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) were due on December 18, 2015. Following the presentation, the WRAC considered submitting comments on the scope and content of the EIR by the due date. A motion was made to submit a letter to the Board requesting that the CEQA process be suspended until a literature review and study of options for handling sewage sludge has been completed. The motion failed. (9-10-1).



