

RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
"To Protect and Restore the Russian River Watershed"

February 25, 2006

To All Russian River Watershed Council Members and Interested Citizens:

Our next Russian River Watershed Council (RRWC) meeting will be held on **Saturday, March 11, 2006 from 8:30 – 1:00 at Veteran's Memorial Hall in Cloverdale**. Please review the attached Draft Agenda.

The upcoming meeting has several interesting items for approval and discussion. The RRWC will evaluate the draft RRWC Bylaws for legal and functionality integrity. Jerome Dix and Scott Stegeman are leading this effort and will present the draft RRWC Bylaws. This is an important step in the organizational development process that has been going forward for approximately 6 months. As part of this organizational shift, the Steering Committee is taking on a leadership role with the officers, as follows:

Tim Buckner: President
Bob Rawson: Vice-President
Scott Stegeman: Secretary
Colleen Fernald and Jim Noser: Co-Treasurers

Another element of organizational development being brought forward by the Steering Committee is a request for the RRWC to invite agencies' representatives to vote and sit as members of the RRWC. Because Federal, State, and local agencies have a large role in determining land use issues, the Steering Committee believe that the RRWC should invite agencies representatives to have a vote.

The RRWC has been named as a potential recipient of funds from City of Santa Rosa for legal action associated with LaGuna de Santa Rosa. A brief description of funding stipulations is enclosed in the following Draft Agenda.

Bob Rawson and other members of the Graton Community will present their efforts to develop an environmental sustainable wastewater treatment facility for the Graton Community. Treatment of wastes is very significant for every community in the watershed. This is a great opportunity to hear about the ins and outs of waste water treatment at a local scale with the added goal to benefit the local environment. The Graton community is dedicated and committed to provide environmental sustainable alternative approaches to waste water disposal veering away from the standard model.

Please plan to attend our next RRWC meeting! If you have questions, please request information by sending an email to steward@rrwc.net.

Sincerely,

The Steering Committee
Russian River Watershed Council
steward@rrwc.net

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
Russian River Watershed Council

January 21, 2006, Veteran's Memorial Hall, Cloverdale, California

A total of 8 voting members were needed to make a quorum & 8 voting members were in attendance at the start of the meeting. Quorum equals 40% of average attendance at the last three meetings + 1. Total meeting attendance was 16.

Approve Agenda of January 21, 2006 - ACTION ITEM

Agenda approval – 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions
Amendment: Tim Buckner requested time to discuss the AB2121 water diversion issue.

Approve Minutes of November 12, 2005 - ACTION ITEM

Minutes approval – 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions

Agency Announcements - DISCUSSION

Derek Acomb – Dept. of Fish & Game planted approximately 6,000 Coho in five tributaries in the Russian River basin through the Salmon Broodstock Program. A total of approximately 26,000 Coho were released from the Broodstock program this year. Also, the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program awards should be announced around January.

Workgroup Announcements & Steering Committee Report – DISCUSSION

Tim Buckner –Steering Committee discussed the need to develop and implement standards of behavior and carefully reviewed the draft RRWC bylaws.

Other Announcements – DISCUSSION

Bob Clemens - Over 300 community members cleaned up the Russian River between Asti and Ryan's Beach by canoe and by foot. Refuse removed from the river included 163 tires, an antenna, safes, a tailgate for a camper shell, kitchen sinks, a walker, an antique wheelbarrow, wood stove parts and a variety of car parts. The trash totals are 6 yards of single-stream recyclables, 4640 pounds of scrap metal and 8800 pounds of trash.

Coordinator's Report

Website Update - First phase of website update complete. New theme for entire website, addition of About Us, Our Watershed, Projects, and Get Involved web pages, and updated content.

Watershed Management Study Brochure - Comments by Technical Advisory Committee members and RRWC members were incorporated into the final draft of the brochure. Brochure will be printed in the next few weeks.

Fee Waiver - Sonoma Co. Board of Supervisors generously granted the Council a fee waiver for use of Veteran's Hall in 2006. & Sonoma Co. Water Agency agreed to continue providing refreshments at our council meetings for 2006.
Good News, Prop 50 - Jan Olave received a letter of intent from DWR to fund the Prop 50 proposal provided that there are some revisions to the scope of work and budget. I don't know the details of the requested revisions, but this is good news that DWR is willing to fund the WMP.

Review and Approve Draft RRWC Bylaws – ACTION ITEM

Motion: Approve draft RRWC bylaws with comments addressed by membership and pending legal advice. Final approval will be granted at the March 2006 Council meeting.
Motion Approval: 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions

Elect President for 2006 Term – ACTION ITEM

Nomination: Tim Buckner – President
Nomination Approval: 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions

Determine Appropriate Involvement in City of Santa Rosa Settlement Agreement – REPORT

Bob Rawson continues to schedule a meeting with Jack Silver, the Coordinator and interested Steering Committee members to gain a better understanding of exactly what RRWC's role in this agreement would be.

Next Steps & March Agenda items - DISCUSSION

Potential agenda items for March 11th meeting

1) Carry over the following action items:

- a. Review final draft of bylaws
- b. Approve Standards of Behavior
- c. Vote on involvement in Laguna Settlement Agreement based on new information to be provided to the Steering Committee by Bob Rawson.
- d. Educational presentation on 1) water management outlined in both counties master plan, 2) the AB2121 issue presented by TU or Audubon Society, or 3) update on the Watershed Management Plan.

Draft minutes produced by Michelle LeBeau 1/24/2006

RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING

steward@RRWC.net

www.rrwc.net

**Saturday, March 11, 2006
8:30AM –1:15PM**

**Veteran's Memorial Hall
205 West First Street, Cloverdale**

The mission of the Russian River Watershed Council is to protect, restore, and enhance the biological health of the Russian River and its watershed through a community-based process, which facilitates communication and collaboration among all interested parties.

DRAFT AGENDA

8:30	Refreshments and Coffee	
9:00	Draft Minutes and Agenda	Approval
9:10	Agency Announcements	Discussion
9:20	Community Announcements	Discussion
9:30	Final RRWC Bylaws	Approval
10:00	Invite Agencies Vote	Approval
10:15	LaGuna de Santa Rosa Settlement Resolution	Approval
11:00	BREAK	
11:20	WMP Update	Discussion
11:30	Transitional Operation and Management Liaison with Resource Conservation District Next Steps	Discussion Approval Discussion
12:15	Educational Presentation Graton Community Sustainable Treatment Facility [How it is different]	Discussion
12:45	Agenda Items for May 13, 2006 RRWC Meeting	Discussion
1:00	Adjourn	

BRIEF for APPROVAL ITEMS

Final RRWC Bylaws – Draft RRWC Bylaws were approved at the January 21, 2006 RRWC meeting. The Bylaws Committee incorporated RRWC comments to ensure the bylaws a legally acceptable for RRWC approval of the final RRWC Bylaws.

Invite Agencies Vote – Agencies involvement is interlinked with future RRWC actions. Steering Committee requests RRWC approval for Agencies voting rights.

LaGuna de Santa Rosa Settlement Resolution - Draft Resolution

Whereas:

A grant funding committee comprised of three members representing the City of Santa Rosa and three members of Northern California River Watch has agreed to disperse \$250,000 in grant funds for projects that address nutrient pollution in the Laguna De Santa Rosa.

And

All funds not distributed under this grant program within 18 months will be transferred to the Russian River Watershed Council and the grant committee will sunset.

And

These funds are intended to be applied toward education and restoration projects, with a priority to given to the development of a nutrient TMDL in the Laguna De Santa Rosa

And

The Russian River Watershed Council receives a 10 % handling fee for the administration of the selected projects, calculated on the basis of the actual funds that are received by the Russian River Watershed Council for dispersal of these grants.

Therefore be it resolved that the Russian River Watershed Council accepts all funds remaining at the expiration of the Grant Funding committee sunset date.

Liaison with RCDs – Jerome Dix sits is a member of the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (RCD) Board. Jerome requests to have the right to speak for the RRWC during the Mendocino County RCD Board meetings.