

**MINUTES OF FLOOD CONTROL ZONE 1
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 4, 2006
NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT OFFICE
999 RUSH CREEK PLACE, NOVATO**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chair Bill Long.

Board Members Present: Bill Long, Chair
 Ray Wrysinski, Vice-Chair
 Mark Byers
 Deit Stroeh

Board Member Absent: Terry Molloy

Staff Present: Bob Beaumont (BB)
 Tracy Clay (TC)
 Pat R. Balderama (PRB)

Item 1. Approval of Minutes

M/S Stroeh/Byers Adopt the minutes as presented, for the May 25, 2006 meeting.
Approved 4-0

Item 2. Novato Flood Control Project, Phase VIII

PRB informed the AB that the project has been completed. The next step will be the installation of erosion control measures on disturbed banks which will be completed in about a week. Mitigation planting will follow under a separate contractor. The creekside property owners in the audience were asked if there was any project deficiency and none was raised except for a minor adjustment to a fence and reimbursement for a gate structure.

PRB announced that a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held in conjunction with the completion of the project. The ceremony was to be held at Lee Gerner Park on Monday October 23, 2006, 2:30 PM.

Item 3. Vineyard Creek Project

TC went over the various recommendations from the hydrologic/hydraulic reports. She mentioned that the biggest component to alleviate the flooding in the area would be the enlargement of the box culvert on Center Road. To that end, MCFC & WCD would like to work with the City of Novato on a culvert design and cost sharing agreement to finance the project. The City of Novato has expressed willingness for a collaborative effort to address the matter. Preliminary cost for the project was estimated to be approximately \$500,000. Both agencies would be exploring grants and other funding mechanism to finance the project.

TC mentioned that in the meantime, FC would be providing free sandbags to the residents in preparation for the winter and that sandbags would be placed at low spots along the creek. Also, other measures have been done or are being done to Vineyard Creek such as laying back the creek banks, revegetation of said banks and installation of erosion control facilities.

TC informed the AB that the City of Novato will be making improvements to the drainage system at the end of McKeon Court. Currently the City is working on obtaining permits from jurisdictional agencies. BM Wrysinski inquired whether the sewer crossing needs to be lowered as part of the Vineyard Creek Project, as noted in the White & Prescott report. TC responded that the hydraulic modeling done by Kamman Hydrology & Engineering indicated that it has minimal impact on the water surface elevation.

On the other hand, it acts as grade control and provides stability to the creek banks. In addition, Novato Sanitary District has indicated that lowering the sewer line will have regional effect and very costly.

Veronica Valero asked about long term maintenance, monitoring and permitting issues. BM Stroeh answered that FC staff will be working on a maintenance protocol with resource agencies as part of an overall watershed approach.

M/S Stroeh/Byers Recommend that FC staff work with the City of Novato on a joint project for the enhancement of the Center Road box culvert.

Approved 4-0.

Item 4. Rush Creek Tidegates

PRB informed the AB that Mosquito Abatement District (MAD) reported failures at two gated culverts (owned by FCZ # 1) serving Rush Creek Marsh. Likewise, Barbara Salzman of the Marin Audubon Society (MAS) has expressed concern about the habitat management of the marsh. PRB explained that Rush Creek Marsh acts as a detention basin for runoff starting at downtown Novato and is also managed by Mosquito Abatement District for habitat and vector control. PRB said that he responded to Mosquito Abatement District and Marin Audubon Society that the zone is willing to replace the culverts but that securing permits will take time before they can be fixed. Bob Beaumont added that FC will be working and cooperating with other agencies on having a united front in obtaining permits.

PRB told the AB that there are multiple pipes serving Rush Creek Marsh which will require repair or replacement from time to time as they are deteriorating. FC staff will be working on the immediate need of replacing the two culverts but would like to pursue an overall and more permanent fix to the gate system. FC staff requested the AB for endorsement of this plan. BM Stroeh suggested including more than one consultant in the request for proposal.

M/S Wrynski/Stroeh Recommend that FC staff request consultant proposals for design of a permanent fix to the Rush Creek tidegate system.

Approved 4-0.

Item 5. Zone Master Plan

TC informed the AB that Zone 1 does not have enough funds to finance all the capital projects in the zone. She discussed financing options such as cost-sharing with other agencies, government grants and bond measures. She said that further discussion is needed and being explored for several scenarios on an election strategy. Also MCFC & WCD is starting to embark on a watershed approach to flooding in the county.

BB remarked that he is skeptical on the taxation approach but more hopeful on the watershed and grants programs. BM Stroeh added that the watershed approach is critical to the funding of all FC projects. BM Long suggested leveraging community money for grants.

Item 6. Open Time

The AB is feeling a little disconnect with the issues of the zone and would like to have more meetings if possible or at the least an update in lieu of meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM until the next meeting.