



San Francisco Estuary Partnership
 Implementation Committee Meeting
 Wednesday, March 2, 2016
 Elihu M. Harris State Building
 Oakland, California

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

1. Welcome and Introductions

Amy Hutzel, Chair, called the meeting to order. Bill Brostoff, USACE, announced his upcoming retirement. Michelle Palmer, USACE Fisheries Biologist, introduced herself as Bill's replacement on the Committee. Darcie Luce and Heidi Nutters were introduced as new SFEP staff.

2. Public Comments/Meeting Summary Approval

There were no public comments.

Minutes were approved. Motion to Approve by Arthur Feinstein and seconded by Steve Goldbeck. No oppositions to approval.

3. Director's Report – Caitlin Sweeney

Caitlin provided highlights from the Director's Report attachment including shifting scheduled December 2016 IC meeting to December 2 to avoid conflict with the Delta Science Conference.

EPA

Caitlin reported on the very positive EPA evaluation letter, received January 5, 2016. She recently returned from the annual NEP directors' meeting in Washington, D.C., where the directors urged the EPA to allow more flexibility and less specificity with CCMPs and work plans (new requirements established last year). She expects the letter approving the appropriation of \$600,000 to each NEP to go out soon. Reauthorization bills passed both Congressional houses (lapsed in 2009), but need still need reconciliation

Estuary News

The December 2015 *Estuary News* issue includes a letter regarding continuation of 4 issues in 2016. One issue will be with one dedicated to the updated CCMP. The next issue will have in depth discussion on various planning efforts. *Estuary News* costs about \$70K annually to publish. SFEP is always appreciative of donations, including those from IC partners.

4. IC Chair/Vice Chair Selection

Amy Hutzel and Tom Mumley had been previously nominated to continue as Chair and Vice-Chair of the IC for May 2016-2018, respectively. After brief discussion, Steve Goldbeck motioned, Carol Mahoney seconded, none opposed.

5. Reports on SFEP Activities

SFEP FFY 2016-17 Draft Work Plan

Caitlin provided an overview of the draft work plan which has been simplified, streamlined, and newly formatted to better align with the CCMP update. The plan is divided into 1) on-going, funded projects, 2) newly funded projects, and 3) unfunded initiatives SFEP would like to pursue in 2017.

Discussion among the IC included a suggestion to increase public education efforts. Caitlin responded that SFEP has limited funding and capacity for new education initiatives and instead relies on supporting partner efforts such as the Joint Venture. There are some specific outreach efforts, both ongoing and new initiatives, listed in the work plan.

The IC generally liked the new structure of the work plan but suggested some revisions/refinements including: putting projects where SFEP is the lead up front, collapsing the IRWMP projects, and providing more specificity in the New Initiatives section. Caitlin will work with Luisa to revise as per EPA requirements and a deadline of March 30th was set for additional comments from the IC on the work plan.

MTC/ABAG Merger

Caitlin provided an update on the status of the possible merger process between ABAG and MTC. Management Consultants are analyzing options up to and including full merger (report due June). State Assembly Select Committee for Regional Planning in SF Bay Area established, chaired by Thurmond.

Attachment 4 was provided as part of the IC packet that describes SFEP's governance structure.

After discussion, the IC agreed to submit a letter to the consultants (copying the Executive Directors of ABAG and MTC) that describes SFEP and its importance and supports a full merger of the two agencies to achieve an integrated comprehensive regional approach to managing land use, transportation and the environment.

CCMP Status

Heidi Nutters provided overview of the status of the CCMP, including the planned IC vote in June and public release in July/August (hard copies and webpage). Heidi also described the development of a tool to track progress on CCMP actions.

Concern was expressed regarding the timeline, specifically allowing for time for the Executive Committee to review and approve the CCMP. A suggestion was made for a possible additional IC meeting in June.

6. IC Member Activities

Clean and Healthy Bay Ballot Measure (AA), Beckie Zisser (Save the Bay)

- SF Bay restoration authority overview (Amy), generate revenue for restoration, associated flood protection, etc. \$12/parcel tax, needs 2/3 vote cumulatively from the 9 county area

- Campaign coordination: need to get measure on each county's ballot, meeting with supervisors from each.
- Using Bay Ecosystem goals as driver to reclaim lost wetland acreage. \$500m over 20 years, funds may be available in advance...
- Advisory committee, sunset date, audit
- Campaign being developed now even though there is June vote. Media firm, co-chairs, co-sponsors, executive committee, consultants, \$2-5M campaign likely. December tracking poll indicates good support (close to 2/3)
- Developing grant making procedural. 50% of funds to local entities based on population; remaining 50% for high priority projects. Project list ready.
- Measure AA webpage will be available soon, under revisions

Prop 1 Update, Beth Huning (SF Bay Joint Venture)

- Prop 1 overview, general provisions,
- Chapter 6 guidelines (protecting rivers, lakes, and streams)
 - Multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration in accordance with State priorities
 - SFBJV submitted comments, met with agency directors, and provided letters of support for priority projects
 - Coordinated message: reinforce value of Bay Area wetlands, prioritize projects, allocate specific amount for Bay Area, request timely release of funding, enable projects by other entities on state lands
- Review various programs and priorities
- Lessons Learned in year one

7. Concluding Business

- Road Map/agenda topics
- Announcements: USF&WS recommends submitting good projects to NCWG for acquisition/ restoration of transition zones; FEMA pre-disaster/flood mitigation funds available for nature-based solutions

8. Adjourn

Attendees:

Jane Lavelle, SFPUC
 Jessica Martini-Lamb,
 Arthur Feinstein, Citizens to Complete the Refuge
 Steve Goldbeck, BCDC
 John Klochak, USFWS
 Kate Poole, NRDC
 Beth Huning, SF Bay Joint Venture
 Amy Hutzal, State Coastal Conservancy
 Tom Mumley, SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
 Carol Mahoney, Zone 7 Water Agency
 Luisa Valiela, U.S. EPA Region 9
 Bill Brostoff, US Army Corps
 Michele Palmer, US Army Corps

Staff

Caitlin Sweeney

James Muller

Karen McDowell

Adrien Baudrimont

Josh Bradt

Darcie Luce

Heidi Nutters