

MARIPOSA COUNTY

Administration · 209-966-3222



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-352

MEETING: July 15, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RE: IRWMP Plan Adoption

MINUTE ORDER ATTACHED

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Adopt a Resolution Adopting the Yosemite Mariposa Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

The Yosemite-Mariposa Integrated Regional Water Management (Y-M IRWM) Plan was completed utilizing grant funds obtained in 2013. The plan was developed by Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, stakeholders, County staff and Yosemite-Mariposa Integrated Regional Water Management Committee members. These parties identified current water resource conditions and future challenges in Mariposa County.

As part of the of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) IRWM grant program acceptance process, a DWR approved plan must be in place prior to being eligible to apply for any current or future Y-M IRWM regional funding opportunities. A resolution (attached) is needed by the Mariposa Board of Supervisors to approve the Plan.

In addition to the resolution adopting the plan, an executive summary of the plan is attached as well as a link to the complete plan.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If a plan is not approved, the County will not be eligible to apply for a number of water related regional funding opportunities. Additionally, the Y-M IRWM may be required to reimburse the State of California up to \$823,000 in grant funds used to develop the plan.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

Y-M IRWMP_BOS Summary (DOCX)
Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

IRWMP Resolution (DOCX)
IRWMP Presentation (PDF)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended


Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RESULT: ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Janet Bibby, District III Supervisor

SECONDER: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor

AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier

MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 14-352

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE YOSEMITE-MARIPOSA INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRWMP)

WHEREAS, the California State Legislature has declared its intention to encourage local agencies to work cooperatively to manage their available local and imported water supplies; to improve the quality, quantity, and reliability of those supplies; to integrate local assets and seek mutual solutions to water management issues by diversifying water portfolios; and to provide funding for development of regional water management plans and projects identified in those plans; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources has issued guidelines for preparing an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) and for distributing State bond monies; and in June 2011 accepted the Yosemite-Mariposa Region into its IRWM grant program, a requirement for IRWM grant funding eligibility; and

WHEREAS, the Yosemite-Mariposa Regional Water Management Group/Regional Water Advisory Council was convened in August 2011 to provide the mechanism for Yosemite-Mariposa Region stakeholders, representing a wide array of interests, to work together in an open, participatory, collaborative public process to formulate and support implementation of long-term water management solutions resulting in the Yosemite-Mariposa IRWMP; and

WHEREAS, the Yosemite-Mariposa IRWMP represents the collective vision and wisdom of the Yosemite-Mariposa Region's stakeholders, defines a portfolio of cost-effective water supply strategies, serves as a resource the Region can use to define long-term needs and priorities for water-related projects, and qualifies projects that are proposed by adopting agencies for State funding; and

WHEREAS, the Yosemite-Mariposa IRWMP does not replace or supersede local water supply or land use planning, nor usurp any water district, or county authorities; and

WHEREAS, the Yosemite-Mariposa IRWMP does not bind the adopting agency to any policies, but rather acts as a roadmap for the region's water related goals; and

WHEREAS, the Yosemite-Mariposa IRWM Plan is not intended to be utilized for regulatory purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the 2014 Yosemite-Mariposa IRWMP Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of Mariposa hereby agrees to participate in future Yosemite-Mariposa IRWMP water planning efforts and/or updates.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of July, 2014, by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors by the following vote:

AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None



KEVIN CANN, Chair

ATTEST:

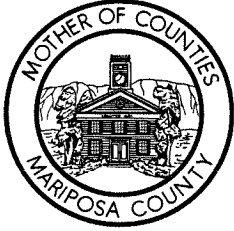


RENE LaROCHE, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



STEVEN W. DAHLEM, County Counsel



COUNTY of MARIPOSA

P.O. Box 784, Mariposa, CA 95338 (209) 966-3222

KEVIN CANN, CHAIR
MERLIN JONES, VICE-CHAIR
LEE STETSON
JANET BIBBY
JOHN CARRIER

DISTRICT IV
DISTRICT II
DISTRICT I
DISTRICT III
DISTRICT V



MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: RICK BENSON, CAO
FROM: RENE' LaROCHE, Clerk of the Board *rl*
SUBJECT: **Adopt a Resolution Adopting the Yosemite Mariposa Integrated Regional Water Management Plan**
RES. 14-352

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on July 15, 2014

ACTION AND VOTE:

1. Administration RES-2014-352

Adopt a Resolution Adopting the Yosemite Mariposa Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Rick Benson introduced the item. Glenn Franklin gave a PowerPoint overview.

Supervisor Bibby required clarification of whether this plan has undergone public review to see if it is compatible with the General Plan. Mr. Franklin responded that they did have a lot of public input in collaboration with the Planning Department, and that this is merely a pathway for the future. Supervisor Bibby discussed other concerns that she had regarding language. Mr. Franklin stressed that this is only a plan, and is not regulatory. Supervisor Bibby required clarification of the location of Project number 50. Mr. Franklin responded, noting that this project was suggested by NRCS, and has to do with dredging ponds to increase water storage; and that these are private landowners. Supervisor Bibby noted for the record, that this is not regulatory, and will not trigger regulatory actions for those not seeking money.

Supervisor Cann discussed the plan, and thanked Mr. Franklin for all of the work that went into it.

Supervisor Bibby inquired if the accumulated volume being used in Wawona and Yosemite Valley is available. Mr. Franklin noted that those studies are available, but are not contained in the plan.

Supervisor Jones extended his thanks for all of the work.

Supervisor Carrier discussed his participation at the meetings; noted the growth of stakeholder interest; remarked that there was a lot of input from the community; discussed problems with information flow between the two supervisors assigned to an area and the remaining supervisors; clarified that this plan is to go after funding opportunities as they come up; and noted that county approval does not mean that the County will be providing resources to stakeholders in processing the grant applications, including matching funds or staff time.

Public comment opened.

Evie Wilson thanked Supervisor Bibby for bringing up all of the questions, and inquired where the grant comes from, and whether there was coordination with the California State Agencies, the Association of California Water Agencies or any other state management programs; requested clarification as to any grant conditions; inquired what "RWAC" stands for; noted that even though this is presented as non-regulatory, it is very easy to change voluntary to mandatory; and inquired as to the source of some of the terms.

Marshall Long expressed his concern that they didn't have enough Ag people involved; stated that it was not a grass roots effort; suggested that the resolution be amended to state that it is not to be used as a regulatory tool; and discussed his concern that it will be used by state and federal regulators.

Public comment closed.

Chair Cann responded to public comments, noting that some of the grants are State and some are Federal, and that there was someone from the Department of Water Resources who worked with them. Mr. Franklin affirmed that there were many agencies involved with the plan preparation; noted that the plan has funds available through the Integrated Water Management; noted that the work was done by volunteers and that the committee did an excellent job of getting the information from sources like the Farm Bureau; and discussed an opportunity in the next funding round. Chair Cann also noted that every grant has conditions, and that some require matches. Mr. Franklin noted that after they submit the plan, assuming that it is approved, it will still need to withstand an intense review. Supervisor Bibby noted that the Ag Community has been dealing with water regulations for years. She also recommended adding a new "whereas" paragraph to note that the plan is not regulatory. Discussion ensued as to the best place for that language. Mr. Franklin noted that he has no objection with the language, but that the resolution was proposed by the DWR; and noted that they are Ag oriented. Pat Garcia/Project Manager noted that there is no problem with adding language regarding it being non-regulatory.

Supervisor Bibby moved to approve the resolution, amended to add another Whereas paragraph at the end to read: *Whereas, the Yosemite-Mariposa IRWM Plan is not intended to be utilized for regulatory purposes;*

Supervisor Stetson seconded the amended resolution.

Supervisor Carrier noted the Department of Water Resources (DWR) set the need for an IRWM Plan to apply for grants; remarked that it has been thoroughly thought out; and noted that there has been commitment that approximately one million dollars will be available if a water bond is placed on the November ballot, and if an IRWM Plan is in place.

Chair Cann called the vote. The amended resolution passed unanimously.

11:25 AM the CAO noted that now that the Board has adopted the plan, it does qualify the agency to apply for some grants; noted that there is a grant available, but that it has a deadline of Monday, July 21, 2014; noted that the Board would need to approve the grant application but that it has to be done before Monday; and requested the Board schedule a special meeting for this Friday. Peter Rei noted that they have been working with Townsend Public Affairs; that they still have some minor things to do on the application, but that Townsend assures that it will be done by Friday if a special meeting is scheduled; and noted that it is due by 5 PM on Monday. Supervisor Bibby noted that it will be needed before Friday for the Board and public noticing. Supervisor Cann noted that it is his understanding that the grant is nearly done.

Discussion ensued regarding calling a special meeting, the grant application, and when it might be available for review for a special meeting. Steven W. Dahlem/County Counsel noted that either the Chair, or the Board, can call a special meeting.

Supervisor Jones noted that he would like the special meeting as early as possible. Supervisor Stetson concurred, noting that he has an obligation that would require him to leave around 11:00 AM. Supervisor Carrier concurred with the special meeting, providing they get a draft grant application as early as possible.

Chair Cann noted Board consensus to hold a special meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the meeting time. Chair Cann noted Board concurrence to hold a special meeting on Friday at 8:00 AM; discussed the need for an agenda to be posted; and requested a draft application as soon as possible.

RESULT: **ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: Janet Bibby, District III Supervisor

SECONDER: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor

AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier

Cc: Bill Davis, Auditor
File