



Watershed Information Center & Conservancy

of Napa County

June 28, 2010

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Board of Supervisors,
Napa County
1195 Third St., Suite 310
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RE: Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding membership in the North Bay Watershed Association (NBWA)

To Chair Dillon and Members of the Board:

Recent discussions at the Board of Supervisors inquired as to Napa County's possible membership in NBWA. As a result, the County Executive Officer directed County staff to investigate membership possibilities and requested a recommendation from the WICC Board on the matter.

At their June 24, 2010 meeting, the WICC Board heard a presentation by Harry Seraydarian, Executive Director of NBWA, and discussed membership benefits and options with WICC staff and Rick Thomasser of the Flood District. The WICC Board's recommendation along with the justification and background are provided below.

Recommendation

The WICC Board recommends that the Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District join the North Bay Watershed Association at this time.

Justification and Background:

The NBWA first requested that Napa County consider membership in 2002 and again in 2004. In 2004 the WICC Board recommended that the County postpone membership until such time as potential benefits off-set annual costs. Membership is recommended for consideration at this time due to changes in annual membership costs as well as the potential benefits outlined below:

The Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) would be the best suited local representative to join NBWA for the following reasons:

- The District is currently engaged in Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (IRWMP) efforts at the local (countywide) and regional (Bay Area & Sacramento River) levels.



- The District's boundaries include the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Napa County.
- The District's Board of Directors includes members from both the County of Napa and the Cities/Town.
- The District's role and responsibility for flood and stormwater management and water conservation countywide are key elements in integrated water resource planning and management.
- Initial funding for the District's membership in NBWA would be approximately \$5,700 annually, which has been allocated in the District's budget for FY 2010-11. These funds come from the District's Watershed Management Assessment Program.
- Representation by NBWA in the greater North Bay and San Francisco Bay Region provides the District with improved access to grants and other funds/programs that require regional planning and project integration.
- The District's membership at this time would also not preclude the County from joining at a later date, along with other jurisdictions.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this item, please contact me at (707) 259-5937 or by e-mail: patrick.lowe@countyofnapa.org , or Jeff Sharp at (707) 259-5936, or by e-mail: jeff.sharp@countyofnapa.org .

Sincerely,

Patrick Lowe,
Deputy Planning Director
Secretary to the WICC Board