

FINAL MINUTES
FLOOD CONTROL BOARD
JUNE 6, 2011
CORTE MADERA TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Boardmembers Robert Bundy, Chair
Present: Stephanie Bennett
 Bill Carlson
 Vaso Medigovich
 Barry Trailer

Staff Present: Public Works Director Barry Hogue
 Council Representative, Mayor Alexandra Cock

1. Call to Order

Chair Bundy opened the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

2. Open Forum for Public Expression

There were no comments.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes (April 4, 2011)

M/s, Medigovich/Bennett, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of April 4, 2011 as submitted.

4. Old Business

A. Update on Golden Hind Storm Drain Pump Station & Improvements Project (09-001)

Mr. Andre Jankowski, representing AN West Inc., stated the project should be completed around the middle of July. All of the graded line drains are installed, along with the storm drain piping. Half of the wet well pre-cast units are in and the rest of the units will be installed tomorrow. They will then install the roof, the pumps, and the electrical conduit. They are currently working on installing the motor control center and the discharge pipe. After that there will be a testing period.

Chair Bundy stated it would be interesting to see the cap installed on the vault. Mr. Jankowski stated that should occur tomorrow after 10:00 a.m.

Chair Bundy stated it was fortuitous that this site was chosen for this pilot project since there are discussions about rebuilding San Clemente School. Heavy ponding would have been a big obstacle to the school during winter rains. This project will allow drainage and better access to the school during flooding.

Boardmember Bennett stated she was sorry to have missed Thursday's tour. Chair Bundy stated he, along with Boardmember Medigovich, went on the tour with Mr. Jankowski. Boardmember Medigovich thanked Mr. Jankowski for the tour. He asked if the hatch would be relatively silent. Mr. Jankowski stated "yes" and noted it had foam dampers and a non-skid surface. Boardmember Medigovich asked if vehicles driving in and out of Mariner Cove would be driving over it. Mr. Jankowski stated "no" since it was in the parking lane across from a driveway. The only time it could be heard is when a street sweeper or the resident drives over it. It is not in the travel lane.

Boardmember Medigovich asked if they would install a berm in the right-of-way when they are finished so the tide does not come shooting through. Mr. Jadcowski stated “no” since there was no design for a tidal barrier. It would be replaced back to the original ground surface. Boardmember Medigovich stated they should put something in to keep the tide out. Mr. Jadcowski asked if he was referring to the area where the motor control center would be located. Boardmember Medigovich stated “yes” and clarified it should be on the outboard of that unit. Mr. Jadcowski stated they have not designed any tidal raising since the other areas would get outflanked and the tide would come in from the adjoining property. Chair Bundy stated that this was an interesting idea and it might encourage the neighbor to install a berm. Boardmember Medigovich stated he was concerned about spending a lot of money on a pump station just to have the tide come rushing down the pathway. Chair Bundy stated this was not the lowest spot. Mr. Jadcowski agreed.

Chair Bundy stated this was a very intricate design in a lot of ways and it will be interesting to see how it functions and if it needs to be fine-tuned. Mr. Jadcowski stated the first thing that will be seen during the next rainy season would be a lack of ponding due to the installation of the grated line drains. The real test will be during a high tide when the pumps kick in. There should be no back flow from the tides or any water ponding behind the pump station.

Boardmember Trailer had a question about the progress of the project. Mr. Jadcowski stated some of the paving needs to be completed. Boardmember Trailer stated there had been discussions about property owners using the paving company to do work on their sidewalks. Public Works Director Hogue stated the information was given to the property owners but he was not sure if anyone had followed up. Boardmember Medigovich noted the concrete works looks great. Boardmember Trailer asked how the slotted drains functioned during the recent rains. Chair Bundy stated they were working quite well and they were doing what they were supposed to.

5. New Business

A. Discussion of Funding Priorities of Fiscal Year 2011-12 and 5-Year Planning Horizon

Public Works Director Hogue presented a brief staff report. He made a Powerpoint presentation. He noted funding was fairly limited but stated they could start the planning and design of smaller projects. He would like the Board to discuss priorities.

Boardmember Medigovich stated the Board normally looks at the annual budget in spreadsheet form instead of a list of the projects from the AN West study. Public Works Director Hogue stated Senior Engineer Ring was still working on the budget. Boardmember Medigovich stated the Board should discuss the following two projects- the pump station further down Golden Hind or one at the end of Marina Village. He wondered if tributary “A” was more critical than tributary “B”. Mr. Jadcowski stated tributary “B” captured a much larger area and that watershed falls away from the outfall. Chair Bundy noted tributary “B” was the first priority in the AN West report. Mr. Jadcowski agreed and stated it was broken up between the piping, curb ponding, and the pump station. In addition, the piping could be phased. Tributary “B” affects more homes and the ground slopes away from the Marina Village Pond. Boardmember Medigovich noted the chart indicates that tributary “A” was a much lower priority than tributary “B”. Chair Bundy asked if a tide gate could be utilized to keep the tide from backing up in that area. Mr. Jadcowski stated the area was very low and the water builds up. They need to eventually install a pump station to “suck out” the water and discharge it into the pond. Chair Bundy asked if the problem was garage flooding in the area or curb ponding. Mr. Jadcowski stated the problem was primarily street ponding. Council Representative Cock stated she lives on Harbor Drive and they get street ponding almost to the middle of the street. Boardmember Bennett asked if there were drains in the street. Council Representative Cock stated “yes” but there were old and work very slowly due to settling. Boardmember Medigovich asked if all the homes were on a slab foundation. Chair Bundy stated he thought so. Boardmember Medigovich asked if any of the neighbors got water in their houses from the recent storms. Council Representative Cock stated she was not sure but they had to place sand bags in front of their garage door. It is a significant issue. Boardmember Trailer asked if the street fills with water just from the rain. Mr. Jadcowski stated there was a problem similar to a reverse flow and it had to build up prior to getting a flow of water out during a rainstorm event. Boardmember Medigovich stated the wall near the fire station was raised because the water from the creek runs down Paradise, turns the corner on Harbor, and floods the

neighborhood. Mr. Jadkowski stated Marina Village was approximately three to four feet lower than the rest of Mariner Cove. Chair Bundy asked if the proposed pump station would be fairly straightforward. Mr. Jadkowski stated “yes” but it would be sizable due to the size of the watershed. However, none of them come close to the size of the High Canal or Lucky Drive Pump Stations. Chair Bundy stated as a resident he would accept a certain amount of water in the gutter as long as he knew it would go out in a short period of time. Mr. Jadkowski stated this pump station would be about 25% larger than the one they are currently putting in on Golden Hind. Boardmember Trailer stated it would cost approximately \$1.4 for the two projects that would cover tributary “B” and he asked about the available funding. Public Works Director Hogue stated the Town receives about \$300,000 in Storm Tax Revenue in December and then again in March. They are allocating a certain amount of money to explore projects with the levees and work with the different stakeholders to get this funding together. They are looking for some money for pre-design for the next large Capital Project as prioritized by the Board. Boardmember Carlson asked if any of the money falls into the category of reserve or unreserved funding. Chair Bundy stated the money comes from a bond issue that was passed about 25 years ago and gives them about \$600,000 for flood control projects.

Council Representative Cock stated Mr. Jadkowski had mentioned that the pipe improvements could be phased and she asked about the proposed cost allocations. Mr. Jadkowski stated it could be done on a street-by-street basis but the key was whether or not there was an existing storm drain that they could tie into. This could be refined with as many streets as desired or they could do it on a dollar amount basis (budget of \$200,000). He noted this would handle curb ponding. Boardmember Trailer noted there would be an economy of scale in doing it on a street-by-street basis. Mr. Jadkowski agreed and noted the more work that is done the cheaper it would be. Chair Bundy asked what could be accomplished with a pipe/curb drain improvement project minus the pump station. Mr. Jadkowski stated they might not see as much of an improvement in this location compared to the Golden Hind pump station area. They would see more improvement by putting in a pump station than just the piping itself. Boardmember Trailer asked if there could be a mosquito problem from the standing water. Mr. Jadkowski stated he would look into this. Public Works Director Hogue stated they would be shaving the peaks off of storm events. They could come in with the vactor machine and suck out any excess water to prevent any mosquito issues. Boardmember Medigovich asked if they looked at putting a pump in the Marina Village retention pond. Mr. Jadkowski stated “yes” but there were environmental issues when a unit is located in a pond. There are fewer environmental aspects when locating units in the street. Boardmember Trailer asked Mr. Jadkowski if he thought the pump station should be put in before the piping. Mr. Jadkowski stated they generally recommend that they start from the downstream location and work their way up. It is also a matter of funding. Boardmember Trailer noted the Storm Tax Revenue was approximately \$600,000 per year and the project cost was \$780,000. Public Works Director Hogue stated they could delay the construction time to match the funding. Mr. Jadkowski stated they would have to come up with the design, construction plans, survey the streets, etc. Boardmember Trailer asked about the cost for the engineering design. Mr. Jadkowski stated it would be 10% to 15% of the total cost. This includes the other consultants including the surveyors, geotechnical engineers, etc. Chair Bundy asked if this pump station would require a back-up generator. Mr. Jadkowski stated they recommend back-up generators for all the pump stations. They would need to do a sound study for this residential neighborhood even though the units are insulated for sound. Boardmember Medigovich suggested they enlarge the Marina Village pump station generator and do both off of the same back-up generator. Mr. Jadkowski stated that might be possible. Chair Bundy stated this project should be a high priority and they should move towards its implementation. Mr. Jadkowski stated they would do the design as a total package- piping and pump station at once. Boardmember Medigovich asked how long it would take to do the design. Mr. Jadkowski stated it would take three to six months. Boardmember Medigovich stated it could be one to two years before they were ready to move on the project. Mr. Jadkowski noted there were other tributary areas within Mariner Cove that were a high priority. There were also a few medium priority projects that were at a higher elevation (storm drains and graded line drains minus the pump station). Chair Bundy stated there was a consensus to support projects #1 and #2 in tributary “B”. Boardmember Bennett stated she would also like to look at the Town-wide projects that have been on the Capital Improvement Projects Budget for quite a while. She asked if they could go over those at the next meeting. Public Works Director Hogue stated “yes” and noted that list has not changed much over the years. They spent more this year than anticipated on emergency repairs so the carry-over would be smaller. Boardmember Medigovich asked when the Council

would be adopting the Fiscal Year 2011-12 Budget. Public Works Director Hogue stated they plan to discuss that item on June 28th. Chair Bundy asked if staff would have it ready to go to the Council. Public Works Director Hogue stated “yes”. He reiterated that the 5-Year Capital Improvement Projects Budget has not changed. Staff would get that information to the Board as soon as possible and hold a special meeting if necessary. Boardmember Medigovich stated there was no funding available. Chair Bundy stated the Board could meet again this month if staff would like them to make a recommendation to the Council. Boardmember Medigovich stated he did not think they needed to schedule another meeting.

Boardmember Trailer stated the Board had previously discussed going after the high priority projects due to the limitation of funds. He noted tributary “B” was obviously larger than the others and he asked if AN West used a formula to rank the medium priority projects. Mr. Jankowski stated they looked at the number of houses, dollar per home figures, etc. The original criteria focused more on the engineering, and not the cost, factors. They were looking at whether the area was low in elevation, the severity of the ponding or flooding in the area, etc.

M/s, Medigovich/Trailer, and carried unanimously to designate projects #1 and #2 in tributary “B” (pump station and curb and gutter improvements) as the highest capital project.

Boardmember Carlson had a question about the timeline and financing and asked if this project would occur in 2013 or 2014. Mr. Jankowski stated that sounded like a realistic timeline in terms of going out to bid for these projects. Boardmember Medigovich stated this assumes that they do not have any major emergency repairs, etc.

Boardmember Bennett asked if maintenance work (cleaning drains, etc.) came out of the Storm Tax Revenue. Public Works Director Hogue stated “no” since these funds are used for capital improvements. These items are budgeted separately under operations and maintenance. Staff is always looking for alternative funding sources.

Boardmember Trailer asked Council Representative Cock about her trip to Washington D.C. Council Representative Cock stated she met with staff members of Senator Boxer and Congresswoman Woolsey and they indicated there was funding available for storm projects but it was a matter of figuring out how to find the money. She is starting with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and plans to stay in touch with Senator Boxer’s and Congresswoman Woolsey’s staff. She asked for some assistance in this endeavor. Boardmember Trailer stated he would talk to her about helping out. Chair Bundy stated the Board is also staying in touch with environmental groups that are looking at projects to restore wetlands and levees, etc. Public Works Director Hogue stated Mr. Jankowski has also been searching for funding opportunities. Mr. Jankowski stated the last funding source they looked at was Proposition 84 which could fund the offset of levees. There had to be environmental and ecological benefits, pedestrian access, and an environmental organization as a sponsor. They would also need to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). In addition, they would be competing for this grant money. Chair Bundy stated the Board would like to be involved in any way possible.

Chair Bundy referred to recent articles in the newspaper about the Town’s finances and noted the Town has not experienced the flooding problems that other communities have and has put quite a bit into the existing infrastructure. Money has been well spent and he thanked the Engineering and Public Works Departments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.