



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE City of Chico/County of Butte

### Minutes of February 4, 2015

Conference Room No. 2, Chico Municipal Center, 421 Main Street, Chico

**Present: Fillmer, Kirk, Morgan**  
**Absent: Sorensen, Wahl**

1. **Approve Minutes**

Approved Minutes of November 5, 2014 (Vote: 3-0-2)

2. **Overview/History of the Local Government Committee (LGC)**

Jennifer Macarthy, Butte County Deputy Administrative Officer, provided an overview of the history of the LGC. Ms. Macarthy reported that the committee was initially formed due to a mutual aid agreement between the County and the City for representatives to discuss matters of common interest and has progressed into informational type of meeting for both jurisdictions. She asked Committee members to notify her with any suggestions for future agenda items.

3. **Court House Facility - Update**

Kimberly Flener, Court Executive Officer, informed the Committee that the new North County Courthouse dedication/ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on March 19, 2015 at 11:15 a.m. Ms. Flener reported that this courthouse is the first to be built under SB1407, the Court Construction Program. She reported that the Courts will be transferring Family Law and Juvenile dependency cases to the new courthouse and that felony misdemeanor cases will remain at the South County facility. Ms. Flener reported that the new courthouse has a holding facility and sally port, and the Courts are looking into the use of video conferencing and related issues in the upcoming weeks.

Paul Hahn, County Chief Administrative Officer, reported that the County and the State are discussing what to do with the former Chico Courthouse location. There have been discussions regarding a public-private partnership and ideas for combining the 3 properties at that location. Mr. Hahn indicated Butte County's General Services department has issued an RFQ for firms able to assist the County in evaluating development options.

4. **Social Accountability Program (SAP) - Update**

Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea provided a report on behalf of Butte County District Attorney, Mike Ramsey. Sheriff Honea reported that the SAP was established to deal with public intoxication problems/arrests related to special events that take place in the local communities – i.e. – St. Patrick's Day celebrations; Halloween; Labor Day tubing events. He reported that the SAP is a diversion program used in lieu of arrest and conviction and that those individuals participating in the SAP attend alcohol awareness classes and are required to perform community services. The offender does not go to court and will not have an offense on record after completion of the SAP.

5. **Jail Impact Fees - Discussion**

Sheriff Honea provided a report that included a background on the impacts of AB109, the Public Safety Realignment Act, which transferred the responsibility of low level prisoners (non-serious; non-violent; non-sex offender) from the State to the counties. He provided an overview of the services available at the Butte County Day Reporting Center for individuals participating in the Alternate Custody Supervision Program. The services provided are intended to reduce recidivism and can include: education; substance abuse services; job skills and anger management programs. Sheriff Honea reported that over 700 offenders in Butte County have completed the program since 2011.

He informed the Committee that the effects of AB 109 and an increase in Butte County's overall population since the jail was originally constructed in 1963 requires an expansion of the current jail facility for public safety reasons. He reported while there was a 1994 addition to the jail, the addition was constructed for the "pre-AB 109" criminal justice system.

Sheriff Honea advised the Committee that, under SB 863, the County is eligible to receive up to \$40 million in funds from the State for a jail expansion. There would be a 10% County match. He also advised that, in order to fund a jail expansion, the County will be requesting each of the 5 cities/town in Butte County to collect development impact fees on new construction projects done within each jurisdiction. Currently, there are impact fees in place for development in the unincorporated areas of the County, but he informed the Committee that the jail is heavily impacted by arrests that occur in the incorporated areas of the County. He reported that each of the 5 municipalities must approve the development impact agreements or none of the agreements will go into effect. He reported that the Town of Paradise has already approved the jail impact fee agreement; the City of Oroville will be considering the fee at their Feb. 17, 2015 council meeting; and the City of Chico will be considering in March 2015.

Sheriff Honea reported the applications for funding will be released by the State in June 2015 and those applications will be due in September 2015. He emphasized that he is looking for commitments from each municipality in order to demonstrate the ability of the County to match State funds and in order to meet the long-term criminal justice and public safety needs of the entire County.

#### **6. Solid Waste Franchises - Update**

Mike Crump, Butte County Public Works Director, reported that the franchise agreements approved by the Board of Supervisors in October 2014 go into effect on March 1, 2015. He reported that the County has been doing public outreach in the unincorporated areas of the County and will continue to provide outreach with informational postcards, which will be mailed this week and informational brochures which will be mailed in the next week or two. Mr. Crump reported the County has established a webpage on the County's website that contains interactive maps and FAQs to will provide additional information for the public. The webpage's address is: [recyclebutte.net](http://recyclebutte.net). There is a disclaimer on all materials that these franchises agreements only affect residents in the unincorporated areas of the County, not city residents. Mr. Hahn, County CAO, reported that there were approximately 15 iterations of the franchise agreements over a 2-year period while the County negotiated with the haulers.

Mark Orme, City Manager, provided a status update on the City of Chico's negotiations with haulers for franchise agreements for City residents. He reported that the City Council will be discussing the matter in closed session at their next Council meeting. He indicated the goal is to implement agreements by July 1, 2015, but that additional direction from the City Council is needed.

#### **7. Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility - Update**

Bill Mannel, Butte County Waste Management Division Manager, provided an overview of the technologies and methods the County considers to manage waste at the Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility (NRRWF). He indicated that the type of waste determines the programs and methods used to dispose of and/or convert the waste. For organic materials some of those methods the County has evaluated are: anaerobic digestion, which produces methane; and aerobic composting, which does not produce methane. Aerobic composting is better suited for low quality organics like yard waste and green waste. The County is in the process of developing its organics management plan to comply with AB 1826. Council member Fillmer inquired about the amount of water needed for composting. Mr. Mannel indicated that composting uses water, but modern facilities are built to capture and recycle process water so as to minimize.

Mr. Mannel and Mr. Hahn, County CAO, reported that the franchise agreements between the County and the waste haulers that will go into effect on March 1, 2015 includes a provision that requires haulers bring their waste to the NRRWF. The revenue that will be generated as part of the franchise agreements is a component of the strategic revenue plan of the NRRWF. The Committee members discussed the proposed facility in Glenn County (KBB). Mr. Hahn advised that the County has alternatives to the KBB facility at a lower cost, and the NRRWF meets all current environmental quality regulations, will continue to produce energy and create jobs. Mike Crump, Director of Public Works, offered tours of the NRRWF to any Committee member or City staff.

**8. Mental Health Crisis Facility - Update**

Paul Hahn, County Chief Administrative Officer, provided background information about the need for a residential mental health facility in Butte County for individuals who require intensive 24-hour. He reported that because there are not enough available local facilities which requires some patients to be sent to out-of-county to receive the level of care needed, which can be very costly to the County. Mr. Hahn indicated that the State has \$850,000 in grant funds available for the crisis center, which needs to be located within a residential area. The County held a public meeting to receive comments on a potential site on Pillsbury Road in Chico and the feedback was overwhelming against that location. He reported the County has found another house off Cohasset Road on Rio Lindo that meets the residential requirements and is in better location surrounded by various facilities and business that serve the public. The County is negotiating with Enloe Hospital for a parcel split. There will be an approximate 120-day escrow period prior to the County obtaining State licensing for the facility which is expected to accommodate 10 residents and have 24 hour staffing.

**9. 900 Esplanade - Update**

Grant Hunsicker, Butte County General Services Director, provided an update on accessibility and drainage issues at the building. Monca President, Pat Macias and monco architect, David Griffith, provided an update on the conceptual designs for the building. Mr. Griffith reported that Wes Gilbert has surveyed the building. He also reported on the ADA plan for the building which includes new ramps and landings for accessibility. Mr. Griffith did report that the proposed ramp design encroaches into the city right-of-way and there is a potential need to upgrade some of the curbs in front of the building. He emphasized that all work will be done with the intent to maintain the architectural integrity of the building.

Ms. Macias reported on funding events and indicated that monca has reached 40% of its funding goal. She indicated that the plan is to divide the project into 2 phases: working on outside of building, then on the inside. She reported they are having as many fundraisers as possible and are looking at various options such as brick purchases for donations.

**10. Nitrate Compliance Program - Update**

Casey Hatcher, Butte County Management Analyst, provided a history of the Nitrate Compliance Plan and an overview of the 1990 prohibition order issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. She also reviewed the history of County Service Area (CSA) 114, which was established to fund activities and costs associated with the Nitrate Compliance Plan. Ms. Hatcher reported that the City and County have been working collaboratively with property owners to come into compliance and help facilitate voluntary connections to sewer. She reported that there is on-going groundwater monitoring/testing.

Matt Thompson, City Associate Civil Engineer reviewed the stages of the compliance program, updates on the completed phases; areas currently under construction and remaining areas to go. He reported that there were challenges with gas mains in the alleyway in the Arbutus/Sheridan neighborhood (Area 2S). Mr. Thompson provided an estimated completion dates of Fall 2016 for Area 3S and Fall 2017 for Area 3N.

**11. Economic Development and Regional Tourism – Update**

No report was given.

**12. Future Discussion Topics**

There were no topics requested for future meetings.

**13. Set Future Meeting Dates**

Proposed dates are May 6, 2015; August 5, 2015; November 4, 2015.

**14. Public Comment None**

**15. Adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.**



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE City of Chico/County of Butte

Minutes of May 6, 2015

Conference Room No. 2, Chico Municipal Center, 421 Main Street, Chico

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**Members present: Fillmer, Kirk, Morgan, Wahl, and Sorensen**

**1. Approve Minutes**

Approved Minutes of February 4, 2015 (Motion: Kirk; Second: Morgan)  
Vote: 4-0 (Council Member Fillmer arrived after the vote on this item)

**2. Solid Waste Franchises - Update**

Mark Orme, Chico City Manager, reported that the City is in the process of negotiations. He reported that Recology has hired a new General Manager which has added a new dynamic to the negotiations.

Mike Crump, Butte County Public Works Director, reported that the County's franchise agreements went into effect on March 1, 2015. He provided information on the 3 designated collection areas: Waste Management in the northwest area; Northern Recycling & Waste Services in the Paradise Ridge area; and Recology in the southern portion of the County.

Mr. Crump, Paul Hahn, Chief Administrative Officer, and Bill Mannel, Manager of Butte County's Waste Management Division, discussed some of the challenges customers experienced immediately after the agreements went into effect, including: erroneous charges and billing errors, change from weekly to biweekly collection of residential green waste; haulers failing to provide adequate notice to customers; and challenges getting through to the haulers' customer service representatives. Mr. Crump indicated that a large majority of customer service concerns were related to Waste Management's (WM) Arizona call center and unacceptable or incorrect responses from WM service representatives. Butte County worked with WM to ensure correct and consistent information was provided to the customers, and WM temporarily set up a local phone number for billing issues.

Mr. Hahn advised City representatives to include the requirement for local customer service phone numbers as part of their negotiations and to inquire about any special deals the haulers currently have in place. The County found that some haulers had special arrangements with various Home Owner Associations and Mobile Home Parks where some were billed as commercial accounts and some as residential. He also informed the Committee that there have been challenges with haulers being able to access properties on private roads due to the size of the garbage trucks and liability issues. This has mainly been an issue in the south County area, and the County is continuing to work with haulers and property owners on this issue.

**3. Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility (NRRWF) - Update**

Bill Mannel, Butte County Waste Management Division Manager, reviewed state legislation that will take effect in January 2016 which require local jurisdictions to implement organic waste recycling programs to divert waste generated by businesses or housing unit with 5 or more units. He reported that, initially, businesses that generate 8 or more cubic yards of organic waste per week will be required to arrange for recycling services. Effective January 2017, the requirement will apply to businesses generating 4 cubic yards or more. Mr. Mannel stated that, in January 2016, Cal Recycle will be requiring jurisdictions to be at least working on a project to comply with new regulations. He reported that Butte County will be issuing an RFP shortly for aerobic composting and is looking at the North State Rendering plant in Oroville as a potential resource to process food waste.

Paul Hahn reported informed the Committee that the County is looking into acquiring land adjacent to the NRRWF for a potential recycling/waste energy farm. He reported that the landfill gas to energy plant at the facility is producing 2.2 megawatts of electricity.

**4. Mental Health Crisis Facility - Update**

Paul Hahn, Butte County Chief Administrative Officer, reported that the County is in a 60-day escrow for the residential property at Rio Lindo and Cohasset in Chico. There is a lot-line adjustment that is needed prior to close of escrow but it is not expected to delay the process. He reported that the facility will house 10 residents who require 24-hour intensive care.

**5. 900 Esplanade – Update**

Pat Macias, Monca President, provided an update on fundraising efforts for the facility. She reported that there was an event scheduled at the Matador Motel on the Esplanade in Chico on May 8 and 9.

Grant Hunsicker, Butte County General Services Director, reported that, in the next few weeks, city and county representatives will meet to discuss the ADA ramp and sidewalk in front of the building, and the architect will present cost estimates for the work. Mr. Hunsicker reported that the County is looking into the possibility of using a tech group from CSU, Chico for the project. Supervisor Kirk inquired about prevailing wage requirements, and Mr. Hunsicker informed the committee prevailing wages do not apply to donated work.

**6. Chico Library Funding Process - Discussion**

Supervisor Kirk inquired about the City's Community Organization funding process. Mark Orme explained that community organizations that provide public services and have a nexus to the City's goals are eligible to apply for funds available through the City's Community Development Block Grant program and the General Fund. It is anticipated there will be \$100,000 available for FY 15/16 to split between any approved applicants. There would be a maximum of \$10,000 available for each organization. He indicated that, in the past, organizations like the Chico Creek Nature Center, ARC and Monca have received funding through this program. Mr. Orme said that the Chico Library or an organization that supports the library could submit an application to compete for these funds along with the other community organizations.

Mr. Orme indicated that this is the first year the City will be using the North Valley Community Foundation to assist with the Community Grant Program. The Program would require applicants to raise funds for a designated period of time. Grant awards, determined by a Committee appointed by the Mayor, would be based on the percentage of funds raised. Mr. Orme stated that the funding request process used to be quite onerous, but the City wanted to attempt this new process to see if it works. He stated the intent was to leverage the most amount of funds possible.

**7. Nitrate Compliance Program - Update**

Matt Thompson, City Associate Civil Engineer, provided an update on the construction phases of the program. He reviewed the completed areas and those under construction. He stated that the slurry seals in Area 2S should be completed within the next few weeks. He reported the next phase to begin will be in 3S which includes portions of the Esplanade and Nord Avenue. Mr. Thompson stated that the City is focusing on areas that already have a sewer to install the laterals, such as the Bidwell-Oak Lawn areas, and that construction is expected to begin next year in the Hollybrook and Waterford areas off of West Sacramento. He indicated that the City will be working with HOAs in that area.

Casey Hatcher, Butte County Management Analyst, informed the Committee that there will be a community meeting held on May 7 to provide public outreach and to answer questions regarding the Program. She said, at this point, there are not a lot of changes to report. Ms. Hatcher did state that the County plans to provide reports to the Regional Water Quality Control Board on at least a quarterly basis with the goal of getting the State's prohibition order lifted.

**8. Chapman/Mulberry Neighborhood Transition - Update**

Paul Hahn, Butte County CAO, reported that over the next 5 years the County will continue to provide services as has been done in the past. He reported that the County and City of Chico have a letter agreement to work together to ensure a smooth transition from County to City. He indicated that both jurisdictions have agreed to meet to discuss grant agreements and/or potential future grants to ensure there are no missed funding opportunities for the area. Mark Orme, Chico City Manager agreed that it will be important to the citizens in that area for the County and City to work together and keep the dialog open.

Councilmember Sorenson inquired about ATP (Active Transportation Program) funding through the State of California. Mike Crump, Butte County Director of Public Works, reported that work on curb, gutter and sidewalks will begin at 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Jenifer Macarthy, Deputy Administrative Officer added that there are possible CDBG funds and other housing rehabilitation grants that could be available and that the County has the intent to work with the City for grant opportunities for the neighborhood.

**9. Economic Development and Regional Tourism – Update**

Casey Hatcher, County Management Analyst, provided a review of the proposed Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID), which is an assessment district formed to allow property owners of lodging establishments to assess themselves and use the collected assessments for certain activities, such as promotion of tourism. Ms. Hatcher indicated that Butte County, along with local jurisdictions have been meeting with hoteliers/lodging establishment owners throughout the County to gauge interest in forming a TBID. Most lodging establishments were in favor of forming a TBID, but in order for the Program to be implemented at least 50 percent of lodging facilities in the participating area need to sign the petition and each incorporated city/town would have to adopt a resolution to become a member of the District.

Butte County and each of the local jurisdictions had budgeted funds in FY 2014-15 to hire a professional consultant to assist with the formation of the district. The assessment amount is expected to be 2% of the daily room rate, but the actual amount will be decided by the hoteliers. It is estimated that the District could potentially collect approximately \$500,000 annually, the majority of which would be used to market Butte County as a tourist destination. The hoteliers/lodging establishment owners would form a non-profit Board of Directors which would determine how the TBID dollars would be spent.

Mark Orme, Chico City Manager, reported that the “Growing Manufacturing” directory received an award of excellence from the CA Association for Local Economic Development (CALED). He reported this online directory is hosted by NoRTEC and is a collaborative effort between local manufacturers and various organizations including, but not limited, to the City of Chico, Butte County, CSUC, Butte College.

**10. Future Discussion Topics**

It was requested that, at a future meeting, County representatives review the Accessibility Study currently underway at County facilities.

**11. Public Comment None**

**12. Adjourned: at approximately 4:45 pm.**



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**  
City of Chico/County of Butte



The August 5, 2015 meeting of the  
Local Government Committee  
was cancelled.



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**  
**City of Chico/County of Butte**



**Minutes of November 4, 2015**

3:30 P.M.

Conference Room No. 2, Chico Municipal Center, 421 Main Street

**Members present:** Fillmer, Kirk, Wahl, and Sorensen

**Members absent:** Morgan

**1. Approved Minutes**

Approved Minutes of May 6, 2015 (Motion: Sorensen, Second: Kirk)

Vote:

**2. Homeless Support and Prevention Initiatives – Discussion**

Dorian Kittrell, Butte County Director Behavioral Health, advised his Department spends \$7 million annually on 25 housing programs for the homeless, permanent, transitional and emergency. Valley View will be a 14 bed permanent housing facility built behind the Torres Shelter and is a collaboration between the County, the City, and North Valley Catholic Social Services. His department has \$2.3 million to help fund the project.

Don Taylor, Assistant Director of Clinical Services for Butte County Department of Behavioral Health noted that the Housing Authority has \$17,000 for emergency/transitional type housing to assist people with getting into a place or help with existing housing. The County has five HUD grants for 23 units, three grants to house chronically homeless and two grants for support, each require a 25% match but generally they are spending 200% match. They are providing a lot of life skills education. In-kind costs include seeking individuals to provide services and places to live. Money is budgeted for the Torres Shelter, Continuum of Care, Youth for Change, 6<sup>th</sup> Street Shelter, transitional housing, master lease, North Valley Catholic Social Services and money for the Villa Serena project. The Search Program works on chronic mental health issues, works with landlords to secure housing, and on skills development. It is a combination of two programs geared towards the most severe of impairments to prevent the individuals from going to a higher level facility and get them back into the community. Debbie Villasenor provides HUD grant help, housing consultation, application process, and annual reports. Caminar has 14 units of permanent housing for those with mental disorders. The County has just purchased a home for crisis residential program which will provide 10 beds for those with severe mental illness. It will be a 30 day program with extensions. It will provide a place for homeless clients that may now be in the PUFF or housed outside the County. The remodel will start in the next 30-45 days and they hope to open in early spring.

After the County lost the AB124 money they used MHSA dollars (Prop 63) to backfill but they are not fully back to providing all of the services that they used to provide however they do have on-call services 24 hours a day with clinicians to intervene and assist.

City Councilmember Fillmer asked where the gaps in services are. Kittrell advised that housing is the biggest gap. Statewide there has been a significant decline in board and care facilities due to regulatory issues becoming very burdensome. More money is going toward helping the developmentally disabled as opposed to the mentally disabled.

There are 2400 County employees and over half are in just three departments, Behavioral Health, Public Health, and Social Services. Hahn advised that the departments are good at coordinating services but still are not meeting all of the needs.

Ken MacKell, County Program Manager for the Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services, advised that they recently received a Housing Support Program grant in the amount of \$575,000 to assist with CalWorks families. They are partnering with other agencies, such as the Torres Shelter, Community Action Agency, and Esplanade House. The Housing Authority housing inspector will make sure that units are habitable before a placement is made. Case management is important. Money will assist with credit checks, application fees, inspection, and rental assistance for up to six months, security deposits, utilities, moving expenses, and short term motel stays while looking for housing. There is a tiered rental subsidy for six months. The subsidy would cover 100% of the rent for the first two months, 66% for months three and four and 33% for months five and six. The participant would then be responsible for the full rental amount by month seven.

They will have designated case managers, a housing support plan, housing searches, meet on a weekly basis and continue to meet, making home visits to make sure the family is on track with their plan. There are housing rental skills workshops and referrals to subsidized employment program. The goal is to set them up to take it from there.

Supervisor Kirk asked, and Kittrell confirmed, that there are no detox facilities in the County for substance abuse. Some receive mental health services or spend time in the Jail's "Drunk Tank" but there is not a detox unit that can provide for DTs. Behavioral Health has the most services whether substance abuse or mental illness, which are often intertwined.

Tom Tenorio, Chief Executive Officer of Community Action Agency, Chairs the Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care which gathers to identify the gaps and coordinate care. There are continuing needs and they are doing all they can do to keep up with the needs. The homeless counts show that most are long term residents of this area. This is a starter conversation.

Fillmer asked if the Esplanade House was always full. The new facility has been open for 11 years and has been full since after the first year.

Ed Mayer, Executive Director, Housing Authority of the County of Butte, said there are 3000 low income rental assistance clients. Most low income are one paycheck away from homelessness. Wages are low compared to rental costs in Butte County. More than 50% of their income goes toward rent and utilities. There is also a housing shortage in Butte County. The vacancy rate of one bedroom apartments is less than ¼%. There are gaps in supportive services and vouchers for special programs. You can dedicate a percentage to the homeless but also need the supportive services to backfill a family coming out of the Torres Shelter. It is important to coordinate housing with supportive services. The gap is not enough services and no availability of rental housing stock.

Kittrell advised of changes coming in the Federal HUD program next year. HUD is changing the way it looks at housing with less money for transitional housing and a focus on permanent housing. Since Butte County does not have the permanent housing available we will lose out on HUD funding.

Mayer identified one more gap. Political will. This is a solvable problem but we need political will.

Michael Madieros, Stairways Recovery, advised that Stairways does outreach morning and night and that two people living out on our streets were lost this week. One was ready to be housed but there were no openings ready. Madieros had told him to hang tight until Monday but he didn't make it. He said we need rapid rehousing, services, and to provide life skills in order to house the hardest to house. The goal is to get people open to Behavioral Health and ready to go into permanent housing but there is currently nowhere to put them. The community looks to the Torres Shelter and others to do it all but they can't, particularly for those who don't meet their entry qualifications. The community needs to step

up. Stairways has partnered with the Chico Police Department Target Team which is doing amazing work but the community needs to support the providers.

Fillmer stated she wants to continue to discuss this and talk about some of the gaps in services. This topic can be discussed again at the next meeting. Kittrell stated it is important to analyze the point in time census data and that there are good models. Madieros said that a harm reduction shelter with detox needs to be opened for immediate needs, similar to Hospitality House in San Francisco. It doesn't take a lot. A building with bathrooms and showers and 30 beds to start. Hahn said there are models from other cities to look at but it requires resources. Hahn stated that County and City administration would meet to brainstorm and look at where to take this discussion from here. Wahl suggested bringing in the realtors and developers to help. Kittrell said we need to be open to ways we wouldn't typically think of and know that there will be incidents.

Macarthy thanked all for participating in the conversation.

**3. Iron Canyon Fish Ladder – Update**

Mark Orme, City of Chico City Manager, advised that the agreement with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy for the Iron Canyon Fish Passage project was terminated on December 10, 2013 due to a lack of funding.

**4. Nitrate Compliance Program - Update**

Casey Hatcher, Butte County Management Analyst, stated they met with the Regional Water Quality Control Board on Monday to discuss the groundwater monitoring program and finally received direction on the 3 year plan and what, where and how to test. They did not, however, receive a good answer about the potential to lift the Prohibition Order. The RWQCB said they were not familiar with a Prohibition Order ever being rescinded but they have been modified. Staff is not going to accept this answer and will continue to strive toward lifting the order.

One of the questions asked by the RWQCB was what enforcement efforts have been used to get people to connect and how they can help with them. To date staff has taken the stance that connections would not be forced and have provided homeowners with education and the tools they need to connect when they are ready. Staff asked the Committee to confirm this stance or provide direction for a policy change. The Committee agreed to stay the course and were not interested in any enforcement measures.

The Committee was also advised that there is a downward trend in Nitrate levels. The first area completed has achieved 40% connections, Area 2N is at 30% and Chapman is at 25%.

Matt Thompson, City Associate Civil Engineer, advised that over 21 miles of sewer has been installed to day. Phase 3S will begin in spring and the Stewart Ave. /Oaklawn and the Cedar/Warner Glenwood sections are going to the State for eligibility review on Friday.

**5. Economic Development and Regional Tourism – Update**

Jen Macarthy, Butte County Deputy Administrative Officer, advised that the Board of Supervisors would hear the Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID) item at their next meeting. Gridley is the only community that did not pass a resolution authorizing the TBID in their community.

**6. Future Agenda Items – Discuss**

Supervisor Wahl asked that a discussion related to septage ponds at the Butte County Landfill be on a future agenda.

**7. Future Meeting Dates – Consideration**

The Committee agreed to the 2016 meeting schedule: February 3, 2016, May 4, 2016, August 3, 2016, and November 2, 2016 at 3:30pm.

**8. Public Comment: None**

9. **Adjournment:** at approximately 5:15 p.m.