City of Woodland
Meeting Minutes – May 26, 2015 (revised)
Flood Control Advisory Committee (FCAC)

1. Roll Call

   Present: Mike Adams, Eric Alfaro, Steve Barzo, Kevin Cowan, David Cullen, Skip Davies, Al Eby, Nancy Lea, Eric Paulsen, Lynnel Pollock, Ken Trott, Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Beth Robbins, Robert Ullrey

   Absent: Evelia Genera

   Staff Present: Tim Busch, Ken Hiatt, Lynn Johnson, Brent Meyer, Greg Meyer, Paul Navazio

2. Public Comment

   NONE

3. Committee and Staff Comments

   Councilmember Hilliard welcomed all the new committee members and thanked them on behalf of the Council Flood Subcommittee (Marble and Hilliard) for agreeing to serve on the Committee. City Manager, Paul Navazio also thanked the committee members for their participation.

   Chairperson Davies explained to the committee that they should route all of their questions and/or comments through Lynn Johnson (lynn.johnson@cityofwoodland.org) so that the appropriate staff person can respond and to minimize duplication.

4. Goals of the Committee
   a. To have concurrence on the locally preferred project
   b. To have input on the funding/financing plan

5. The Problem

   Tim Busch led the presentation beginning with a map of the flood area showing the existing levee system and 200 year flood mapping. The map showed the potential depths of flooding in the different parts of the community based on the hydrology. He explained the Cache Creek levees are built to sustain a 10-year storm because originally, the Wilson Valley Dam was going to be built (which ended up never happening). The Cache Creek levees are built to withstand a flow of 30,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). At a flow rate of approximately 30,000 cfs the water will start to flow outside of the Cache Creek

levees. The 100-year storm has a flow rate of 56,000 cfs and the 200-year storm has a flow rate of 65,000 cfs. Once Cache Creek overtops and the water comes into the City, there is no outlet.

The federal government, FEMA, regulates and requires Flood Insurance based on the 100-year flood map. The State of California requires a 200-year flood model which is 1 foot higher in elevation. In 2010, the City adopted new maps that took ~1200 homes out of the flood plain saving more than $2 million in flood insurance for Woodland residents. The homes removed from the flood plain were located primarily in the Beamer Park area and north of Beamer Street near the high school.

The Cache Creek settling basin, originally designed to capture mercury and prevent sediment from going into the Yolo Bypass also creates a stopping point for Cache Creek flood water thereby pushing the water back towards Woodland. The concrete weir at the settling basin was reconstructed from a rock cobble weir to a concrete weir, around 1991, which further exacerbates the problem. Sediment is growing faster than projected which may cause the weirs to be raised even more. California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is planning to raise the weir in 2018.

The *Urban Level of Flood Protection Criteria* was developed in response to requirements from the Central Valley Flood Protection Act of 2008—enacted by Senate Bill 5 (SB 5) (2007)—to strengthen the link between flood management and land use; specifically, California Government Code Section 65007(n). Essentially, this means that we are prohibited from building any residential structures in a flood plain and commercial/industrial development can only occur within FEMA guidelines, typically "padding up" in elevation if the property is within the flood zone. From an economic perspective, this can potentially drive prospective commercial/industrial businesses to locate outside of Woodland due to the increased cost of locating within our identified flood zone. Additionally, the restriction on residential development prevents residential development to the north of Woodland.

6. The History

In 1940 Cache Creek experienced overbank blooding; in 1955, 1958, 1995, and 1997, the Creek overtopped levees. January 1983 is considered the flood of record where there was a levee breach that flooded what is now the industrial area of Woodland. In 2003, the Corp of Engineers released a study that recommended either a set-back levee or a flood barrier to protect the Woodland community.

In 2004 a citizen group formed a "Yes on Measure S" campaign and successfully passed a measure that states, "The City shall not fund or take any action that supports the Lower Cache Creek flood barrier (flood wall) studied by the United States Army Corps of

Engineers, nor shall the city fund or take any action that supports a substantially similar structure."

The City of Woodland is now working with the Corps of Engineers and the Department of Water Resources to look at alternatives that could address the potential flooding from Cache Creek.

7. Future Topics
    a. Milestone#1 – Alternatives Milestone Conference: November 2013
    b. Regional Flood Management Plan
    c. 3-Prong Approach – Federal, State, Local
8. Next Meeting

    June 16, 2015, 3:30-5:00 p.m. – City of Woodland Council Chambers

9. Adjournment

    The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.