

Blue Ribbon Committee for the Rehabilitation of Clear Lake

DRAFT Proposal for the Formation of a Technical Subcommittee

December 4, 2018

Background

In addition to formal membership on the Blue Ribbon Committee for the Rehabilitation of Clear Lake (Committee,) recent interviews with Committee members support the formation of a technical subcommittee. This *draft* proposal was developed by the Sacramento State University College of Continuing Education's Consensus and Collaboration Program (CCP) for consideration by the Committee at its December 20th, 2018 quarterly meeting. Specific recommendations in the proposal below are included in *italics*. The proposal will be discussed by Committee members with formal approval of the structure outlined below in early 2019.

The purpose of the technical subcommittee is to:

- Provide a venue for academics, researchers, and stakeholders with scientific expertise in the Clear Lake Basin (Basin) to hold in depth discussions on scientific issues affecting Clear Lake (Lake) such as water quality monitoring, point and nonpoint source pollution, aquatic invasive species, and a wide range of ecological issues that may be too detailed for the full Committee at its formal quarterly meetings.
- Coordinate existing and emerging research efforts throughout the Basin to minimize study overlap and reduce repeating previous research.
- Serve as a “bridge” between individuals with deep technical expertise who may not have a seat on the Committee and the Committee itself.
- Answer specific, technical questions as they arise at the direction of Committee members and develop action-oriented recommendations for consideration by the full Committee.

The full Committee is subject to the restrictions of the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act (Act). As such, all communications between seated Committee members must adhere to strict requirements to ensure transparency on all items considered for formal action. Furthermore, membership on the Committee is specified by the authorizing legislation for the Committee, AB 707 (2017, Aguiar-Curry). This means that the addition of any other stakeholders with scientific and technical backgrounds can only be added if the legislation itself is amended. This proposal assumes the technical subcommittee will be an “advisory body” as defined in the Act and thus exempt from noticing requirements and the membership requirements of AB 707.

Proposal:

1. As an advisory body, the subcommittee can consist of no more than two Committee members in addition to other subcommittee members appointed by the Committee. *CCP recommends requesting up to two volunteers from the Committee to serve as co-chairs of the subcommittee at the December 20th, 2018 quarterly meeting.*
2. Other committee members can come from any organization with a technical/scientific expertise in the Basin. *CCP recommends discussing nominations/suggestions for membership at the Committee's December 20th quarterly meeting. Between December 20th and the first quarterly meeting in 2019, CCP will work with prospective members to gauge their availability and level of*

interest in joining the subcommittee and create a draft roster for formal approval by the Committee in 2019.

3. Upon approval of a final roster and acceptance of nominations by prospective subcommittee members, meetings can begin immediately. *This proposal assumes the co-chairs will lead meetings, but staff from CCP are available to assist with agenda development, facilitation and other meeting support functions at the co-chairs' discretion.*
4. Although subcommittees would not be subject to Bagley-Keene restrictions, *CCP recommends that all subcommittee discussions be open to the public to the fullest extent possible.*
5. *CCP recommends a report, similar to the detailed meeting summaries from Committee meetings, be developed following each subcommittee meeting.* These reports can serve as the official record from meetings and be utilized to generate presentations to full Committee upon request.
6. *CCP recommends consistent reporting from the subcommittee to the full Committee.* The Committee should include a standard agenda item at all quarterly meetings to hear reports from the subcommittee and make assignments for future subcommittee sessions as appropriate.
7. As the Committee's work progresses, other topics may warrant the establishment of additional subcommittees. If approved by the Committee, this structure could be used for other groups as well.

