

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of November 21, 2003**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Golich, Chair
David Druker, Alt.
Ed Gallo
Betty Rexford
Pam Slater
Scott Peters
Phil Pryde

REPRESENTING

City of Solana Beach
City of Del Mar
City of Escondido
City of Poway
County of San Diego
City of San Diego
Citizens Advisory Committee

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Wayne Brechtel	JPA Counsel
Dick Bobertz	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Susan Carter	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Shawna Anderson	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Jan Lines	San Dieguito River Park JPA
John Degenfelder	Ramona Trails Association
Lloyd Holt	Santa Fe Irrigation District
Ann Gardner	Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
Freda Reid	San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
John Ingalls	Santa Fe Irrigation District
Craig Adams	San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
David Kay	Southern California Edison

Introduction and Announcements

Chair Golich convened the meeting at 9:35 a.m. in the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302/303, San Diego, CA 92101.

Boardmember Rexford requested that the JPA Board add an emergency item to the agenda today regarding the feeding of wildlife in areas that were destroyed by the fires.

Counsel Wayne Brechtel stated that there are two criteria for adding an item to the agenda, one being the item came to the attention of the JPA after the agenda was sent out and the other finding was that there was a need to take action on this item before the next JPA meeting.

Boardmember Rexford made a motion to add the item because both of those findings can be made, and Boardmember Pryde seconded. All in favor

Chair Golich made an announcement that Alice Goodkind, a long time supporter of the San Dieguito River Park, passed away this week.. He read a few words about her contribution to the River Park and announced

that any donations, in lieu of flowers, are to be sent to the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy. Chair Golich directed staff to work with her family to recognize her in a fitting memorial in the River Park.

Boardmember Pryde introduced Craig Adams, Executive Director of the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, and the CAC members in attendance, John Degenfelder, Jacqueline Winterer, Freda Reid, and John Ingalls.

Approval of Minutes October 17, 2003- Boardmember Peters made a motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2003 and Boardmember Rexford seconded. All in favor.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Bobertz stated that the quarterly work program is included in the agenda but in the interest of time he would answer any questions the Boardmembers had on the program but would turn over the time on this item to Chair Golich to say a few words about his year as Chair of the Joint Powers Authority. Chair Golich listed a few of the accomplishments of the River Park this year including:

- Successfully concluded legal challenge to the EIR/EIS for the Wetland Restoration Project.
- Established a partnership with the County of San Diego for purchase of valuable habitat properties in the River Park. (Derbas, Habib, Scharff)
- Established a partnership with the Trust for Public Land to help acquire habitat properties.
- Procured over \$8,214,000 in grant funds for property acquisition and projects.
- Restored Sikes Adobe Farmhouse. Awarded 2003 CA Preservation Foundation Award.
- Established a stewardship program for habitat properties funded through endowment. (Bernardo Mt. and El Apajo)
- Began a partnership with the County Farm Bureau in San Pasqual Valley to provide education on the history and importance of agriculture.
- Helped fund and promote two educational videos. (A Walk in the Park and Lagoons for Lay People)
- Initiated regional trail connections planning with Poway and the Trans County Trail Joint Agency Planning Committee.
- The State of California added the San Dieguito River Park Coast to Crest Trail as an official California Trail Corridor in the State Recreational Trails Plan.
- Partnered with the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy to develop a Geographic Information System.

Public Comment

Craig Adams informed the Board that the contributions to the Conservancy from the family of Alice Goodkind was a family determination and that he was just notified yesterday.

CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION:

Amend FY 2003/04 Budget to Include Bernardo Mountain Management Expenses

1. Amend FY 2003/04 Budget to Appropriate Bernardo Mountain Management Expenses

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve contract amendment with T.Y. Lin International to authorize an augment in the Scope of Work of \$117,350.60.

2. Approve Contract Amendment for TY Lin Engineers, Lake Hodges Bicycle, Pedestrian Bridge

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve CAC Chair and Vice-Chair as recommended by CAC

3. Approve Citizens Advisory Committee Officers, Phil Pryde as Chair and Margaret Schlesinger as Vice Chair.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution Applying for "Whaletail Grant" from Coastal Commission

4. Adopt Resolution Approving "Whaletail Grant"

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution Applying for Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program Grant for Land Acquisition

5. Adopt Resolution Applying for Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Grant

Boardmember Rexford made a motion to approve all the consent items. Boardmember Pryde seconded. All in favor.

ACTION AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Nominating Committee's Recommendations for next year's Chair and Vice-Chair

6. Approve Nominating Committee Report and Recommendations for JPA Board Officers and Committee Assignments- Boardmember Pryde, chair of the nominating committee, stated that the nominating committee has met and agreed to nominate Vice-Chair Pam Slater as the Chair for 2004 but there is no vice chair nominee. In the regular rotation the position would go to the City of San Diego representative. Boardmember Slater asked Boardmember Peters to reconsider accepting the Vice Chair position. Boardmember Peters stated that he may have conflicts since he is on the Coastal Commission but he would like to serve with the understanding that he may not be available for all the meetings if he has other obligations.

Boardmember Pryde made a motion to approve the Chair, Pam Slater, and the Vice Chair, Scott Peters. Boardmember Gallo seconded. All in favor

RECOMMENDATION:

Send a letter to Regional Water Quality Control Board with copy to City of San Diego Water Department and appropriate regulatory agencies stating that the large trees growing in Lake Hodges pose several potential impacts to water quality and quantity and should be removed.

7. Trees in Lake Hodges- Recommendation from staff to send a letter to Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Director Bobertz stated that the North County Times newspaper article on the trees in Lake Hodges prompted the CAC to recommend to the JPA to send a letter to the City of San Diego and the Regional Water Quality Board about issues regarding the removal of the trees in Lake Hodges. Director Bobertz stated that several things had happened since the staff report was written. One of which is that meetings have been occurring with the Director of the City of San Diego Water Department and the water districts that are impacted by these trees. Correspondence was read from the Director of the Water Department stating that they are doing everything possible to resolve this issue. For that reason, Director Bobertz recommended that this item be continued to the January, 2004 meeting.

Boardmember Pryde stated that delaying sending the letter about our concerns until the January meeting could cause problems with the migration of birds to these trees as their natural habitat. He stated that once the birds have returned there will be considerable delay in any removal. Boardmember Peters stated that we might want to send a letter anyway and just state our concerns for the record.

Mr. Lloyd Holt from the Santa Fe Irrigation District stated that they offered to go in and cut the trees in a small area a year ago but did not have the permission from the City of San Diego Water Department. He said that a year has passed and there are new restrictions in place and possibly an EIR and permits would have to be obtained.

Boardmember Gallo made a motion to approve the letter from staff to the Regional Water Quality Board stating our positions and concerns. Boardmember Rexford seconded. All in favor.

8. Watershed Planning Initiative Recommendations- Director Bobertz stated that the City of San Diego requested that the Joint Powers Authority make recommendations for the two committees of the Watershed Management Plan. Craig Adams of the Conservancy coordinated preparation of the draft list provided to all boardmembers today. Mr. Bobertz asked Craig to come forward and review the committee list for the Board.

Craig Adams summarized the different groups recommended for participation to make recommendations to the City of San Diego on this very important planning effort.

Boardmember Peters stated that a planning group from the City of San Diego should be on the committee and a person from the budget department of the City of San Diego included so that when financial issues

surface the representative from the budget department could see the feasibility of the project. Chair Golich announced that the City of Solana Beach has an engineer, Danny King, ready to join the committee.

Boardmember Pryde stated that a person with a biology background would be helpful for the committee. He suggested Dave Bittner. Mr. Adams felt that the committee should start meeting in January 2004 as it is necessary to get recommendations ready on the Management Plan.

Boardmember Peters made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Administration/Policy Committee and staff. Boardmember Slater seconded. All in favor

9. Feeding of wildlife – This item was added as an emergency item to discuss by Boardmember Rexford as she felt the need to address this issue on an emergency basis because the animals in the fire devastated areas are starving. Project Wildlife was feeding the deer in certain areas that would keep them from roads and streets. The Department of Fish and Game has prohibited anyone from feeding the wild animals due to existing regulations. Boardmember Rexford urged the Board to direct staff to send a letter to the Department of Fish and Game to allow feeding of the animals in an emergency situations like this one. Boardmember Slater stated that a letter would take too long and suggested that it be faxed or a phone call might expedite the matter. It was suggested the letter ask the Department of Fish and Game to call off the threats to persons trying to help the animals during this emergency.

Boardmember Rexford made a motion to the Board to direct staff to fax a letter to the Department of Fish and Game. Boardmember Slater seconded. All in favor

INFORMATION

9. Coastal Wetland Restoration Project – David Kay, Southern California Edison- David Kay stated that the project is now moving forward after the appeals court reversed the trial court judgment and congratulated the River Park staff and Wayne Brechtel for their efforts. The restoration will be going forward this next year and an EIR will be completed and the construction plans will be designed. He said that permits will be acquired over the next year and one of our concerns is to work with the Sandy Lane Association to respond to their concerns as much as we are able.
10. Presentation on Park Facilities GIS Tracking System- A PowerPoint presentation was given to the Board by Caitlin Chason, River Park Intern, and Jason Lopez, Resources and Trails Manager of the San Dieguito River Park, about the GPS system that the JPA staff has implemented. They gave a detailed report on how the system is used and the process it takes to accumulate the information. The impressive demonstration showed the value of using current technology to help manage our growing park system.

11. Status Reports

- a. Fire Damage Report- Craig Adams also gave a PowerPoint presentation of the overall fire area and the watershed overview showing pictures of different sites that burned and the River Park property that was affected by the Cedar fire.

- b. Lake Hodges Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Project- Deputy Director, Susan Carter, stated that there was nothing new to report at this time.
- c. Property Acquisition- Director Bobertz announced the acquisition of the 47 acre Penn property next to the River Park office. He stated that the 127 acre McDonald Trust property (Volcan Mountain in holding) will be closing soon. Mr. Bobertz said that the next property to close escrow will be 397 acre parcel (Habib) next to the Helms property that we purchased recently and is scheduled to close in March 2004.
- d. Temporary Interpretive Kiosk At Via de la Valle- Director Bobertz stated that the volunteers (engineering firm MWH) will be working on the temporary kiosk every other Saturday until it is completed, with a projected opening in April 2004.
- e. Fairbanks Ranch Country Club- A stop work order is in place at this time because of the 6-8' high berm that was placed on the golf course along San Dieguito Road. The City of San Diego is researching this issue and they will be getting back to us next week.
- f. Sikes- Deputy Director, Susan Carter, said that the Sikes Adobe will be ready for painting on Saturday, November 29th. Ms. Carter said that we are looking for volunteers for the painting party and that staff is looking for donations from various paint and home stores for supplies to get started. She said that we are planning a Grand Opening at the end of January 2004. Ms. Carter stated that there will be a tree planting day on December 6th, Arbor Day. Ms. Carter stated that River Park staff met with the Water Department of Escondido and they are going to tie into the water treatment plant on the site and this will allow us to water the trees. Deputy Director Carter said the insurance issue is going to be solved by the City of San Diego getting the insurance and we will reimburse them.

The meeting was adjourned due to loss of a quorum at 11:20

12. Jurisdictional Status Reports

13. Communications

- a. Letter from JPA to San Diego City Manager re Sikes Lease
- b. Letter from JPA to San Diego City Manager re Fairbanks Ranch Country Club Golf Course Berm
- c. Letter from JPA to San Diego City Manager re Concept Plan Adoption.

Jurisdictional Status Reports-

Communications

CLOSED SESSION

A closed session was not necessary

Chair Golich adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

These minutes approved by Board Action

Date

Executive Director

DRAFT