

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
Minutes of September 19, 2003**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

David Powell  
Jerry Finnell  
Ed Gallo  
Betty Rexford  
Brian Maienschein  
Dianne Jacob  
Phil Pryde

**REPRESENTING**

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

**VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT**

Terry Gibbs	JPA Counsel
Dick Bobertz	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Shawna Anderson	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Jan Lines	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Bob Collins	City of San Diego
Ron Coss	City of San Diego
Elizabeth Giffen	County of San Diego
Barbara Simmons	County of San Diego
Craig Adams	San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
John Ingalls	Citizens Advisory Committee
Paul Gebert	SDCWA
Freda Reid	San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
Maggie Brown	Friends of San Dieguito River Valley
Bruce Posthumus	SDRWQCB
Jacqueline Winterer	Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley

**Introduction and Announcements**

Chair Golich and Vice Chair Slater were absent from the meeting so Director Bobertz requested a Boardmember be nominated to chair the meeting. Boardmember Pryde nominated Boardmember Rexford and Boardmember Maienschein seconded the motion. Acting Chair Rexford convened the meeting 9:30 a.m. in the County Administration Building, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302/303, San Diego, CA 92101 Boardmember Pryde introduced members of the CAC in attendance, Freda Reid, Jacqueline Winterer, and Craig Adams and John Ingalls.

**Approval of Minutes August 15, 2003-** Boardmember Finnell made a motion to approve the minutes and Boardmember Maienschein seconded. All in favor

**Executive Director's Report**

San Dieguito River Park JPA  
Executive Director's Report 9-19-03

1. Funding
  - a. The National Park Service has granted the River Park \$125,582 under the Federal Land and Water Conservation Program. The funding will be used to install a section of all-weather hard surface that will be ADA accessible on a segment of the Mule Hill Trail adjacent to the Lake Hodges Golf Improvement Center.
  - b. An anonymous donation of \$5,000 was received to help restore the Sikes Adobe.
  - c. The Wetlands Recovery Project has added a \$2,500,000 River Park land purchase project to its annual work program list with a priority one status. The funds may become available if an appropriate purchase can be negotiated with a willing property owner.
  
2. Annual Trail Run and Hike

Sunday, September 28, 2003 is the date for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual San Dieguito River Park Family Hike and Trail Run. The Honorary Race Director, Board Chairman Tom Golich will start the 10 K Run from Kit Carson Park at 8:00 AM.
  
3. San Dieguito River Mouth Opening

Sufficient contributions to open the river mouth were secured from the County – Supervisor Pam Slater, the Cities of Del Mar and Solana Beach, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Agricultural District, Southern California Edison and private contributors. The City of Del Mar coordinated the project and the opening was accomplished Friday evening, September 5th.

**Public Comment –**

Craig Adams stated that the City of Del Mar should be commended for the fund raising efforts they recently made for the river mouth opening.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*Amend resolution as proposed.*

1. **Adopt Amended Resolution re Maintenance of Crosby (Starwood) Trail**

Boardmember Finnell made a motion to adopt the amended resolution and Boardmember Pryde seconded. All in favor.

**ACTION AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*1) Set a hearing date of October 17, 2003 to approve the purchase of the Habib property (APN #s 246-030-07-00, 247-080-03-00, 247-140-01-00, 247-140-11-00, 247-140-18-00, 247-140-19-00), comprising 387.37 gross acres, from the Trust for Public Land and to authorize the Executive Director to execute all related documents to complete the transaction, and 2) Direct staff to publish the Notice of Intention to Purchase in accordance with Government Code Section 25350 and 6063 prior to the hearing date.*

2. **Set Public Hearing Date for Acquisition of 387- acre Habib Property from Trust for Public Land**

Director Bobertz had reported to the Board previously that the River Park was working with the Trust for Public Land on two crucial properties out to the east of Lake Sutherland. They have been successful in negotiating to acquire the property that is between the Proudfoot/Helms property and the County-owned Santa Ysabel Ranch West. Mr. Bobertz stated that this will be a valuable link for the Coast to Crest Trail in the future. He said that the action today is for the October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2003 hearing date and to direct staff to begin the procedures necessary to acquire the property.

Boardmember Pryde made a motion to approve a hearing and Boardmember Finnell seconded.

All in favor

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*Accept the City of San Diego's request that the JPA participate in the Watershed Stewardship Initiative for the San Dieguito River and direct the Budget/Administration/Policy Committee to make recommendations for WPGG and TAC participants.*

3. **Watershed Stewardship Initiative for the San Dieguito River-** Director Bobertz stated that this is a watershed management planning project and the San Dieguito River watershed is the last area that does not have a management plan in place. Mr. Bobertz stated that the City of San Diego has received a grant to correct that situation and they are getting ready to kick off a watershed management planning process for the San Dieguito River Valley. He stated that we really need to have a watershed management plan so that we can improve and preserve the water quality and also it is relevant when we apply for land acquisition grants that require a watershed management plan for eligibility.

A presentation was given by Bob Collins from City of San Diego Water Department. He spoke of the importance of the watershed plan and an overview of the watersheds in the county. Mr. Collins stated that the San Dieguito River Park JPA is the recognized group in the area to provide the leadership in development of the plan. He stated that they would like to see a committee appointed to work on the watershed plan for the San Dieguito River.

Director Bobertz stated that the staff recommendation is, should you accept the City of San Diego's request to participate in the watershed stewardship, that you direct the Budget/Administration/Policy Committee to make recommendations for a chair and the membership of a policy guidance committee to oversee the planning effort. Mr. Bobertz stated that the Budget/Administration/Policy Committee's task would be to identify members for a watershed policy guidance group and to bring a list of potential committee members to the JPA Board for consideration.

Boardmember Jacob made a recommendation that members from the Ramona and Julian Community Planning Groups be included on the watershed committee because this covers much of their area. Boardmember Maienschein made a motion to approve the staff recommendation the JPA proceed on the request of the City of San Diego to recommend a chair and membership for a guidance group for development of a San Dieguito River Watershed Plan. Boardmember Pryde seconded. All in favor.

Speaker Craig Adams stated that the Board of Directors of the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy supports the recommendation and asked the JPA for quick action to recommend appointments so the committee will be in place in time to give direction to the work program and assist selection of technical consultant.

#### **INFORMATION**

4. **Status Reports (Oral)**
  - a. **Coastal Wetlands Restoration Project-** Director Bobertz reported that there was no appeal by the Sandy Lane Association in the law suit. He stated that this now is paving way in October for the lower court to vacate their decision. Mr. Bobertz said that we are moving ahead on the permits and hope to get started in 2005. He stated that it will be a 3 year project. Director Bobertz said that we will be going to the Coastal Commission for the approval of the plan in the near future.

- b. Lake Hodges Bicycle, Pedestrian Bridge Project- Shawna Anderson stated that the bridge is moving along slowly and that we just received comments on the second submittal of the Site Development Permit to the City of San Diego and we are reviewing those comments. She stated that Caltrans and the City of San Diego staff are reviewing our draft EIR before it goes out for public review. Ms. Anderson said that we are having meetings with Caltrans regarding the bike path that Caltrans will be building at the Pomerado overpass at I-15 site. This bike path will connect with our bike path and we want this alignment to go smoothly. She stated that the environmental documents will go out in the next few months and we are still on track for fall of next year to begin construction.
  
- c. Sikes Adobe Farmhouse Restoration- Director Bobertz stated that the Sikes Adobe is moving along but as with any project of this type we are encountering situations that need to be dealt with as they occur. Mr. Bobertz referred to a handout of an article that was in the North County Times newspaper about the project. He said that the River Park is still looking for funding for the landscaping and other improvements around the farmstead but that we had received a generous donation of \$5000.00 for miscellaneous items needed for the project. Director Bobertz stated that we hope to have the opening in January of 2004. Boardmember Gallo asked if the donation was before or after the newspaper article. The donation was prompted by an article in our RiverScape newsletter published by the River Park. Boardmember Pryde asked about the adobe construction and how it is preserved for the future. Director Bobertz stated that he felt the adobe would have a finish coat on it but would check in to the matter and report back in the future.
  
- d. Property Acquisition- Director Bobertz said that we have two properties in escrow and he was hopeful that the escrows would close in about 45 days. One of the properties is next to the River Park office and the other property is 123 acres on Volcan Mountain. Mr. Bobertz stated that we have an Acquisition Committee meeting coming up on September 29<sup>th</sup> where we will evaluate our priority list.
  
- e. "Temporary Interpretive Kiosk" at Via de la Valle- Director Bobertz said the construction is under way with volunteers under the management of MWH which is an environmental engineering firm that has taken our project on as a Community Outreach Project. He stated that we are hoping that it will be ready to open in April 2004.
  
- f. Fairbanks Ranch Country Club- Mr. Bobertz said that he really did not have anything to report since he reported last about the City of San Diego Development and Real Estate Assets meeting and how they are looking into issues of concern to us.

Jurisdictional Status Reports- Boardmember Jacob stated that the County of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department has submitted a grant for \$200,000 for two parcels that will total 75 acres on Volcan Mountain.

Boardmember Finnell stated that the City of Del Mar was successful in obtaining \$232,000 in funds from the 2002 Resources Bond Act per Capita from State Parks. These funds will be used for the second phase of the Powerhouse Bluff Preservation and the River Path project next to the lagoon.

**Communications**

- a. Response from the City of San Diego Water Department re Emily Durbin Open Space Preserve in Pamo Valley.

Director Bobertz said that the letter from the City of San Diego is a response regarding the open space area in Pamo Valley. He said that the Watershed Management Plan should incorporate this valuable land into open space for preservation.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Terry Gibbs stated that a closed session was not needed.

Chair Rexford adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

These minutes approved by Board Action

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Date

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Executive Director

