

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of January 19, 2007**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ed Gallo, Chair
Dianne Jacob, Vice- Chair
Jerry Finnell
Betty Rexford
Brian Maienschein
Dave Roberts
Pam Slater-Price
Phil Pryde

REPRESENTING

City of Escondido
County of San Diego
City of Del Mar
City of Poway
City of San Diego
City of Solana Beach
County 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
Jacqueline Winterer	Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
Jan McMillan	Self
Freda Reid	San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
John Degenfelder	Ramona Trails Committee
Craig Adams	San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Denis Trafecanty	Santa Ysabel resident

Introduction and Announcements

Chair Gallo convened the meeting at 9:40 a.m. in the County Administration 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302/303, San Diego, CA 92101.

Chair Pryde introduced members of the CAC in attendance, Jacqueline Winterer, Freda Reid, John Degenfelder and Craig Adams.

Approval of Minutes

Boardmember Pryde made a motion to approve the minutes of December 15th, 2006 , Boardmember Roberts seconded the motion. Boardmember Crawford noted a spelling correction to the name Boudreau in last month's minutes. All in favor.

Executive Director's Report

- a. Quarterly Work Program

Executive Director Bobertz started the first meeting of the new year by highlighting the work projects that were accomplished last year. He discussed the 35 miles of Coast to Crest Trail that are now available for public access. Mr. Bobertz said that we have received \$313,000 from the State Resources Agency for the Del Dios Gorge Trail and \$147,000 funds that were donated to the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy by private parties that will be provided to the JPA to complete segments of the trails to add to existing trails.

- b. Presentation by Resources & Trails Manager, Jason Lopez and Event/Volunteer Coordinator, Barbara Baker.

Jason Lopez showed a PowerPoint presentation on the accomplishments of the Ranger staff in the River Park. A number of before and after pictures showed the tremendous effort that had been made this year to make our trails a wonderful place to travel on and beautiful viewshed to see from the trail. He also showed a number of before and after pictures of habitat restoration projects in the Park. Barbara Baker discussed the events that were put on by the River Park this year which included educational opportunities for children, art and photo opportunities for both amateur and professional artists and a new program for the stargazers in the San Pasqual Valley dark skies. Ms. Baker stressed the effort that it takes to put on the events and said that she was pleased with the cooperation with other agencies and organizations.

Boardmembers made positive comments on the presentation.

Executive Director Bobertz spoke about the 22,000 acre Rancho Guejito parcel that borders the San Dieguito River FPA which has been in the news a great deal recently. Mr. Bobertz discussed the potential annexation request by the owners of Rancho Guejito into Escondido for development purposes. Craig Adams said that the Conservancy is concerned about the request to annex to Escondido and has followed Rancho Guejito issues for many years. He said that the Conservancy Board of Directors had taken action to recommend to the JPA Board that the FPA be amended to include all of Rancho Guejito. The Board directed Mr. Bobertz to put this item on the JPA's next agenda for consideration.

Public Comment - None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Resolution

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution to emphasize that the JPA Board believes that, if the Sunrise Powerlink Project is built, it should be underground through the scenic Santa Ysabel Valley.

Speaker Dennis Trafecanty who lives in Santa Ysabel and has formed a group of landowners in the area who oppose the Powerlink going through this pristine area, spoke about the Mesa Grande and Santa Ysabel area that will be affected by the Powerlink. He said their group does not think that SDGE will underground the lines as the JPA has suggested. He and his group are opposed to any powerlines coming in through this area and feel that there are alternative routes that can be used to connect the power station in Mexico to the San Diego North County area. Not only is this beautiful open space in danger of serious impacts but the

Anza Borrego Desert could be impacted also. He said that his group is opposed to the Powerlink route altogether and hopes that SDG&E will find a suitable alternative.

The Boardmembers made comments about the issue and their positions on the Powerlink. Boardmember Jacob said that at the last JPA meeting language for the resolution was discussed that under grounded cables were the only option that was acceptable to the board if they are going to go through this area.

Boardmember Jacob made a motion to adopt a resolution which states: 1. the Board opposes placement of transmission lines for the Powerlink Project within the River Park's Focused Planning Area; and 2. the Board urges that SDG&E underground the proposed transmission lines in the Highway 79 utility corridor through Santa Ysabel. 3. the JPA does not believe adequate information to justify the project has been provided. Boardmember Slater-Price seconded. All in favor.

ACTION AGENDA

2. San Dieguito Watershed Management Plan

Recommendation: Agree that the JPA will serve as co-chair of the proposed San Dieguito Watershed Council with the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy to oversee the implementation of the San Dieguito Watershed Management Plan.

Executive Director Bobertz said that the last meeting we brought forward the suggestion that the JPA co-chair with the conservancy for implementation of this important watershed program. The council that will oversee this plan will take measures to find ways to implement through grants the suggestions made in the plan.

Boardmember Slater Price moved approval of the JPA to co-chair with the Conservancy to find ways to implement this watershed plan. Boardmember Roberts second. All in favor

3. County Water Authority Emergency Water Storage Project Trail Closure Agreement

Recommendation: Approve the Attached Inter-Agency Agreement between the JPA and the County Water Authority accepting \$71,000 as satisfactory mitigation for trail closure during construction of the Emergency Water Storage Project.

Director Bobertz said that an agreement with the Water Authority has been worked out for mitigation for the loss of trail use during construction of the Emergency Water Storage Project. With the help of Supervisor Pam Slater-Price, the River Park will receive \$71,000 for the loss of trail use. This amount was reached from estimates on the cost to reroute a trail around the project by the Water Authority in their plans. Staff recommended that the Board accept these funds that will be used on the Del Dios Gorge Trail Project as full settlement of this issue.

Boardmember Slater-Price made a motion to approve the agreement with the Water Authority and accept the \$71,000. Boardmember Pryde seconded. All in favor

4. Lake Hodges Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge

Recommendation: Direct staff to issue Notice of Proceed to FCI Constructors on Phase One (South Abutment) of the Lake Hodges Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge.

Director Bobertz said that at the last meeting we discussed the funding issues with Caltrans and the grants that we already have in place. We did receive authorization from Caltrans to go ahead with the first phase of the Pedestrian Bridge even though we do not have full funding.

Deputy Director Carter said that the staff report was very detailed and there are several issues to consider when making the decision on whether to proceed with the bridge. If the Board supports plans to go ahead with the first phase of the project then we will be able to keep the \$1.5 million dollars that is already allocated for the project. These funds have to be used by May 2007. The Resource Agency would be willing to contribute to the shortfall in funds to complete the bridge along with support from SANDAG. Ms. Carter discussed the different options and concluded by saying that staff's recommendation was to proceed with option A to begin immediately on the phase one abutment on Caltrans right-of-way.

Counsel Brechtel said that there is legal paperwork that shows that we have used funds authorized to design the bridge and paid consultants that were used as needed and these funds would not have to be refunded if the bridge project is not completed. He said that the JPA agreement shows that the grant debt is solely JPA in origin and would not be passed on to agency member organizations.

Boardmember Jacob made a motion to support staff recommendation and build the abutment now.
Boardmember Pryde seconded

Boardmember Maienschein said he was opposed to the motion because he believed that building the first phase is not appropriate when we have not secured full funding on the project.

Vote: 7 approved 1 opposed.

5. San Pasqual Valley Vision Plan Implementation

Recommendation: Commend Councilmember Maienschein for his leadership on the San Pasqual Valley Vision Plan, and request that he appoint a representative from the San Dieguito River Park JPA/CAC to the San Pasqual Land Use Task Force.

Shawna Anderson said that the Vision Plan update and the implementation plan was presented to the CAC by a representative of the City of San Diego at their last meeting. The CAC asked that Boardmember Maienschein be commended for initiating the Vision Plan and asked that a member of the CAC or JPA be appointed to the San Pasqual Land Use Task Force.

Boardmember Maienschein said that the Vision Plan was initiated to preserve the San Pasqual Valley but phased into several other issues such as leases and agricultural and zoning matters. Mr. Maienschein explained that the task force has 11 members and a member at large which gave input during the first two phases of the plan. Mr. Maienschein said he could not designate a position for the JPA/CAC on the Task Force because it has already gone to Council, however, he could appoint a member of the JPA/CAC as the at-large member, if someone applies.

Boardmember Jacob made a motion to commend Boardmember Maienschein for his work in implementing the Vision Plan and requested that he appoint a member of the CAC to the task force.

6. Rancho Santa Fe Polo club "Horse Exercise Track" Application

No action required at this time, JPA staff will continue to monitor the project through the City of San Diego.

Director Bobertz said that the Polo Club did submit their plans to the City of San Diego for approval with no changes to accommodate the River Park trail section. Boardmember Peters staff is contacting the Polo Club to set up a meeting to discuss our comments and concerns. We will continue to monitor the project and report back at a future meeting.

INFORMATION

7. Status Reports

- a. Via de la Valle/El Camino Real Road Task Force- Shawna Anderson said that a task force has been meeting at the request of Boardmember Scott Peters to discuss these projects of concern to the River Park. A report is being compiled to submit to the City of San Diego for consideration on alternatives to the planned projects.
 - b. Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead- Deputy Director Carter said that the wallpaper is being installed at Sikes.
 - c. Del Dios Gorge Trail- Deputy Director Carter said that the construction will start next week.
 - d. Wetland Restoration Project/Coastal Trail- Deputy Director Carter said that the boardwalk foundation has been constructed and the Rotary Club will be installing the boards as a community project.
8. Jurisdictional Status Reports- Dave Roberts said that he is officially the representative from Solana Beach. He suggested that the River Park consider using electronic signatures for times when a letter is needed to be signed for distribution.

Chair Ed Gallo said that he is stepping down from his position as Chair on the JPA Board due to the fact that he has been elected Chair of the North County Transit District and his commitments there do not allow him to continue with the JPA. It was discussed that Vice-Chair Jacob would step up to Chair, and a new vice-chair would be needed.

Chair Gallo adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

These minutes approved by Board Action

Date

Executive Director

