SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of May 15, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT
Barbara Bry- Chair
Dwight Worden – Vice-Chair
Mark Kersey
Kristin Gaspar
Dianne Jacob
Judy Hegenauer
Jeff Barnouw
Dustin Fuller

MEMBERS ABSENT
Olga Diaz
Dave Grosch

REPRESENTING
City of San Diego
City of Del Mar
City of San Diego
County of San Diego
County of San Diego
City of Solana Beach
Citizens Advisory Committee
22nd District Agricultural Association

REPRESENTING
City of Escondido
City of Poway

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT
Kevin McKernan
Wayne Brechtel
Brenda Miller
Shawna Anderson
Ricky Flahive
Monique Tello
Members of the Public
San Dieguito River Park JPA
JPA Counsel
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Diego City Council District 1
San Diego City Council District 5
9 callers attended meeting

Introduction and Announcements
Chair Bry convened the video conference meeting at 11:00 a.m. A quorum roll call was taken with members present: Barbara Bry, Dwight Worden, Mark Kersey, Dianne Jacob, Judy Hegenauer, Jeff Barnouw and Dustin Fuller. Boardmembers Diaz, Gaspar and Grosch were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance
Chair Bry led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Boardmember Gaspar joined the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Approval of Minutes of February 21, 2020
Boardmember Barnouw made the motion to approve the minutes of February 21, 2020 and Boardmember Worden seconded the motion.
Yes votes: Bry, Worden, Kersey, Jacob, Hegenauer, Barnouw, Gaspar
Absent: Diaz, Grosch

Executive Directors Report- Executive Director McKernan reported that JPA staff has been closely following the City and County of San Diego park guidelines to navigate operations within the River Park since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Director McKernan was pleased to report that all JPA staff are safe. The priority of staff has been to keep the park visitors safe by, maintaining daily patrol of trails,
keeping the park safe and clean, educating visitors, coordinating with member agencies and law enforcement. The River Park trails are open, some parking lots remain closed and the portable restrooms remain closed. Staff has been trimming the trails to widen them allowing more distance between patrons. Director McKernan has met with the Budget Sub-Committee in March and April where committee members have been updated on the status of the park. Director McKernan reported that the Ranger Station is completed and it was completed within budget with no change orders. He stated that an open house will be planned for the future. Boardmember Barnouw stated that he would be submitting an article on the Ranger Station to the Del Mar Sandpiper publication in the June edition.

Public Comment-A report was submitted by the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy mentioning an award of $10,000 Environmental Champions Grant, River Path Del Mar Sensory Trail Project, Virtual hikes in the River Park, Facebook Live chats and YouTube videos, work party projects and the 2020 River Valley Fest For Wild’s Sake to be held October 4, 2020, 4-8 p.m. at the Center for the Arts.

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

1. Receive and Distribute Third Party Audit Report for Year Ending June 30, 2021

Director McKernan reported that this is our standard annual audit report with the findings in line with the financial statement and the controls in place. Director McKernan answered questions from boardmembers regarding the Lagoon Endowment and the need for an increase in ranger staff. Counsel Brechtel announced that members of the public who are on the line would be able to make comments if they would like to by using the Zoom raise hand feature. Public comments were solicited and there were no public comments. Boardmember Gaspar made the motion to receive and distribute the third party audit report for year ending June 30, 2019 and Vice-Chair Worden seconded the motion. A roll call vote was unanimous.

Yes votes: Bry, Worden, Kersey, Gaspar, Jacob, Hegenuer, Barnouw
Absent: Diaz, Grosch

2. Approve Addition to the San Dieguito Lagoon W-19 Restoration Project and Resolution R20-1

Recommendation: Adopt resolution authorizing the addition of an approximately 13-acre site, known as W-6, to the San Dieguito Lagoon W-19 Restoration Project and adopting an Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report for the project.

Principal Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the JPA staff, working with several agencies would like to add a 13-acre site, W-6, to the San Dieguito Lagoon W-19 Restoration Project. The new area would be restored to tidal wetlands as part of the W-19 project. Ms. Anderson explained the addendum to the W-19 Final EIR and described the W-6 area and additional work necessary of removing 129,000 cubic yards of material for wetland restoration. The CEQA addendum also addresses additional details regarding planned SDG&E utility relocations related to the W-19 project. There was a brief discussion by boardmembers. Ms. Anderson answered questions regarding the possibility of supplying material for the SCOUP project in Del Mar, disposal site capacity, and the ongoing positive relationships with all stakeholders. She also stated that the W-19 Restoration Project remains on schedule to begin construction by the end of 2020. There were no public comments. Chair Bry thanked Ms. Anderson for the detailed report and for working with all of the agencies. Vice-Chair Worden made the motion to approve the addition to the San Dieguito Lagoon W-19 Restoration Project and approve Resolution R20-1 and Boardmember Barnouw seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.
3. Approval of Proposed FY 20-21 Budget

Recommendation: Board motion to approve Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget

Director McKernan explained the proposed budget and reported that the Budget Sub Committee has had two meetings (March and April) to discuss the budget. The subcommittee reviewed the budget presented in March and asked staff to provide a constrained budget due to the pandemic issue. Staff presented a constrained budget to the committee in April with no member agency contribution increase. Vice-Chair Worden agreed that the subcommittee did ask for a cautious and conservative budget from Director McKernan. The subcommittee voiced concerns that the contributions would be difficult for the member agencies however, the work that JPA staff does is a significant benefit to all of the member agencies and justified. Boardmember Hegenauer also commented on the unknowns and constrains of the budget at this time. Chair Bry said she was advocating for Park funding with the City of San Diego and that it is more important than ever for residents. Director McKernan added that the San Dieguito River Park has been busier during this time. After a short discussion Vice-Chair Worden made the motion to approve the proposed FY 20-21 budget and Boardmember Jacob seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.

Yes votes: Bry, Worden, Kersey, Gaspar, Jacob, Hegenauer, Barnouw
Absent: Diaz, Grosch

INFORMATION

4. Jurisdictional Status Reports – no reports

Chair Bry adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

These minutes approved by Board action.

_7/2/20_  
Date  
Executive Director