

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of June 20, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Roberts - Chair
Don Mosier – Vice Chair
Dave Zito
Mark Kersey
Tom Golich

REPRESENTING

County of San Diego
City of Del Mar
City of Solana Beach
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
Brenda Miller	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Jacqueline Winterer	Friends of San Dieguito River Valley
Bill Michalski	San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
Ed Spaeth	Ramona Trails
Jeff Barnouw	Friends of San Dieguito River Valley
Trish Boaz	Executive Director, San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Alice Brown	San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
Peter Shapiro	Chair, San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
John Ingalls	CAC member

Introduction and Announcements

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

Approval of Minutes of May 16, 2014

Boardmember Golich made a motion to approve the minutes of May 16, 2014. Boardmember Zito seconded the motion. Boardmember Kersey said that the minutes should record that Boardmember Lightner was not here and that Boardmember Kersey recused himself from the discussion of item 7, the church project, at the previous meeting. Chair Roberts said he believes Board member Kersey is referring to the April meeting, when the issue of St. Garabed Church was discussed. Boardmember Kersey recused himself during the discussion of the Final MND for Via de la Valle Widening and Proposed Letter of Support at the May 16, 2014 meeting.

The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes; Boardmembers Roberts, Mosier, Golich, Zito and Kersey. There were 0 no votes and 0 abstaining votes.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Bobertz reported that there have been many activities at the new Birdwing. Six hundred elementary students attended Lagoon Days. Kindergartners from High Tech Elementary in San Marcos teamed up with the San Dieguito River Park and students from High Tech High to learn about the environment at the Lagoon. They published a book that was passed around for all to see.

The Volunteer appreciation event was held Sunday, June 1. The event was coordinated with San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy. Thanks to Jacqueline Winterer for her generous donation for this event.

June 4 the Sikes Creamery Grand Opening event was held. Volunteers from Bricklayers of San Diego and Imperial Counties Fellowship Trust, New Haven School and Youth Build Program helped to build the Creamery. The project was paid for by contributions from the County of San Diego at the recommendation of Chair Dave Roberts, Ron Hall and Friends of Sikes Adobe.

Director Bobertz discussed a handout about Ecoambassadors, which is an effort funded by Channel 8, San Diego River Park and SDGE. San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy with San Dieguito River Park is one of the 8 finalists. You can vote once per day, per device from June 13th to July 2nd. Awards are \$25,000 to \$2,000.

We have an association with Apple Computer for an event, "Apple Distinguished Educators 2014". Apple will be bringing together educators from all over the world at the San Dieguito Lagoon. There will be 450 participants over 3 days in July. Apple will pay the River Park \$20,000.00 for the experience. This is only possible because of the Birdwing.

R.Roger Rowe School 3rd grade students collected \$200 in coins for a donation to the Birdwing.

Public Comment-None

Attorney Brechtel informed the Board that an Urgency Item had come up that required a unanimous vote of the members present to add to the agenda. The issue is the recently announced retirement of the Executive Director and Deputy Director positions effective November 30, 2014. The matter came to the agency's attention after the agenda for this meeting had been written and published. He went on to say that this creates the need to address succession immediately. Chair Roberts made the motion to add this item to the agenda. It will be number 5 on the agenda. Don Mosier seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes; Boardmembers Roberts, Mosier, Golich, Zito and Kersey. There were 0 no votes and 0 abstaining votes.

CONSENT

1. Del Mar Request for Sea-Level Rise Planning Grant Letter of Support (page3)

Recommendation: Provide Letter of Support for Del Mar Sea-Level Rise Planning Grant. Boardmember Zito made the motion to provide Letter of Support per staff recommendation. Boardmember Golich seconded. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes; Boardmembers Roberts, Mosier, Golich, Zito and Kersey. There were 0 no votes and 0 abstaining votes.

ACTION AGENDA

2. City of San Diego Membership & Ongoing Participation in JPA (page8)

Recommendation: Discuss and provide direction.

Executive Director Bobertz added information to the staff report, paragraph 2. The reason that the City of San Diego is willing to enter into a six month agreement instead of a one year agreement is because of the City of San Diego's \$250,000.00 dollar limit to bring items to the city council. The City of San Diego's assessment is \$254,100 (over the limit) therefore the agreement was adjusted to six months and then another six month agreement will be made. There was also a clarification regarding the last sentence in the second paragraph of the summary, "JPA staff was also informed that discussions regarding potential revisions to the agreement would occur only after the City's six-month participation agreement was signed" was explained further stating that the City has signed the agreement and will not hold back negotiation. The City Staff wants to work out the details immediately and is proposing a meeting the first week of July.

A Resolution was prepared for consideration of the board. The Resolution states 1. The board approves the Amendment to Extend City of San Diego Membership in the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for a Term of Six Months, terminating December 31, 2014. 2. Urges each of its member agencies to sign the Amendment expeditiously; and 3. Appoints a Committee of Board members comprised of Chair Dave Roberts, Vice-Chair Don Mosier and Board members Sherri Lightner and Mark Kersey to meet with representatives of the City of San Diego /or other representatives as may be deemed necessary, to review and discuss in good faith the issues raised in the City's May 2nd letter, along with other issues that may be raised by other member agencies, for the purpose of developing a new long-term Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement.

Chair Roberts voiced the board's appreciation for the City working through this. Chair Roberts asked Counsel Brechtel why the member agencies that had already signed the original agreement would have to sign the City amendment and Counsel Brechtel answered that it is important to the City that all members sign the amendment indicating a willingness to discuss in good faith potential changes to the proposed renewed JPA agreement.

Boardmember Kersey made the motion to accept the Resolution as written. Boardmember Zito seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes; Boardmembers Roberts, Mosier, Golich, Zito and Kersey. There were 0 no votes and 0 abstaining votes.

Executive Director Bobertz brought up the letter from Boardmember Lightner clarifying that she had not taken part in any discussion or voting regarding the St. Garabed Church issue. Boardmember Lightner had to leave the meeting early, before the discussion and action directing staff to provide future comments on letterhead that does not include Board members names and to include specific votes of the individual Board members on all comment letters. The sample letter, page 15 in the agenda packet is recommended to be sent to Boardmember Lightner to notify her of these changes and that her concerns have been addressed.

Boardmember Mosier made the motion to send the draft letter to Councilmember Lightner. Boardmember Zito seconded the motion.

Chair Roberts stated that this is another example that the Board is working through the issues to improve the overall openness and transparency so each Boardmember feels comfortable making decisions in their jurisdictions as well as the JPA.

The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes; Boardmembers Roberts, Mosier, Golich, Zito and Kersey. There were 0 no votes and 0 abstaining votes.

3. CAC Review of Items Addressed by JPA Board (page 16)

Recommendation: Direct staff to take all agenda items to CAC for review unless there are urgent timing constraints.

Executive Director Bobertz stated that this issue was brought up by Boardmember Lightner at the previous meeting and Staff has looked into this. The most recent communication that was not brought before the CAC board was the Piedras Pintadas letter that was received 2 days before a JPA board meeting. Due to the serious subject of the letter a reply was written and sent immediately. Director Bobertz went on to explain that over the years Staff has not taken minor or administrative items such as easements or non controversial issues, to the CAC. At the June 6th CAC meeting it was determined that the CAC would like all things brought to them with administrative items placed on a consent agenda. Boardmember Golich stated that the most important item the CAC would like to see is the budget and the CAC would like to have a representative participate on the JPA's budget committee. Vice-Chair Mosier stated that he would be happy to have a CAC member on the budget committee.

Vice-Chair Mosier made the motion to approve the Staff recommendation and to also include a CAC member on the budget committee. Boardmember Golich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes; Boardmembers Roberts, Mosier, Golich, Zito and Kersey. There were 0 no votes and 0 abstaining votes.

4. San Dieguito Lagoon Boardwalk (page 20)

Recommendation: Direct staff to file a permit application with the California Coastal Commission to remove Condition #6d from Coastal Development Permit #6-04-88.

Deputy Director Carter discussed the many letters that were sent in opposition to removing the Boardwalk. She explained that the response letter from the Coastal Commission states the Coastal Commission's interpretation is that they have the authority at the staff level to require the removal of the Boardwalk.

Chair Roberts made the motion to direct staff to file a permit application with the California Coastal Commission to remove Condition #6d from Coastal Development Permit #6-04-88. Boardmember Mosier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes; Boardmembers Roberts, Mosier, Golich, Zito and Kersey. There were 0 no votes and 0 abstaining votes.

Emergency Item Added to Agenda

Retirement of Deputy Director and Executive Director and need to take action

Deputy Director Carter spoke of her planned retirement 11/29/2014. Executive Director Bobertz has been retired for 5 years and is still working every day as the Executive Director. However, the longstanding arrangement was that when Deputy Director Carter retired then Executive Director Bobertz would cease working also, so that the Board could hire a new Executive Director. The budget has salary for one person, not two. Therefore the two positions will be merged for one new director. Director Bobertz stated that now is the time to hire someone to accomplish the River Park's objectives for the next 25 years. Chair Roberts stated that the Board can never thank Executive Director Bobertz and Deputy Director Carter enough for what they have done.

Chair Roberts stated that the action necessary is how to proceed. Chair Roberts suggested that a Search Committee be formed with four members. He suggested a representative from the County, the City of San Diego, the CAC and one other. He asked for other suggestions. The issues of a search consultant, budget for this service, asking County to use their resources, the need for a written job description for subcommittee and the urgency of this matter were discussed. It was also discussed that the Board will have to meet more frequently at this time and that a notification should be sent to the Boardmembers not in attendance at this meeting. It was determined that the search subcommittee will be made up of Boardmembers Mosier (committee chair), Roberts, Golich and either Kersey or Lightner. The subcommittee will meet prior to the July 18th Board meeting.

Chair Roberts made the motion for staff to send out a note today notifying all of the Boardmembers of the retirement of Executive Director Bobertz and Deputy Director Carter, that on July 18th the Board will meet to discuss using a search firm or to use a member agency resource to find successor candidates and to review the full job description. Boardmember Kersey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes; Boardmembers Roberts, Mosier, Golich, Zito and Kersey. There were 0 no votes and 0 abstaining votes.

INFORMATION

5. Ranger Station (Maintenance Building) (page 48)

Shawna Anderson reported that the architect firm Rinehart Herbst has been hired. SCE is providing all of the funding. A loan will be secured to pay for the building costs and the loan amount will be reimbursed by SCE over 10 years. Shawna met with City of San Diego Development Services staff for the permit. We are applying for a permit under the existing Site Development permit for the wetland restoration project, which is an open permit. The plan will go to the Carmel Valley planning group and staff will also get a Coastal Development permit. The plans were presented to both the Project Review Committee and CAC. The CAC approved and voted unanimously to go forward with the planning development and wanted consideration of solar panels in the design. Shawna showed pictures of the site and building plan. We are now the owners of the property. It will be our first Ranger Station consisting of 1400 sf office, 1000 sf (3 truck) garage, fenced work yard, public restroom, employee restroom, small meeting room space (public and private use), and green house. It is planned to be a one story, box structure with a slight sloped roof. The materials will be rolled asphalt on the roof. The external walls will be rolled asphalt (tan) with perforated aluminum on top to provide the appearance of depth and soften appearance. The perforated material will be used in the fencing as well. The permit application has been submitted to the City. We have talked to the architect about the

solar panels. Shawna reported that we are improving the entrance to the site and installing a solar gate. Discussion was made regarding the PACE program, slope of roof, possible low energy consumption, height of building and the entrance. Chair Roberts asked what is the vision for future? Shawna replied that a Nature Center has always been intended for the site, but the Coastal Commission required that it be located on a six-acre area in the northwest quadrant of the parcel. She explained that the buildable area has shrunk in size because of encroachment of the road and expansion of the wetlands. Shawna said we will need to be specific with the Coastal Commission regarding the six acre future area to preserve for future development. When we submit our application to build the Ranger station they will want us to show them a proposed location for the future nature/visitor center. Chair Roberts expressed an idea to relocate the Alvarado House to the Birdwing area. The Alvarado house is a great piece of history and is now located at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Jeff Barnouw spoke on behalf of the Del Mar Historical Society. The Alvarado House is a phenomenal piece of history and can only be seen when the Fair is open. The house is open every afternoon from 1-4. Jeff will be the docent on Saturday. It is in the garden area near the Ecke corner.

Chair Roberts stated there is a consensus to continue with permitting the Ranger Station.

6. Founders Tribute Committee (page 49)

Deputy Director Carter provided a report that an ad hoc committee has been formed. The proposed committee is Chair Roberts, CAC Chair Golich, Deputy Director Carter, Margaret Schlesinger (League of Woman Voters), Jacqueline Winterer (Coastal Property Owner), Art Schmitz (Eastern Property Owner) and Trish Boaz (San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy). The committee will meet to discuss the location and design of the tribute as well as the selection process. The Committee will bring a proposal to the Board. Boardmember Golich suggested meeting at the Park office or at Chair Roberts' office in Escondido. Boardmember Golich said he would like to have Ms. Carter continue on the committee as a volunteer after she retires, and she agreed that she would.

7. Park Project Status (oral)

Polo Club

Shawna Anderson reported that the Polo Club Trail and Habitat Restoration project is a requirement of the Polo Club to restore the trail along the San Dieguito River as a result of the City-issued civil penalty for a grading violation. The trail was used for many years as a cool down and exercise trail for the polo ponies with major damage being done to the trail, and making it unavailable to the public. Shawna presented a 3 page timeline and a plan of the polo fields showing a new exercise trail. She said that the Polo Club has a Site Development permit that will expire next month and they need to apply for extension of the permit. They have not made progress in obtaining the required grading permit. The Polo Club is also on a month to month lease. No action is requested by the JPA Board at this time.

South Overflow Lot Restoration

Shawna Anderson showed photos and plans of the Ag District South Overflow Lot restoration site. Phase two of plan, as approved by the Coastal Commission, includes the Boardwalk in place. Shawna highlighted the new bridge that the Ag District installed, the area that will be planted and hydroseeded in the fall, new channels, the Boardwalk, an undulating, contoured mound (berm) in the buffer area between East overflow lot and the trail that is very nice and serves as a visual buffer between the trail and the golf driving range.

Pictures also showed restoration work at an adjacent east berm site, with channels, and a great picture of Osprey nest with ospreys on a platform at the fairgrounds. .

8. Coordination Reports (oral)

a. San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy

Trish Boaz reported that the Conservancy received an \$8000 grant from REI for the Birdwing. She stated that REI uses the Birdwing for their training and it is a great partnership. Trish announced that a new Conservation Manager has been hired. Her name is Jessica Norton. Jessica will be helping kick off the Citizen Science program.

b. Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley – No report

c. Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation – No report

d. San Dieguito Lagoon Committee – No report

9. Jurisdictional Status Reports –

No reports

10. Communications

No communications

Chair Roberts introduced and thanked the most patient person in attendance, his son Julian Oliver, for being here today.

Chair Roberts adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM

He said the next meeting will be July 18th. to act on the recommendations of the Search Committee. Also please keep the August meeting on your calendar and block your calendar for a meeting every month for the remainder of this calendar year.

These minutes approved by Board Action

Date

Executive Director