

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of November 16, 2007**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dianne Jacob -Chair
Dave Roberts -Vice- Chair
Dick Daniels
Carl Hillard
Betty Rexford
Pam Slater-Price
Phil Pryde
Becky Bartling

REPRESENTING

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

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
Freda Reid	San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
Bill Proffer	San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Jacqueline Winterer	Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
Craig Adams	San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
John Degenfelder	Ramona Trails Association

Introduction and Announcements

Chair Jacob convened the meeting at 9:25 a.m. in the County Administration Building, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302/303, San Diego, CA 92101.

Approval of Minutes October 19, 2007

Boardmember Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of October 19, 2007 , Boardmember Daniels seconded the motion. All in favor.

Boardmember Pryde introduced the CAC members in attendance as Freda Reid, Jacqueline Winterer, Craig Adams and Bill Proffer.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Bobertz said that this is a landmark meeting. Since the last meeting the JPA has lost the River Park office and the Sikes Adobe Farmstead in the recent fires. Mr. Bobertz said that we will be starting over in regard to much of what was accomplished over the last ten years. Mr. Bobertz acknowledged the terrible loss that so many homeowners in San Diego felt by losing their homes. On

Sunday November 18, there will be a Community Arts and Craft show put on by the Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley at Powerhouse Del Mar as a fundraiser .

Public Comment: None

ACTION AGENDA

A resolution was added to the action agenda by Counsel Wayne Brechtel to apply for Federal Funds which was brought to our attention after the agenda was mailed out.

A resolution to apply for Federal Funds was moved for adoption by Boardmember Roberts and seconded by Boardmember Daniels. All in favor.

1. Fire Damage Report- Impacts and Action Steps

RECOMMENDATION: Receive information and provide direction to staff as appropriate.

- a. **River Park Office-** Executive Director Bobertz said that we lost the River Park office including two trucks, tractor and excavator. Luckily we have good insurance and have already met with the adjuster and monies are forthcoming. We have set up an office in the San Pasqual Water Reclamation Facility that we will be leasing for the next 18 months while we rebuild our River Park office. Mr. Bobertz said that he will be meeting with an architect about the reconstruction in the near future. We are organizing as quickly as possible.

Deputy Director Carter said that we had a Indian hoyo sitting in the ranger office that had been turned in by some hikers who had kept it for years and then felt it best to turn it into the River Park.. Ms. Carter said that the only item that was not destroyed at the office was the hoyo which had not only survived the fire but the entire building collapse. Ms.Carter said that the truck that was go generously donated by Karen Berger and her husband was a total loss but it had just been appraised at \$23,000 the week before the fires.

- b. **Sikes Adobe Historic Farmhouse-** Deputy Director Carter said that all that is left of the site are the adobe walls. Fortunately, because the walls are still standing we are justified to rebuild the site. We have met with Wayne Donaldson from the State office of Historic Preservation and the Director of the Save our Heritage, Bruce Coons who will be doing an assessment. The recommendation is that we need to stabilize the walls and it should be rebuilt. Ms. Carter said that because Sikes is a State Point of Historic Interest and it will be covered by FEMA. We met with the historic architect and structural engineer to

come up with a stabilization plan and it must be approved by the State, City of San Diego and FEMA in order to get funding to rebuild in the future. We are going to shore up the walls and the historians are going to do some historic research. We have the historic structure report and the we are on track to purchase the site on December 3rd. Susan said that the City of San Diego was self insured and will have some insurance to cover the building.

- c. **Field Assets-** Executive Director Bobertz said that all the items that were built in wood on the trails were burned but FEMA and the State of California will be funding the replacement of the bridges. The rangers have been working on the trails to reopen them and are having some problems with people going on the trails that are currently closed. Mr. Bobertz said that the rangers think that they are going to be able to open the Lake Hodges Trail next week. Erosion control will be a big part of the effort coming into the winter months and we are working very hard to get the hillsides shored up with sandbags and waddles. Deputy Director Carter said that we will be assigned a project manager from FEMA who will help us assess the damage and apply for funding. Mr. Bobertz said that the Conservancy will be loaning us the help of Craig Adams for the FEMA funding process.

- d. **Habitat and Watershed Impacts-** Shawna Anderson said that 62% of the River Park open space was burned. Three areas that are most impacted are the Pamo Valley, San Pasqual Valley and Lake Hodges. We want to have teamed up with some biologists and the City of San Diego Water Department mapping the areas for endangered species and habitat. Ms. Anderson noted that erosion is a large problem and we are meeting with other agencies to target the different areas. David Van Cleve emailed us from the Nature Conservancy to reroute the donations that are being sent in to the River Park. Another organization, Urban Corps has applied for the grant of \$286,000 that would be used toward time the Urban Corps is helping the River Park on the trails.

Boardmember Rexford said that the City of Poway has a website with many donations for the Poway residents. Chair Jacob said that she flew over the county and saw the damaged areas and suggest that we contact County Department of Public Works to get some supplies and check the website sdcountyrecovery.com for any supplies.

Boardmember Pryde said that the Audubon Society lost their Silverwood Sanctuary facility to fire in 2003. He discussed and suggested certain points that they learned from their loss recovery. Mr. Pryde said that we might not want to build on the exact footprint of our old building and he wanted to make sure that we hired a licensed contractor that is reputable as there are many unlicensed contractors available. Mr. Pryde said that an Archeologist is needed to go over the site for valuable items and suggested that we might want to document the fire areas and the progress as it is going on.

Boardmember Slater- Price said that there are many grants available for the River Park.

Boardmember Rexford said that the City of Poway has a book about building codes and the footprint on new rules available and will waive the fees for rebuilding in their city.

Chair Jacob said that the County has a checklist to be prepared for fire and there are many items that need to be addressed such as back up generators and extra fire hoses. It is also important to take an inventory and pictures of your belongings. Ms. Jacob said that the people of San Diego did a great job in evacuation and helping each other.

Chair Jacob said that the JPA Board is here to support the River Park and its staff and to please let them know what is needed so they can help.

INFORMATION

2. Status Reports

a. River Park Projects:

- i. Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead
- ii. Lake Hodges Bike /Ped Bridge
- iii. Coastal Trail, Treatment Ponds and Restoration Project- Director Bobertz thanked the 22 District Agricultural District for their willingness to take over the building of the trail to Interstate Highway 5 so that our rangers can continue with the restoration of our trails after the fires. Shawna Anderson said that the treatment ponds are getting started and hope to be finished by February 2008. Director Bobertz said that he attended the Coastal Commission meeting and said that the Coastal Commission approved the desalination project and there is a potential for some mitigation on 37 acres of wetland property that might be done in the San Dieguito Wetland area.
- iv. Pamo Valley Trail- Shawna Anderson said that 7 structures and grazing land burned in the Pamo Valley area. Ms. Anderson said that she and Jason Lopez met with the City Water Department staff about the need to have a caretaker in the area that will work for both organizations
- v. Heritage Trail Link- Director Bobertz said that this trail is going to be coming through the area of our new offices. Shawna Anderson said that the application was burned in the fire and we will be sending in a new application in the near future.

Jurisdictional Status Reports- Boardmember Rexford encouraged everyone to visit the Goodin Ranch as it is a beautiful new facility. It is an example of how you can recover from devastation.

Communications- None

CLOSED SESSION. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

The Board will meet in closed session pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9 (b)(1)(3) to confer with legal counsel regarding receipt of a claim pursuant to the Tort Claims Act from Mr. Neal Hribar.

Counsel Brechtel reconvened the meeting and stated that the Board denied the claim.

Chair Jacob adjourned the meeting at 11:10

These minutes approved by Board Action

Date

Executive Director

DRAFT