

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of August 20, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dwight Worden – Chair
Tina Inscoc
Joe LaCava
Marni vonWilpert
Kelly Harless
Joel Anderson
Jeff Barnouw
Dustin Fuller

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dave Grosch – Vice-Chair
Terra Lawson-Remer

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Shawna Anderson
Ayden Zielke
Brenda Miller
Wayne Brechtel
Brenda Miller
Ricky Flahive
Maggie Brown
Crystal Benham
Kim Wehinger
Greg Kazmer
Carol Kerridge
Phil Pryde
Deanna Spehn
Eric Jones
Rebecca Smith
Candace Bowman

REPRESENTING

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

REPRESENTING

City of Poway
County of San Diego

San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
JPA Counsel
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Diego City Council District 1
Friends of San Dieguito River Valley
San Diego County Parks
City of San Diego
County of San Diego District 2
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
Audubon Society
Policy Director for Senator Toni Atkins
Volcan Mountain Foundation
County of San Diego District 3
Friends of San Dieguito River Valley

Introduction and Announcements

Chair Worden convened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum of 7 boardmembers were present to begin the meeting.

Approval of Minutes of May 21, 2021

Boardmember Barnouw made the motion to approve the minutes of May 21, 2021. Boardmember Inscoc seconded the motion. There was no public comment. A roll call vote was taken.

Yes votes: Anderson, Barnouw, Harless, Inscoc, LaCava, vonWilpert, Worden
Absent: Grosch, Lawson-Remer

Executive Directors Report - Executive Director Shawna Anderson reported that JPA staff is working with the Watershed Explorer Program team to submit an Outdoor Equity grant application in October. She reported that the JPA's grant submitted in June to the Wildlife Conservation Board Public Access grant program for the Sutherland segment of the Coast to Crest Trail was not selected for award. The JPA is in discussions with a new operator for the Sike's Farmer's Market to begin in the spring of 2022. Director Anderson reported on the June and July tours given to JPA board members Anderson and Lawson-Remer's staff. Ms. Anderson reported on the results of a meeting held with Surf Cup Sports and others August 19 regarding scheduling a work party event to start restoring the segment of CTC Trail on the property. She also reported on a successful Belgian Waffle Ride bike event held along a portion of the CTC Trail and the sponsor's donation for trail operations. Director Anderson reminded the board about the upcoming San Dieguito Lagoon Ranger Station Open House on September 12, 2021. The JPA, in partnership with the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, was awarded a \$20,000 grant from Edison International Corporate Giving Program to pay for a monument sign for the Ranger Station.

Public Comment—No public comment.

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

1. Approval of Revisions to San Dieguito River Park JPA Employee Manual

Recommendation: Approve the revised SDRP JPA Employee Manual.

Counsel Wayne Brechtel reported that a comprehensive update was done on the JPA Employee Manual to incorporate new language, rules and existing policies. Counsel Brechtel highlighted the updated discrimination definition and policies, abusive conduct policy, discrimination and abusive conduct training, managing digital data, lactation policy, leave of absence policy and expanded employee discipline section. Boardmember LaCava thanked Counsel Brechtel for the good work done to stay current with the laws. Boardmember LaCava moved the staff recommendation with an additional revision to ensure that the language in the manual is non-gender and non-binary. Counsel Brechtel ensured that the revisions would be incorporated into the final document. Boardmember von Wilpert seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Yes votes: Anderson, Barnouw, Harless, Inscoc, LaCava, vonWilpert, Worden

Absent: Grosch, Lawson-Remer

2. San Dieguito Lagoon Phase Two Wetland Restoration Project (W-19) Status Update

Executive Director Shawna Anderson reported on the status of the W-19 project. Community outreach is planned to inform neighbors of the project before the beginning of construction in the fall or winter of 2021. Information on the project will be available at the Ranger Station. The Dust Devil Nature Trail will be closed on weekdays during construction to protect public safety and will reopen for use on most weekends. Public noticing will inform trail users of future trail closures. Director Anderson is working with SANDAG staff to amend the JPA's agreement to add the project construction phase. Boardmember LaCava offered to assist with community outreach. Chair Worden asked for a one-page summary of the project to share with the boardmembers. Director Anderson offered to present the project to any of the member agency councils or boards.

3. **Approval of SDG&E Easement Acquisition and Right of Way Use Agreement**

Recommendation: Approve SDG&E acquisition of utility easements on JPA property and approve right-of-way use agreement and authorize Executive Director to finalize and sign final documents.

Executive Director Shawna Anderson presented the agenda item and draft easement and agreement documents. She explained that SDG&E will be relocating existing power poles in the W-19 project restoration footprint to the utility corridor in order to accommodate the W-19 restoration. SDG&E easements will be expanded along the utility corridor and El Camino Real onto JPA property to accommodate the relocated poles. A new trail will be built to connect the Dust Devil Nature Trail the Coast to Crest Trail, which will cross the SDG&E easement requiring a use agreement. SDG&E's easement acquisition offer to the JPA is \$98,000 and Director Anderson explained that the funds will be used for San Dieguito River Park mission projects. Counsel Brechtel stated that the JPA's approving resolution allows for minor changes to the document language. Following discussion Boardmember LaCava made the motion to approve staff's recommendation and Boardmember Barnouw seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Yes votes: Anderson, Barnouw, Harless, Inscoe, LaCava, vonWilpert, Worden

Absent: Grosch, Lawson-Remer

4. **Potential Sale of Volcan Mountain North Preserve Parcels**

Executive Director Shawna Anderson introduced the agenda item regarding two properties donated to the JPA in 2003t. The two parcels total 169 acres adjacent to land owned by the Volcan Mountain Foundation a partner of the River Park. Director Anderson was approached by California Department of Fish and Wildlife about the potential to acquire these parcels and Anderson is asking for authorization to engage in negotiations for a potential sale combined with the adjacent VMF properties to add to the CDFW San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area. Director Anderson explained that the JPA has not disposed of properties in the past but this is a unique situation. She cited clause 12A of the JEPA requires that prior approval of the public agency jurisdiction where the property is located is required, in this case in County of San Diego jurisdiction. Director Anderson read a written comment from VMF into the public record; "Volcan Mountain Foundation strongly supports this action. With a combined size of 220 acres, VMF's and San Dieguito River Park's remote and rugged parcels on the east ridge of the Volcan Mountains range have important conservation values. This land will be best managed long-term by CDFW as an addition to the San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area." After discussion Chair Worden stated that by unanimous consent the JPA Board of Directors authorizes Director Anderson to negotiate with CDFW on details of a potential sale of the two parcels to CDFW. Director Anderson will report back to the Board on details of any negotiations and/or sale offer made by CDFW.

5. **Future JPA Meeting Procedures**

Executive Director Shawna Anderson began the discussion of in person versus Zoom meetings. Counsel Brechtel noted that the Governor's public meeting order expires September 30th unless it is extended.

Chair Worden suggested that this topic be discussed at the next board meeting which will be held on Zoom. Chair Worden also made the suggestion that the Board hold a Boardmember retreat in the future.

INFORMATION

6. Coordination Reports

a. San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy- Chair Worden reported that the first quarterly meeting between the JPA and SDRVC board chairs and directors was held in August. The next meeting will be in October.

b. Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley- Maggie Brown thanked JPA staff for taking the PRC on a tour of the W-19 project and thanked Boardmember Joe LaCava and staff for their support on issues relating to the Surf Cup Sports lease.

c. Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation – President Eric Jones stated that the location of the Volcan

Mountain parcels is very rugged terrain and would be kept in wilderness preserve status. Hunting is not permitted in that part of the San Felipe Valley preserve

d. San Dieguito Lagoon Committee- Carol Kerridge extended the invite to the Ranger Station Open House on September 12.

e. Friends of Sikes Adobe- No Report


7. Jurisdictional Status Reports – No Reports

8. Communications – Two newspaper articles were included; one on safe hiking and one on moving the power poles at the lagoon.

Chair Worden adjourned the meeting at 12:09 pm.

These minutes approved by Board action.

9/23/21
Date


Executive Director