
**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of January 19, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joe LaCava - Chair
Chris Khoury – Vice Chair
Brian Pepin
Consuelo Martinez
Dwight Worden
Marni von Wilpert
Greg Kazmer – Alternate
Jill MacDonald

REPRESENTING

City of San Diego District 1
Citizens Advisory Committee
City of Poway
City of Escondido
City of Del Mar
City of San Diego Dist. 5
County of San Diego Dist. 2
City of Solana Beach

MEMBERS ABSENT

Terra Lawson-Remer
Dustin Fuller

REPRESENTING

County of San Diego Dist. 3
22nd Agricultural District, Ex Officio

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Shawna Anderson
Dewanda Vandermost
Wayne Brechtel
Brian Elliot
Lizzy Bendrick
Quinton Grounds
Lee BenVan
Maggie Brown
Cheryl Goddard

REPRESENTING

San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA, General Counsel
City of San Diego District 1
County Parks & Recreation Department
City of San Diego Dist. 5
City Public Utilities Dept.
Friends of San Dieguito River Valley
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy

Introduction and Announcements:

Chair LaCava convened the meeting at 11:01 a.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum of eight board members were present to begin the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the Minutes of December 8, 2023

Board Member Worden moved to approve the minutes and Board Member Pepin seconded the motion. All in favor.

Yes votes: LaCava, Khoury, Pepin, MacDonald, Martinez, Worden, vonWilpert, Kazmer (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer

Abstain: None

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Anderson announced the launching of the new SDRP website this month, highlighting the dedicated endowment donation page, the clickable interactive map of the focused planning area and improved navigation and useability.

Anderson reported \$13K was raised in donations for the SDRP JPA from the successful Red Nose Run event held 12/09/23. She also reported the addition of three new bronze watershed educational panels installed in three locations San Dieguito Lagoon, San Pasqual Valley and at Volcan Mountain; recent youth activities as part of the SDRP Watershed Explorers Program; and an Outdoor Equity Grant application in partnership with High-tech High.

Executive Anderson announced that she will be at the Del Mar Onesie Tournament fundraising event on 1/20/24 representing SDRP as the event charity.

CAC Chair's Report

Board Member Khoury reported that the January CAC Meeting was canceled. He gave an update of the progress of receiving the Consequence Report for the Lake Hodges Dam.

Public Comment – No public comments received.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. **2024 Board Officer Elections of Chair and Vice Chair and Appointments for the ad-hoc Budget Committee and ad-hoc Reach the Beach Committee.**
Recommendation: Board motion and vote to elect Chair and Vice-Chair for 2024 term and appoint board members to serve on the Budget and Reach the Beach ad-hoc committees.

Executive Director Anderson referenced JPA policy P95-1 included in the board packet.

Chair:

Board Member Worden recommended Vice-Chair Khoury as the next JPA Board Chair. Khoury declined and nominated the current Chair Joe LaCava to continue as the JPA Board Chair for the 2024 term. Board member Worden seconded the motion. All in favor.

Yes votes: LaCava, Khoury, Pepin, MacDonald, Martinez, Worden, vonWilpert, Kazmer (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer

Abstain: None

Chair LaCava summarized the 2023-year JPA accomplishments which upheld the mission of the agency and made significant advancements. These included approving the acquisition of property, receiving state funding for two highly impactful projects, and co-leading one of the largest restoration and mitigation projects in the county. He emphasized that access and educational programs are at the core of the JPA's work and will continue in 2024 as we continue the completion of the Coast to Crest Trail. Chair LaCava expressed his gratitude to the board for their trust in electing him Chair for 2024 and acknowledged the other member agency representatives who travel from afar to attend the monthly board meetings.

Vice Chair:

Board member vonWilpert nominated Vice Chair Khoury remain as the Vice Chair for another term in 2024. Board member Martinez seconded the motion. All in favor.

Yes votes: LaCava, Khoury, Pepin, MacDonald, Martinez, Worden, vonWilpert, Kazmer (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer

Abstain: None

Ad Hoc Budget Committee:

Chair LaCava, Board Member Kazmer (Alternate for Joel Anderson) and Board member Worden volunteered to remain on the Ad Hoc Budget Committee. Board member MacDonald volunteered to become the fourth member of the committee. Chair LaCava motioned to appoint the four board members for the 2024 term of the committee and Board Member Worden seconded the motion. All in favor.

Yes votes: LaCava, Khoury, Pepin, MacDonald, Martinez, Worden, vonWilpert, Kazmer (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer

Abstain: None

Ad Hoc Reach the Beach Committee:

Executive Director Anderson explained the purpose and intent of the Reach the Beach Committee and the approximate meeting schedule.

Chair LaCava asked the board members for any volunteers for the Ad Hoc Committee for Reach the Beach and stated that current members of this committee are Board Member Worden and Ex Officio Dustin Fuller.

Board Member MacDonald volunteered to be on the committee. Chair LaCava made a motion to appoint the three members Worden, MacDonald and Fuller to the Ad Hoc Committee for Reach the Beach. Board Member Worden seconded the motion. All in favor.

Yes votes: LaCava, Khoury, Pepin, MacDonald, Martinez, Worden, vonWilpert, Kazmer (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer

Abstain: None

2. **Approval of City of San Diego License Agreement for Osuna Segment of Coast to Crest Trail**
Recommendation: Approve and authorize Executive Director to sign license agreement for Osuna Segment of the Coast to Crest Trail.

Executive Director Anderson clarified that the City of San Diego necessitates a license agreement to permit the JPA to construct and manage the Osuna segment of the Coast to Crest Trail on city property. The Osuna segment, marking the 50th mile of the CTC Trail, is a significant milestone. The trail, a mile in length, includes a bridge component over the river. A third of the trail is situated on city-owned land, necessitating the license agreement.

Director Anderson communicated that the license agreement's negotiated term is 25 years, with a possibility for a 10-year renewal. A site development permit for the project is required as a precedence. It is slated for review by the City's Land Use and Housing Committee on March 21st, 2024, and will subsequently be docketed for the City Council.

Director Anderson reminded the Board that she is also working on a joint use agreement with the Olivenhain Municipal Water District for use of their easement to be co-shared with the project. She plans to bring the agreement for approval in the near future.

Director Anderson concluded that the license agreement will not have a financial impact, and the project is already funded. Upon completion of the project, the JPA will be responsible for its maintenance.

Public Comment- no public comment

The Board members and JPA General Counsel Wayne Brechtel discussed the license agreement term standards, renewal process, eventual termination, and the ownership of liability for the Osuna segment of the CTC Trail.

Board Member Worden made the motion to approve and authorize Executive Director Anderson to sign the license agreement for the Osuna Segment of the Coast to Crest Trail and Board Member Kazmer seconded the motion. All in favor.

Yes votes: LaCava, Khoury, Pepin, MacDonald, Martinez, Worden, vonWilpert, Kazmer (Alt)

No votes: None

Absent: Lawson-Remer

Abstain: None

3. **FY23-24 Q2 Budget Report and Coast Q4 Report**
Recommendation: none

Executive Director Anderson reviewed the budget report with the board members and explained that the budget is on target with projections.

Public Comment- no public comment

Chair LaCava inquired about the timeline for approving the next fiscal year budget to gain understanding of the anticipated member contribution amounts. Director Anderson answered that the draft FY24-25 budget will be reviewed by the Ad-hoc Budget Committee and then scheduled for approval at the April or May 2024 JPA meeting.

Member Worden inquired about timing for reviews and employee evaluations. Director Anderson answered that her evaluation is on the next budget committee agenda in January and employee wage assessments will be considered and weighed against the income and expenses in the new budget.

Member vonWilpert and Director Anderson discussed building maintenance expenditures and forecasts, office administration and overhead expenses.

4. **2023 List of Accomplishments and 2024 Priorities**

Recommendation: none

Progress of Accomplishments Executive Director Anderson referenced the progress of the JPA's mission as demonstrated in the lengthy 2023 Accomplishments list, emphasizing the completed funding goal of the Get to 71 Campaign, the progress on the CTC Trail gap, and the three State grant awards received, among other accomplishments.

2024 Priorities Director Anderson discussed the main priorities, which include:

- Hiring an environmental planner
- Advancing a sustainability financial strategy
- Growing the endowment fund for the longevity and sustainability of the San Dieguito River Park
- Making progress on the Osuna segment of the CTC Trail
- Advancing the Western Gateway
- Resolving the trail erosion at Horse Park
- Continuing the design and public engagement to complete the CTC Trail gap

Additional Goals In addition, Anderson expressed her desire to prepare the SANDAG W-19 agreement, resurrect the Sikes Farmer's Market, and continue the successful Watershed Explorers Program.

Public Comment- no public comment

Board Member Worden acknowledged the amount of accomplishments completed with the small JPA staff and encouraged each agency to share the information provided with their districts.

Board Member vonWilpert expressed her gratitude to Director Anderson, the JPA Staff and the volunteers for the immense work and accomplishments.

Public Comment- no public comment

INFORMATION

5. Project Status Updates

- a. **Reach the Beach Fairgrounds Trail** –Executive Director Anderson met with Coastal staff and reported that a coastal permit will be required for the project. She is in communication with the Del Mar City Manager’s office to request that the Fairgrounds trail be added to their workplan for the next fiscal year, and has a meeting scheduled with the Del Mar Foundation to provide a project progress report.
- b. **San Dieguito Lagoon Phase II Restoration (aka W-19)** – None
- c. **CTC Trail – East San Pasqual and Sutherland Gaps Project** – None

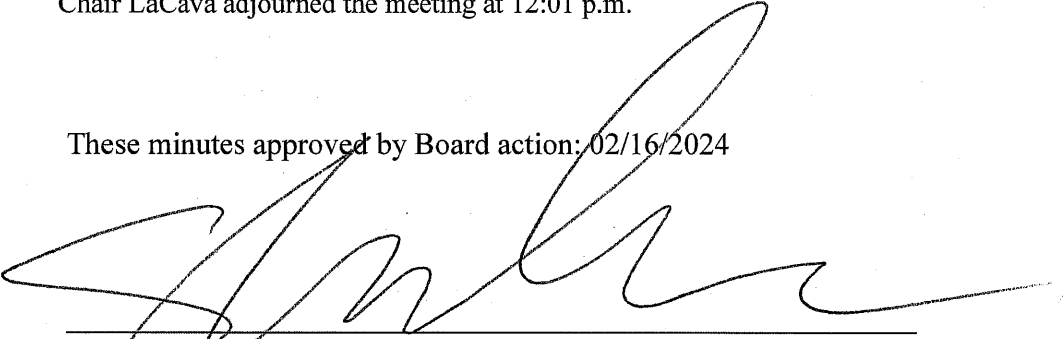
6. Coordination Reports (oral)

- a. **San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy**- Cheryl Goddard highlighted the strong relationship between the JPA and the Conservancy and ongoing discussions between the Conservancy and JPA Executive Directors to better support the JPA and its operations. She also shared the Conservancy’s increasing success with community outreach through events and public engagement.
- b. **Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley**- Maggie Brown encouraged the board to visit their new website: FSDRV.org
- c. **Volcan Mountain Foundation** – no report
- d. **San Dieguito Lagoon Committee**- no report

7. **Jurisdictional Status Reports** – Board Member Worden announced that the Del Mar council approved water quality testing for the lagoon. He also reported that the Army Corp sand replenishment project dredge is offshore in Solana Beach and will be increasing the volume of sand in Encinitas and Solana Beach. This can have an effect of increasing sand entrained into the lagoon and Director Anderson explained the purpose of the San Dieguito inlet sand trap to keep sand from traveling further upstream into the restored wetlands. She explained that the sand trap is maintained by SCE and will be enlarged with additional funding from SANDAG as part of the W-19 restoration project. Endowments from SCE and SANDAG provide funding to maintain the sand trap in perpetuity.

Chair LaCava adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

These minutes approved by Board action: 02/16/2024



Shayna Anderson, Executive Director