
**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of February 16, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

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
22nd Agricultural District, Ex Officio

MEMBERS ABSENT

Terra Lawson-Remer

REPRESENTING

County of San Diego Dist. 3

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Shawna Anderson
Dewanda Vandermost
Wayne Brechtel
Brian Elliot
Shannon Quigley-Raymond
Maria Jose Molina

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
County of San Diego Dist. 3

Introduction and Announcements:

Chair LaCava convened the meeting at 11:02 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 January 19, 2024

Board Member Alternate Kazmer moved to approve the minutes and Board Member MacDonald 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 mentioned the recent news regarding the funding that will enable the double tracking replacement bridge and platform at San Dieguito Lagoon and that she will be sending a notice to the JPA's ad hoc Reach the Beach Committee to convene to discuss the Reach the Beach trail.

Director Anderson gave an account of presentations made by JPA staff to the Solana Beach Historical Society and the Del Mar Foundation and mentioned upcoming presentations to the Urban Land Institute, the Del Mar Rotary and a tour of the wetlands with Dustin Fuller (22nd Ag. Dist.).

Director Anderson reported that an SDRP trail users survey is being planned in collaboration with the CAC Trails Committee.

Director Anderson described recent SDRP JPA events and activities, such as; the Onesie Tournament, Sikes Adobe Festive Farmhouse, Sikes garden improvements and Sikes Historic Farmstead tour with City of Escondido Councilmember Consuelo Martinez. She also mentioned the Watershed Explorers Program with the High-Tech High student's visit to Ilan Lael and the San Diego Archeology Center.

Director Anderson acknowledged volunteers planting and weeding the JPA's mitigation site off El Camino Real.

Executive Director Anderson reminded the board about the upcoming Volunteer Appreciation Party to be held at Sikes Adobe Farmstead May 19th, 2024.

CAC Chair's Report

Board Member Khoury summarized the February CAC meeting including updating relevant items in the City of San Diego's Consequence Report for the Lake Hodges Dam as it related to the water level of the dam versus the risk factors. He stated that the CAC will have an item on its next agenda to discuss the Consequence Report and the lake level further.

Board Member von Wilpert suggested that board member Khoury contact the group of The Friends of Lake Hodges who are lobbying to get the lake water level raised.

Board Member Khoury shared that two long-time members of the CAC, Jan Fuchs and Phil Pryde, are resigning their positions and will be recognized by the CAC.

Board Member Khoury reminded all that he will be giving a presentation of the Allure of the San Dieguito River Valley on March 9th at the Bernardo Winery.

Public Comment – No public comments received.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. **Approval of Resolution for State Budget Award – Osuna Segment of Coast to Crest Trail**
Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-1 for accepting state funds for the Osuna segment of the Coast to Crest Trail.

Executive Director Anderson recapped the source, requirements and management of the state award grants that were received for the project.

Board Member Worden asked about the grant deadline and Anderson explained that the JPA's Trails & Greenways grant has a 2027 deadline for construction completion, but that the other secured state funds may extend for a longer period. Worden also asked if there was a chance the state would rescind their state funds because of state budget challenges and Anderson answered that she has not been told that the funds were at risk.

Public Comment- no public comment

Board Member Alternate Kazmer made the motion to approve Resolution 24-1 and Resolution 24-2 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

2. **Approval of Resolution for State Budget Award – Fairgrounds Trail and SDRP Gateway**
Recommendation: Approve Resolution 24-2 for accepting state funds for the Fairgrounds Reach the Beach Trail and SDRP Western Gateway Project.

The Board Members discussed Action Item 2 along with Action Item 1 and voted on both items as one vote.

Public Comment- no public comment

3. **Approve Vehicle Replacement Purchase**

Recommendation: Authorize Executive Director to purchase replacement vehicle in accordance with the JPA's procurement policy.

Executive Director Anderson summarized the procurement policy, the JPA's existing vehicle fleet status, and the need for a replacement park ranger truck. She summarized quotes staff obtained for both electric and gas-powered trucks. She recommended that the gas-powered Chevy Silverado 2500 was better suited for the SDRP rangers' current needs, and an electric truck would be pursued as a future vehicle purchase. She summarized the JPAs current equipment/vehicle reserve balance and other funds available to purchase the truck.

Director Anderson based her recommendation on the following facts: higher towing capacity of the Chevy Silverado over longer distances, electric vehicle more suitable in lagoon area where work conditions are lighter than backcountry, lower price of Chevy Silverado, and market expected to provide better ZEV options like the Chevy 1500 in the near future.

Public Comment- no public comment

The Board Members raised questions, stated preferences, and discussed the following:

- Preference for the vehicle to be purchased in San Diego County
- Value of the truck that is being replaced
- Diminishing the vehicle reserve account in full and the need to replenish the reserve account for purchases in the near future.
- Whether or not a plugin hybrid truck was an option

Board Member Pepin made a motion to approve staff recommendation to purchase the Chevy Silverado 2500 up to the amount of \$67,323 with strong preference that the truck be purchased in San Diego County. Board Member Alternate 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

4. **Horse Park Trail Status**

Recommendation: Discuss situation and consider the draft letter to the 22nd District Agricultural Association regarding trail damage on the Horsepark segment of the Coast to Crest Trail.

Executive Director Anderson stated that JPA's typical trail design withstands inundations by floodwaters. She explained that the CTC Trail portion located on the 22nd Agricultural District Horsepark property has

been damaged due to runoff from Horsepark and the 22nd Ag. Districts' culverts that direct runoff to the river at the site of the bridge. The damaged portion of the trail has been closed to protect public safety.

Director Anderson shared details of the trail and bridge damage, and the possible solutions that have been discussed with the 22nd Ag. District and Horsepark operator.

Director Anderson recommended that a friendly letter be sent to the 22nd Ag. District and Horsepark to thank them for their support and urge them to continue working with the JPA on a sustainable solution and repair the trail and bridge.

Dustin Fuller representing the 22nd Agricultural District gave input on the design and condition of the culvert at the trail bridge. He stated that the culvert is operating as designed, that riprap was added by the 22nd DAA at some point and that the scour was caused by high storm flows. He wanted clarification of Director Anderson's request that the 22nd Agricultural District provide the resources to repair. He agreed that a letter is a logical first step.

Board Member von Wilpert addressed the need to protect the JPA's legal rights with regard to potential claims arising from the trail and bridge damage.

Board Member Worden suggested that language be added to the letter to address the date the repairs would be resolved and that the repair would be permanent.

The Board Members further discussed the type of letter, the recipients of the letter, the responsibility for the damages, clarification of the source of the damages, the amount of trail that is closed, and the desire to have the trail reopened in time for the busy summer season.

Board Member Alternate Kazmer suggested that a two-person board member team collaborate to revise and finalize the letter.

Public Comment- no public comment

Board Member Alternate Kazmer made a motion to send the letter to both the, 22nd Agricultural District and Horsepark owner and operator, and that Chair LaCava, Member von Wilpert, and legal counsel Wayne Brechtel work with JPA staff to revise the letter to incorporate items raised by the Board. Board Member von Wilpert 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

INFORMATION

5. Project Status Updates

- a. **Reach the Beach Fairgrounds Trail** – Several board members discussed the train double-tracking and the Del Mar community’s input regarding the train tunnel, and that some of the proposed alignments would conflict with the railroad bridge design.
- b. **San Dieguito Lagoon Phase II Restoration (aka W-19)** – no report
- c. **CTC Trail – East San Pasqual and Sutherland Gaps Project** – no report

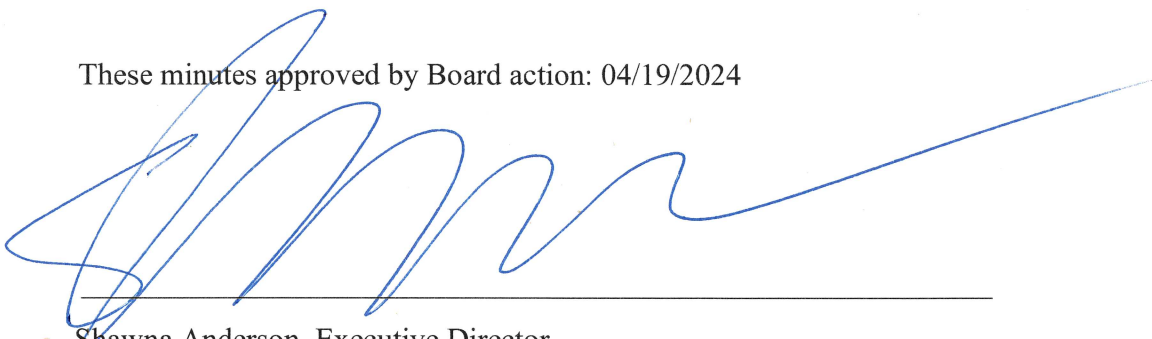
6. Coordination Reports (oral)

- a. **San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy**- no report
- b. **Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley**- no report
- c. **Volcan Mountain Foundation** – no report
- d. **San Dieguito Lagoon Committee**- no report

- 7. **Jurisdictional Status Reports** – Board Member Worden spoke about the existing dredge offshore from the San Dieguito River inlet at Dog Beach and that the Army Corp. had rerouted the dredge from Oceanside to Del Mar to collect better-quality sand to place on the beaches in Solana Beach and Encinitas.

Chair LaCava adjourned the meeting at 12:22 p.m.

These minutes approved by Board action: 04/19/2024



Shawna Anderson, Executive Director