

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of March 17, 2017**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Grosch - Chair
Kristin Gaspar – Vice Chair
Dwight Worden
Mark Kersey
Dianne Jacob
Judy Hegenauer
Jeff Barnouw
Dustin Fuller

REPRESENTING

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Olga Diaz
Barbara Bry

REPRESENTING

City of Escondido
City of San Diego

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Wayne Brechtel
Kevin McKernan
Shawna Anderson
Brenda Miller
Jacob Gibbs
Jason Lopez
Bill Michalsky
Jacqueline Winterer
John Barone
Deborah Mosley
Adam Wilson
Trish Boaz

JPA Counsel
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
Sierra Club
Friends of San Dieguito River Valley
City of San Diego
County of San Diego
Supervisor Jacob Staff
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy

Introduction and Announcements

Chair Grosch convened the meeting at 11:03 a.m. at the County Administration Building, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302/303, San Diego, CA 92101

Approval of Minutes of January 20, 2017

Boardmember Barnouw made a motion to approve the minutes of January 20, 2017 with the correction on page 5 of the minutes, agenda item 7: Project Status Update, SANDAG W19 Wetland Restoration Project, line 5 will be restated to read: "The draft EIR will go for public review and the JPA staff will bring the draft EIR to the JPA board for certification." Boardmember Worden seconded the motion. All in favor.

Yes votes: Grosch, Jacob, Barnouw, Worden, Hegenauer

Absent: Gaspar, Bry, Diaz, Kersey

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director McKernan presented a Powerpoint that covered the following items: JPA Time Spent in Jurisdiction 2nd quarter summary Oct – Dec 2016, park users survey by city/area of residence, and the 2017 winter storm damage noting that 4 inches of rain fell in the San Pasqual Valley within a 24-hour time frame on February 27, 2017, on top of already saturated conditions. Director McKernan showed pictures of damage to Piedras Pintadas and Dust Devil Nature Trails, the Coast to Crest Trail sections at Crosby and Santa Fe Valley, damage to the Birdwing and Horsepark trail segment. Director McKernan also explained the Sikes Saturday Series, funded by a \$7,000 Community Enhancement Program grant recommended by former Supervisor Dave Roberts. The series is held for 10 consecutive Saturdays, featuring two programs per day, 10 am and 1 pm. The series has had hundreds of participants and a closing party is planned for April 29 for all attendees. Kudos to Leana, David, Constance, and the Friends of Sikes Adobe for a job done well. The annual Volunteer Appreciation Party will be held Saturday, May 13, 2017 at the Surf Cup Sports Park. Executive Director McKernan introduced Ranger Jacob Gibbs. Jake stated that he has been with the San Dieguito River Park JPA since 2007 and was hired for wildfire recovery. Jake has been pleased to see the River Park transform from a burned bare landscape to a flourishing river park with much bio diversity.

Boardmember Kersey arrived at the meeting at 11:08 am. Vice-Chair Gaspar arrived at 11:12 am.

Public Comment- no public comment

ACTION AGENDA

1. Approve FY 17/18 Budget

Recommend Board motion to approve the FY 17/18 budget.

Executive Director McKernan reported that the budget will remain flat in many areas with increases in the areas of health benefits, insurance, and audit services. A slight member agency increase is proposed. Boardmember Worden stated that the Budget Sub -Committee met to discuss the budget in detail and did not see anything of concern. Vice-Chair Gaspar stated that she did concur with Boardmember Worden's comments adding that she is confident that the short term goals are being met, making sure this budget is sustainable into the future. Vice-Chair Gaspar also stated that she articulated to the Budget Sub-Committee her preference for smaller increases over time rather than large jumps in budget items. Boardmember Worden asked the board to review the graph titled Comparison of JPA Member Agency Assessments and Grants obtained through CY 2016 on page 21 of the agenda.

Vice-Chair Gaspar made the motion to approve the proposed FY 17/18 budget. Boardmember Worden seconded the motion.

Yes votes: Grosch, Gaspar, Jacob, Barnouw, Worden, Kersey, Hegenauer

Absent: Diaz, Bry

2. Approve withdrawal of funds from SDRP Trail Fund held at Rancho Santa Fe Foundation for Coast To Crest Trail storm repairs
Recommend Board motion to authorize the Executive Director to request a withdrawal of \$35,000 From the San Dieguito River Park Trail Fund held by the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation in order to Fund Coast to Crest Trail repairs.

Executive Director McKernan reported that the San Dieguito River Park Trail Fund was established at The Rancho Santa Fe Foundation in 2003 for the purpose of repairing the section of trail built by the Crosby at Rancho Santa Fe development. The fund has not been used to date. As the earlier Powerpoint Presentation showed, there is much damage to the Coast to Crest Trail in this area and the Director is asking for authorization to withdraw from the account the amount of \$35,000 to purchase equipment and materials to repair the trail. The amount remaining in the fund will be the original amount invested of \$30,000.

Vice-Chair Gaspar moved to approve the motion. Boardmember Worden seconded the motion.

Yes votes: Grosch, Gaspar, Jacob, Barnouw, Worden, Kersey, Hegenauer
Absent: Diaz, Bry

3. Approve Vehicle Replacement and Heavy Equipment Purchases
Recommend board motion to authorize the Executive Director to solicit bids and execute purchase orders for a new vehicle up to \$40,000 and a sub-compact tractor or other similar piece of heavy equipment up to \$37,000.

Executive Director McKernan reported that the JPA sets aside a reserve each year from the Operating Budget and from the Coast Budget for replacement of vehicles and equipment. At this time staff is requesting approval to use some of the funds available in the Reserve Fund to replace one vehicle and one tractor or another piece of heavy equipment. Boardmember Jacob asked staff to solicit bids for a new truck and sub-compact tractor to get the best deal possible. Boardmember Jacob suggested looking into Mahindra and Kubota brands available through Mason's in El Cajon. Boardmember Kersey asked if we have looked into leasing equipment versus purchasing. Boardmember Jacob asked that the results of the bids be brought back to the board, to inform the board of the decisions made.

Boardmember Worden made the motion to approve the staff recommendation. Chair Grosch seconded the motion.

Yes votes: Grosch, Gaspar, Jacob, Barnouw, Worden, Kersey, Hegenauer
Absent: Diaz, Bry

INFORMATION

4. Project Status Updates

a. Founders Tribute

Principal Planner Shawna Anderson reported that a Request for Qualifications for artists was sent out. Eight proposals were received. The Founders Tribute Committee met, looked at all of the proposals, and selected the team of Calderon & Delgado. Calderon & Delgado works with native stone and glazed silkscreen onto glazed tile as their preferred mediums. The Founders Tribute Committee will meet with the artists on site at the end of March. The artists will work with the Founders Tribute Committee and the Interpretation Committee to develop a concept. The selected design will be brought to the CAC and the JPA board in July. The installation will take place in November or December 2017. The location is at the Lagoon, next to the Coast to Crest Trail, close to the side trail that goes to the Birdwing. No approval is needed from the City of San Diego. The concept is a stone, low profile structure.

5. Coordination Reports

a. San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy- Trish Boaz reported that the Conservancy has three new board members: Keith Colestock, Slater Buck, and Bob Sheppard. Chris Khoury, Greg Roberson, Bonnie Hepburn, and Carol Angus will be leaving the board this year. The SDRVC board authorized Director Boaz to apply for a \$15,000 grant from REI to fund surveys needed to move forward on phase 3 of the River Path Del Mar project. The Conservancy will raise funds for the remaining cost of \$15,000. The Wax and Wine event will be held, Sunday, March 26, 1 pm-4 pm, at Knorr Candle Shop. Director McKernan added congratulations to Brad Bartlett, new Conservancy President. Other Conservancy officers are: Vice President Nate Northup, Secretary Kate Sheehan, and Treasurer Peter DeFrancesca.

b. Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley – Jacqueline Winterer reported that on Monday the Project Review Committee will be looking at the Santa Ysabel Visitor Center project.

c. Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation – no report

d. San Dieguito Lagoon Committee – no report

6. Jurisdictional Status Reports

Boardmember Fuller reported that the 22 District Agricultural Association board of directors asked their staff to seek a permanent amendment to the existing permit to allow for repair of the entire length of the Horsepark section of trail. Phase two of the Wetland Restoration Project is going well with mid June as the anticipated completion date. No date has been set for the ribbon cutting. Regarding the Master Plan EIR, a lawsuit was previously brought against the 22nd DAA by the Sierra Club, noting that the board action is to exclude a hotel from the master plan. Boardmember Worden reported that the Coast to Crest Trail alignment to the ocean is on the City of Del Mar task list. Boardmember Barnouw reported that the Interpretation Committee of the Citizens Advisory

Committee had their second meeting and nominated Liz Gabrych as the chair. Boardmember Jacob reported that the Santa Ysabel Nature Center is fully funded at \$7.24 million. An advisory committee was formed two years ago. The location is 87 acres across the street and north of the Julian Pie Company. The CEQA document is being developed and should be finished in January. A request for bid was sent out with 5 firms responding. The top 3 firms will then submit full proposals to build the Nature Center. The groundbreaking is planned for spring of 2018 and an opening of the Nature Center is planned for fall of 2019. The location is significant because it is where the San Dieguito and San Diego Rivers begin, a gateway to Volcan Mountain, and a showcase for the Santa Ysabel Preserve. It will be the first Nature Center in East County. The property was a gift and is a tremendous opportunity. Chair Grosch reported that after the storm on February 27, Blue Sky Preserve was closed for repairs, the City of Poway lost many trees, Poway Lake was closed to fix trails and as a precaution in the event of flooding.

7. Communications

Executive Director McKernan reported that the draft EIR is out for public review and the document will be brought to the board for certification. Director McKernan thanked Deborah Mosley and Brian Albright with the County of San Diego and Niki McGinnis and John Barone with the City of San Diego for their help to secure the permits for the Pamo Valley Trail project. He also thanked Shawna Anderson for all her help leading this project.

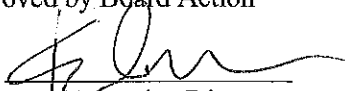
The next meeting will be April 21.

Chair Grosch adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

These minutes approved by Board Action

3/17/17

Date


Executive Director

