



MINUTES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE January 20, 2010

www.wrc-rca.org

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Executive Committee was called to order by Chairman Gary Thomasian at 12:05 p.m. in the RCA Conference Room, 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320, Riverside, California.

2. ROLL CALL

At this time, Chairman Thomasian introduced Steve DiMemmo, who is the City of San Jacinto's representative to the RCA, to the Executive Committee.

Self introductions of Executive Committee members and attendees followed.

Committee Members Present

Bob Buster
Jim Hyatt
Melissa Melendez
Eugene Montanez
Jeff Stone
Gary Thomasian

Committee Members Absent

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Committee Member announcements.

5. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

A revised staff report for Agenda Item No. 11, *Ratification of the Chairman's Appointment of the 2010 RCA Executive Committee*, was distributed to the Executive Committee members.

RCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Page 2 of 6

January 20, 2010

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S/C (STONE/HYATT) to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2009 meeting of the Executive Committee as submitted.

7. AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE RESERVE MANAGEMENT SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AND THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN-SPACE DISTRICT

Ken Graff, Director of Land Acquisition, stated that this item related to an amendment to the contract with the County Regional Park and Open-Space District. Because of the downturn in the economy, it was necessary to reduce RCA's management budget by 10% for Fiscal Year 2009-10. As part of budget negotiations, RCA and Parks agreed to a 10% reduction in the Parks District's general overhead. Since the current rate is 20%, a 10% reduction in this rate would result in a new general overhead rate of 18%. It is necessary to amend the contract with the Parks Department to reduce the overhead amount. Approval of this amendment will result in savings approximately \$14,170.00.

M/S/C (MONTANEZ/MELENDEZ) to:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors approve the First Amendment to the Reserve Management Services Contract between the RCA and Riverside County Park and Open-Space District;*
- 2) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors Authorize the Chairman to execute said amendment on behalf of the Authority; and*
- 3) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the February 1, 2010 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.*

8. RESOLUTION NO. 10-001, RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A SUBGRANT FROM THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD AND MATCH FUNDS FROM THE CITY OF TEMECULA FOR THE FRANCIS PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Brian Beck, Land Acquisition Analyst, said that on December 7, 2009, the RCA Board of Directors approved the acquisition of this 49.62 acre property for \$485,000. The property is located east of Camino Gatillo and north of Via Horca in the Temecula escarpment area and within the City of Temecula sphere of influence.

The property is eligible for Section 6 grant funds pursuant to entering into a subgrant agreement with the Wildlife Conservation Board. On January 12, 2010, the City of Temecula approved providing the match funds so they can preserve the escarpment ridgeline above their City as much as possible. The Section 6 grant is approximately 45% of the purchase price and the remaining 55% of the purchase price shall be provided by a non-federal match. The proposed funding breakdown is \$223,500 Section 6 grant funds and \$261,500 City of Temecula match funds.

M/S/C (STONE/MONTANEZ) to:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 10-001, approving the acceptance of a subgrant from the Wildlife Conservation Board and match funds from the City of Temecula for the Francis property acquisition; and***
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the February 1, 2010 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.***

9. RESOLUTION NO. 10-002, RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF TAX DEFAULT PROPERTY FROM THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

Brian Beck said that the County of Riverside Tax Collector's Office provides a list and notifies public agencies of their intent to sell tax defaulted properties. In reviewing the list of tax defaulted properties, RCA staff has identified several parcels that are desirable for habitat conservation that will contribute to RCA's reserve assembly goals. The properties, totaling approximately 793 acres, are located in Jurupa Hills, San Timoteo, Lake Elsinore, Vail Lake and Anza Valley areas. He then reviewed the locations and acreage of the properties. The total purchase price is approximately \$618,375.54 plus escrow, title and due diligence costs.

A brief discussion followed among the Executive Committee members on the habitat on the various parcels proposed to be acquired.

In response to Jim Hyatt's question regarding the source of revenue for the proposed acquisition, Brian Beck stated that the revenue source would be MSHCP Development Mitigation funds.

Chairman Thomasian asked if the proposed acreage meets the requirements of the land acquisition strategy and Charlie Landry, Executive Director, responded that the locations, for the most part, are high priority. Two properties are of lower priority but

given the cost per acre to acquire the properties, it is advantageous for RCA to move forward with the acquisition.

M/S/C (STONE/MONTANEZ) to:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 10-002, approving the purchase of tax defaulted property from the County of Riverside Tax Collector's Office; and***
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the February 1, 2010 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.***

10. PROPOSAL TO AMEND RCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING SCHEDULE

Honey Bernas, Director of Administrative Services, stated the need to reschedule RCA Board of Directors' meeting scheduled for July 12, 2010 because the County of Riverside will be holding budget hearing in the Board Room on that date. Staff was provided two alternative dates that the Board Chambers were available and proposed that the RCA Board of Directors' meeting be scheduled on July 19, 2010.

M/S/C (HYATT/MONTANEZ) to:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors cancel the July 12, 2010 RCA Board meeting;***
- 2) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors schedule a RCA Board meeting on July 19, 2010; and***
- 3) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the February 1, 2010 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.***

11. RATIFICATION OF THE CHAIRMAN'S APPOINTMENT OF THE 2010 RCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

M/S/C (MONTANEZ/HYATT) to:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors ratify Chairman Gary Thomasian's appointments to the RCA Executive Committee; and***
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the February 1, 2010 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.***

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Charlie Landry reported on the following items:

12.1 Section 6 Update

Two months ago, RCA sent a legal brief to the U.S. Department of Interior that RCA should be able to use local mitigation funds as match for Section 6 funds. The Department of Interior indicated that this is currently being reviewed by their legal counsel, and RCA should expect to receive a response in a few weeks. If the policy on local match requirement is not reversed, a legislative remedy will be sought. Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer have been contacted and they are in support.

12.2 RCA Staffing

Currently, RCA has 10 staff (a copy of an RCA staffing chart was distributed to the Executive Committee members). The chart shows two positions that will remain unfilled. The RCA is staffed by employees of the County of Riverside that are on contract to the RCA. Therefore, CalPERS contributions for staff are through the County of Riverside's contractual agreement with CalPERS, which is included in RCA's contract with the County of Riverside.

12.3 Report on Consultant Services – David Driscoll

Services provided by Dave Driscoll include survey of RCA-owned and adjoining properties for potential fire hazards and risks, working with Reserve Managers and Cal Fire in developing and updating standardized fire response plans, and continuing research on history of fire/burn patterns in RCA reserve lands in Western Riverside County. His knowledge and his ability to work with Cal Fire are essential to RCA. His contract for 2009-2010 is not to exceed \$45,000 and \$7,725 has been expended as of December 2009.

Eugene Montanez said that Dave Driscoll will need to look at the affects of the rainfall received this season on the reserve acreage.

12.4 Update Regarding The Hemet Ranch

Last year, the Executive Committee received a land use report on Hemet Ranch. The property is reported to be delinquent in its tax obligations but is currently not included on the County of Riverside's list of tax default properties.

RCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Page 6 of 6

January 20, 2010

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests for future agenda items.

14. ADJOURNMENT

With no other items to be discussed, Chairman Thomasian adjourned the meeting at 12:37 p.m. The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Executive Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2009, at 12:00 p.m., at the Riverside Centre, 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320, Third Floor, RCA Conference Room, Riverside, California, 92501.

Respectfully submitted,



Honey Bernas
Clerk of the Board