

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

MINUTES

January 25, 2017



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Executive Committee Special Meeting was called to order by Chairman Ashley at 12:10 p.m., Wednesday, January 25, 2017, at the RCA Conference Room, 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320, Riverside, California, 92501.

2. ROLL CALL – was taken by Rose Haro, Administrative Manager.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Marion Ashley, Chairman – County of Riverside District V Jonathan Ingram, Vice Chairman – City of Murrieta Jeffrey Hewitt – City of Calimesa Eugene Montanez – City of Corona Maryann Edwards - City of Temecula	

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Ashley called for public comments regarding items not listed on the agenda. There were no public comments.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Ashley announced that he has selected John Tavaglione from Riverside County District 2 and Natasha Johnson from the City of Lake Elsinore to be appointed to the 2017 Executive Committee. He advised that such appointments require ratification by the RCA Board of Directors and that this matter will be agendized for their next meeting.

5. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

There were no additions/revisions to the agenda.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 21, 2016

M/S/C (CITY OF MURRIETA/CITY OF TEMECULA) to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2016 meeting of the Executive Committee as submitted.

(4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain City of Calimesa)

7. WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (MSHCP) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE (LDMF) COLLECTION AND CIVIC/INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2016

Honey Bernas, Director of Administrative Services, presented the LDMF Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution Report for December 2016. The RCA received fees in the amount of \$751,553 for 417 residential permits and 9.83 commercial acres. There were 147 reported exemptions totaling \$292,824 in the City of Lake Elsinore. There were two reported Civic/Infrastructure projects. The City of San Jacinto remitted \$7,797 for a 1.15 acre solar project, and the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District remitted \$91,335 for the University Wash Channel Stage 3 project, for a total of \$99,132. For the month of December 2016, the total receipts were \$850,685.

M/S/C (CITY OF MURRIETA/CITY OF TEMECULA) to approve this item as recommended and authorize staff to agendize this matter to the February 6, 2017 meeting of RCA Board of Directors:

- 1) Recommend that that RCA Board of Directors receive and file the Western Riverside County MSHCP LDMF Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution Report for December 2016; and
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the February 6, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

(5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain)

8. FISCAL YEAR 2017 SECOND QUARTER CONSULTANT REPORTS

Charles Landry, Executive Director, reported on the activities and services provided by the following consultants during the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2017:

DUDEK: Continued to provide review of biological reports, analysis, and submittals related to Joint Project Reviews (JPRs). They attended and coordinated monthly meetings with the RCA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and project applicants. They worked on several Criteria Refinements and

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provided support and coordination related to Participating Special Entities (PSEs), including West of Devers.

GEOGRAPHICS: Responsible for public information and branding services, website updating and hosting. They are working on a banner featuring species that is targeted to school-age children. Geographics provided secure hosting and backups for the website.

DOUGLAS P. WHEELER (Hogan Lovells): Mr. Wheeler's report was received late and not included with this agenda item. It will be included in the report to the RCA Board of Directors in February.

KADESH & ASSOCIATES, LLP: Worked on and saw the final passage into law of the WRDA/WIIN (Water Resources Development Act/Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation) legislation. They also attended the National HCP Conference. They will continue to keep RCA apprised of numerous and frequent changes in the Presidential Administration.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY PARK AND OPEN-SPACE DISTRICT: The Parks Department manages RCA's properties. General management activities included patrol, access control and maintenance, including fire management and weed abatement. Four new artificial burrows were installed by Boy Scouts Troop 214.

SAWA: Conducted several biological monitoring surveys as listed on the staff report. They collaborate with several wildlife agencies to develop conceptual models for covered species that lead to enhanced habitat quality. They gathered useful data on species. They host monitoring/management coordination meetings with local land managers and Wildlife Agency representatives.

Board Member Ingram requested a copy of the surveys that SAWA conducts with an inventory of species. Charles Landry answered that the Annual Report gives a summation of where species are located. Board Member Ingram asked that RCA periodically report on a couple of species to let the Committee Members know how we are doing.

M/S/C (CITY OF MURRIETA/CITY OF CALIMESA) to approve this item as recommended and authorize staff to agendize this matter to the February 6, 2017 meeting of RCA Board of Directors:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors to receive and file the Fiscal Year 2017 Second Quarter Consultant Reports; and
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the February 6, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

(5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain)

9. **RESOLUTION NO. 2017-XXX "RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY"**

Steve DeBaun, General Counsel, presented the Statement of Investment Policy. Under California law, every public agency is required to adopt an investment policy which shall be updated periodically. The County Treasurer acts as the Treasurer for the RCA, and the County's investment schedule was incorporated into the RCA policy to help assure consistency between the agencies. The County recently adopted changes to their investment policy. Steve DeBaun made reference to the nine listed changes on the staff report. He advised that the County's changes were incorporated into RCA's policy and asked that this be presented to the Board of Directors for approval. He further stated that the County Treasurer will be making a presentation at the next Board of Directors meeting and will be available to answer any questions regarding changes to this policy.

M/S/C (CITY OF MURRIETA/CITY OF CALIMESA) to approve this item as recommended and authorize staff to agendize this matter to the February 6, 2017 meeting of RCA Board of Directors:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors adopt Resolution No. 2017-XXX *Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Adopting a Statement of Investment Policy*; and
- 2) *Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the February 6, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.*

(5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain)

10. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

10.1 West of Devers Project Update – Charles Landry, Executive Director, gave an update regarding West of Devers, which is a Southern California Edison ("Edison") project. Edison entered into a Participating Special Entity agreement with the RCA. Given the late notice of the project and the urgency of review, this project was made a priority by RCA staff and was concluded and processed in a timely manner. The Certificate of Inclusion has not been signed due to a few outstanding issues that need to be settled.

Board Member Ingram asked what the outstanding issues were. Charles Landry replied that the issues are related to coverage of operations and maintenance activities.

Chairman Ashley commended Laurie Correa for the fantastic job she did to see that the project continued forward in the short period of time given. Chairman Ashley further commented that tremendous coordination was necessary to keep all Wildlife Agencies moving forward and once again applauded Laurie Correa for her great work on this project. Staff was thanked for all its effort on this project.

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Board Member Hewitt asked if funds are coming from Edison or another entity. Charles Landry answered that the funds are from Edison and that Edison is basically buying into the Plan for their mitigation.

Michelle Ouellette, General Counsel, commented that during the time that the Plan and EIR were open for comment, Edison sent at least ten letters stating that they were not part of this Plan, nor did they want to participate in this Plan, and that they couldn't be made to participate in this Plan. They were right, but they later understood the benefits of this Plan and are using it more than any other non-member entity.

Charles Landry advised that this is either the fourth or fifth time that Edison has opted to become a PSE, and two other projects are ongoing. Charles Landry further stated that Edison sees the benefit of the Plan. They can buy into the Plan, which gives them certainty in the process and saves time.

Laurie Correa advised that Edison is actually reducing the total number of towers, but is replacing them with higher capacity towers and new models. Edison's footprint is much smaller, but their construction period is four years so it will not be a fast construction project. Board Member Edwards mentioned that they are 500k V Lines. Laurie Correa confirmed and added that Edison asked that RCA cover all of their construction related activities and all of their operation and maintenance activities for 30 years. Board Member Edwards said that is okay because Edison is compatible. Things can live under the lines; they just can't be very tall. Laurie Correa concurred and said if the lines were new and going through conserved or state parks lands, it would have been more difficult to process the PSE

Board Member Hewitt advised that he worked on Chino Hills State Park when Edison was taking down two older lines. Everything was done by helicopters; no expense spared. Edison had their own in-house environmental and consultants. Laurie Correa commented that Edison is very good about the measures they will use to avoid and minimize. Because they are towers or large steel poles, they have more flexibility than with other types of projects and are very willing to use helicopters in difficult locations, rather than having to build access.

Board Member Ingram commented that the lines being referred to are actually 461 thousand volts per set of 1.208 three-phased system which is very good. They don't omit a lot and last a long time. Board Member Edwards said that she at one time was a public affairs manager on the Valley Rainbow Project for three months, and it was very difficult.

Charles Landry wanted those present to know that security was increased at the County Administrative Center (CAC). All visitors entering the CAC will walk through a metal detector. Bags will be checked by a security officer with assistance from a Riverside County Deputy Sheriff, as needed. Signs will be posted to identify prohibited items, including firearms, clubs and knives with

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blades four inches or longer. This security point will be in place at the visitor entrance in the front of the building.

Those Board Members with County ID Badges are encouraged to use the employee entrance next to The Atrium Café. There is a metal detector at this entrance; however, bags will not be searched as long a valid County ID Badge is displayed.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: *(Committee members are invited to suggest additional items to be brought forward for future discussion.)*

Board Member Ingram asked if at some point RCA could have a discussion at the Executive Committee on the subject of the Criteria Refinement Policy. He further stated that he and staff are working on the language and asked the Executive Director to explain the need for the policy.

Charles Landry, Executive Director, explained the need for revisions to the Criteria Refinement Policy.

12. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

12.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9

- **Case No. MCC1300351 JPR, Inc., dba Silverado Ranch Estates vs. California Department of Fish and Game; County of Riverside; Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority**

After closed session, the meeting was reconvened. There were no announcements from closed session.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items before the Executive Committee, Chairman Montanez adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m. The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Executive Committee scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2017, at 12:00 p.m., at the Riverside Centre, 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320,

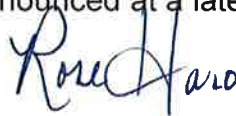
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Third Floor, RCA Conference Room, Riverside, California, 92501, is canceled. A special meeting of the Executive Committee will be announced at a later date.

Prepared by:



Rose Haro
Administrative Manager

Respectfully submitted:



Honey Bernas
Clerk of the Board