



www.wrc-rca.org

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairman Ingram at 12:30 p.m., Monday, June 4, 2018, in the Board Room of the Riverside County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California, 92501.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Member Jeffries led the RCA Board Members and meeting attendees in a flag salute.

3. ROLL CALL

Member Agency	Board Member Name	Status
City of Banning	Daniela Andrade	Present
City of Beaumont	Julio Martinez	Present
City of Calimesa	Jeffrey Hewitt	Present
City of Canyon Lake	Larry Greene	Present
City of Corona	Eugene Montanez	Present
City of Eastvale	Clint Lorimore	Present
City of Hemet	Michael Perciful	Present
City of Jurupa Valley	Verne Lauritzen	Present
City of Lake Elsinore	Natasha Johnson	Present
City of Menifee	Matt Liesemeyer	Present
City of Moreno Valley	Jeffrey Giba	Present
City of Murrieta	Jonathan Ingram, Chairman	Present
City of Norco	Kevin Bash	Present
City of Perris	David Starr Rabb	Present
City of Riverside	Andy Melendrez	Present
City of San Jacinto	Crystal Ruiz	Absent
*City of Temecula	Maryann Edwards	Present
City of Wildomar	Timothy Walker	Present
County District 1	Kevin Jeffries	Present
County District 2	John Tavaglione	Present
County District 3	Chuck Washington	Present
County District 4	V. Manuel Perez	Absent
County District 5	Marion Ashley	Present

*City of Temecula representative arrived at 12:37 p.m. after roll call.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

5. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS (This item provides the opportunity for the Board Members to report on attended meetings/conferences and any other items related to RCA activities.)

Board Member Johnson stated that she had the opportunity to visit The White House in Washington, D.C., along with a few local leaders who met with President Trump. She said that in the Nation's history no President has ever reached down to the level of local leadership and asked for a conversation. She further stated how honored she was to represent the City of Lake Elsinore, the region, and the State of California.

6. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS (The Board may add an item to the Agenda after making a finding that there is a need to take immediate action on the item and that the item came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda. An action adding an item to the agenda requires 2/3 vote of the Board. If there are less than 2/3 of the Board Members present, adding an item requires a unanimous vote. Added items will be placed for discussion at the end of the agenda.)

There were no additions/revisions.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES — May 7, 2018 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [19 TO 0]
MOVER:	City of Perris
SECONDER:	City of Calimesa
AYES:	Banning, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, Wildomar, County District 1, County District 2, County District 3, County District 5
ABSTAIN:	City of Beaumont
ABSENT:	City of San Jacinto, City of Temecula, County District 4

8. CONSENT CALENDAR (All matters listed under the Consent Calendar will be approved in a single motion unless a Board Member requests separate action on specific Consent Calendar item. The item will be pulled from the Consent Calendar and placed for discussion.)

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [19 TO 0] Agenda Item 8.1 thru 8.4
MOVER:	City of Moreno Valley
SECONDER:	City of Eastvale
AYES:	Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, Temecula, Wildomar, County District 1, County District 3, County District 5
ABSTAIN:	City of Lake Elsinore, County District 2
ABSENT:	City of San Jacinto, County District 4

Before the Consent Calendar was discussed, the Representatives from the City of Murrieta, County District 1, County District 2, County District 3 and County District 5 stated that they were abstaining from the decision and/or discussion on Agenda Item No. 8.5 due to a campaign contribution of \$250 or more from Southern California Edison, which may raise a possible conflict of interest under Government Code Section 84308.

8.1 WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP FEE COLLECTION REPORT FOR APRIL 2018

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to receive and file the Western Riverside County MSHCP Fee Collection Report for April 2018.

8.2 FISCAL YEAR 2018 THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT AND BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to:

- 1) Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2018 Third Quarter Financial report;
- 2) Approve the budget adjustments contained in Exhibit A; and
- 3) Authorize the Chairman to direct the Auditor-Controller to make the budget adjustments contained in Exhibit A.

8.3 FISCAL YEAR 2018 THIRD QUARTER CONSULTANT REPORTS

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to receive and file the Fiscal Year 2018 Third Quarter Consultant Reports.

8.4 RESOLUTION NO. 2018-005, RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY CONSIDERING AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (SCH #2016081056), FOR THE FRENCH VALLEY SPECIFIC PLAN NO. 312, AMENDMENT NO. 2, MAKING RESPONSIBLE AGENCY FINDINGS, AND APPROVING THE LICENSE IMPROVEMENT AND ACQUISITION AGREEMENT WITH RIVERSIDE MITLAND 03, LLC FOR THE SALE OF RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR DEDICATION TO THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to:

- 1) Approve Resolution No. 2018-005, *Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Considering an Environmental*

Impact Report (SCH #2016081056) for the French Valley Specific Plan No. 312 Amendment No. 2, Making Responsible Agency Findings, and Approving the License, Improvement and Acquisition Agreement with Riverside Mitland 03 LLC for the Sale of Right-of-Way for Dedication to the County of Riverside; and

- 2) Authorize the Executive Director, pursuant to legal counsel review and approval, to executive said agreement on behalf of the RCA.

8.5 RESOLUTION NO. 2018-006, RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY CONSIDERING AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (SCH #2014051041), MAKING RESPONSIBLE AGENCY FINDINGS, AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CERTAIN EASEMENTS TO THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [16-0] Agenda Item 8.5
MOVER:	City of Moreno Valley
SECONDER:	City of Eastvale
AYES:	Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Norco, Perris, Riverside, Temecula, Wildomar
ABSTAIN:	City of Murrieta, County District 1, County District 2, County District 3, County District 5
ABSENT:	City of San Jacinto, County District 4

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to:

- 1) Approve Resolution No. 2018-006, *Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Considering an Environmental Impact Report (SCH #2014051041), Making Responsible Agency Findings, and Authorizing the Sale of Certain Easements to the Southern California Edison Company*; and
- 2) Authorize the Executive Director, pursuant to legal counsel review and approval, to execute said agreement on behalf of the RCA.

Representative from the City of Temecula arrived during the start of the discussion on the Consent Calendar.

**9. ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS AND LAND AND APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT
CONDITIONING USE OF FUNDS AND HABITAT ACQUISITION**

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [20 TO 0]
MOVER:	City of Banning
SECONDER:	City of Wildomar
AYES:	Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, Temecula, Wildomar, County District 1, County District 2, County District 5
ABSTAIN:	County District 3
ABSENT:	City of San Jacinto, County District 4

Michelle Ouellette, General Counsel, stated that the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) was sued on two projects, three times in Federal and State Court on the Mid-County Parkway project. They were also challenged under CEQA on the Highway 60 Truck Climbing Lanes in the Badlands area. After many years of litigation, these cases are now near settlement. The RCA was not a party to the lawsuits, but is a beneficiary in the terms of a Side Agreement that was reached by the parties.

Board Member Washington stated that he has abstained from every discussion and vote at RCTC on the Mid-County Parkway project because he has a conflict. He asked if the agreement attaches itself to the abstention, since the settlement of the lawsuit is concerning Mid-County Parkway. Steve DeBaun, General Counsel, asked if Board Member Washington owns property within 500 feet of the project. Board Member Washington answered in the affirmative. Mr. DeBaun recommended that Board Member Washington abstain from this agenda item. Board Member Washington exited the board room.

Michelle Ouellette continued with her presentation stating that the final terms of the settlement are still being negotiated, but the terms that affect RCA are: 1) RCTC will provide \$5,265,000 to RCA for habitat acquisition in specified areas that will count toward Reserve Assembly; 2) RCTC will buy approximately 70 acres of Vernal pool habitat, which will be transferred to the RCA and count toward Reserve Assembly. After her presentation, Michelle Ouellette asked if there were any questions. There were no questions from Board Members.

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to:

- 1) Authorize the acceptance of funds and habitat land from RCTC;
- 2) Approve the Side Agreement with Petitioners and RCTC with the corresponding conditions and obligations; and
- 3) Authorize the RCA Executive Director, pursuant to legal counsel review and approval, to execute said agreement on behalf of the RCA.

10. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AND SANTA ANA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION FOR BIOLOGICAL MONITORING SERVICES

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	City of Menifee
SECONDER:	City of Moreno Valley
AYES:	Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, Temecula, Wildomar, County District 1, County District 2, County District 3, County District 5
ABSENT:	City of San Jacinto, County District 4

Laurie Correa, Director of Reserve Management and Monitoring, presented the Professional Services Agreement between the RCA and Santa Ana Watershed Association (SAWA) for Biological Monitoring Services. She advised that the Monitoring Program collects data on the MSHCP's 146 Covered Species and their associated habitats, which is a requirement and key component of the MSHCP. This data is an important part of the Annual Report and the Master Data Set. She stated that in February 2018, the RCA released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide biological monitoring services needed to meet MSHCP species objective obligations. The RFP was sent to 15 local qualified firms or entities and was posted on the RCA website. Only one proposal was received, which was from SAWA who has been providing the services since 2006. SAWA's proposal was considered responsive to the RFP. The negotiated contract is \$1,217,006, which is an increase of \$80,885 over the FY2018 contract amount. She explained the negotiated terms and conditions of the contract in detail, which included the sale of five RCA-owned vehicles and some RCA electronic office equipment valued at \$117,000 to SAWA, payable to the RCA over a five-year period.

Board Member Edwards asked if the sale of vehicles are "as is." Laurie Correa answered in the affirmative.

Chairman Ingram commented that the vehicles were prorated. There were no other questions from Board Members.

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to:

- 1) Approve the Professional Services Agreement between the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority and Santa Ana Watershed Association (SAWA) for Biological Monitoring Services;
- 2) Approve the sale of five vehicles and office electronic equipment valued at \$117,000 payable to RCA over a five year period through a monthly deduction from SAWA's billing invoices; and
- 3) Authorize the RCA Executive Director, pursuant to legal counsel review and approval, to execute said agreements on behalf of the RCA.

11. BIOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM WORK PLAN AND COST ESTIMATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	City of Lake Elsinore
SECONDER:	City of Wildomar
AYES:	Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, Temecula, Wildomar, County District 1, County District 2, County District 3, County7 District 5
ABSENT:	City of San Jacinto, County District 4

Laurie Correa, Director of Reserve Management and Monitoring, presented the Biological Monitoring Program Work Plan and Cost Estimate for Fiscal Year 2019. She stated that the MSHCP requires that the Monitoring Program Administrator submit an annual Work Plan and Cost Estimate for implementation of the Monitoring Program. The work plan describes the monitoring activities planned, schedule of field work, and estimate of cost for personnel and operations. The work plan is to be approved by the RCA Board and becomes part of the annual RCA budget. She explained that the monitoring program is a key component of the MSHCP as it provides the necessary data on the MSHCP's 146 Covered Species and their associated habitats. She explained that monitoring results are used to assess the MSHCP's effectiveness at meeting conservation objectives and to provide information to the management team. She described the different species surveys that are planned for FY2019. The estimated cost for biological monitoring services for a not to exceed amount of \$1,225,000 was included in the FY2019 budget adopted by the Board on May 7, 2018. The cost estimate for the FY2019 work plan is \$1,217,006.

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to approve the Biological Monitoring Program Work Plan and Cost Estimate for Fiscal Year 2019.

12. RESOLUTION NO. 2018-007, RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 2015-004 AMBROSIA RELOCATION

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [20 TO 0]
MOVER:	County District 1
SECONDER:	City of Moreno Valley
AYES:	Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Eastvale, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, Temecula, Wildomar, County District 1, County District 2, County District 5
ABSTAIN:	County District 3
ABSENT:	City of San Jacinto, County District 4

Michelle Ouellette, General Counsel, stated that in 2004, the County of Riverside acquired a 548-acre parcel known as the "Tri-Valley" Property using funds collected under the MSHCP Mitigation Fee Ordinance with the intent that at some date in the future the property would be transferred to the RCA for the MSHCP Reserve.

In 2015, the County traded 40 acres of the Tri-Valley Property for 40 acres of adjacent vacant land owned by Castle and Cooke to facilitate certain development and eliminate a slope easement. The exchange would accompany the extinguishment of the TOPME Agreement. However, since the exchange lands included a population of San Diego ambrosia, which is a federally listed endangered species, RCA approved Resolution 2015-004 which allocated funds to translocate the San Diego ambrosia population from the exchange lands onto suitable RCA reserve lands. The County approved the property exchange on April 5, 2016. Litigation was subsequently filed challenging the County's exchange with Castle & Cooke. Castle & Cooke has requested that the County rescind the land exchange to allow the lawsuit to be dismissed. Castle & Cooke is also requesting that RCA rescind Resolution 2015-004.

Michelle Ouellette also indicated that a letter on this topic was received from one of the litigants, Sue Nash, and was distributed to the Board Members.

Board Member Lorimore said that the letter from Susan Nash states that "Petitioners believe the CEQA issues raised in the lawsuit are subject to repetition by the County and RCA and, therefore, should not avoid judicial review." He asked what this sentence means. Michelle Ouellette replied that she imagined they might be indicating that the County and RCA have a pattern in practice of avoiding CEQA review, which is not really relevant because the RCA was not challenged under CEQA. It is, to her knowledge, the first time that RCA has agreed to relocate endangered plants so perhaps the litigants may have the opinion that the County routinely violates CEQA and therefore feel the lawsuit should not go away. Board Member Lorimore asked if the Center for Biological Diversity (Center) also wants the resolution rescinded. Michelle Ouellette answered that the Center had objections when the relocation of the ambrosia was approved, so now that the relocation is being rescinded, the Center should be in agreement.

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to adopt Resolution No. 2018-007, *Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Rescinding Resolution No. 2015-004*.

13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

13.1 Update regarding Section 6 Grant Funds Award for 2017

Charles Landry, Executive Director, reported that the Section 6 funds had been released for 2017, and RCA will be receiving \$2 million. Those funds will receive a match by the State of California in the amount of \$1 million for a total of \$3 million for acquisition. Several properties have been identified for purchase using these funds. Executive Director Landry also stated that Congressman Calvert was instrumental in RCA receiving the funds.

14. LAND ACQUISITION UPDATE

Charles Landry, Executive Director, stated that at the last RCA Board of Directors' meeting, it was reported that RCA had acquired 59,117 acres. Escrow has closed on one additional property totaling approximately 26 acres, bringing the reserve total to approximately 59,143 acres.

15. FEATURED SPECIES OF THE MONTH

Elizabeth "Betsy" Dionne, Ecological Resources Specialist, stated that the featured species for the month of June is the Granite spiny lizard. She then gave an overview of the lizard's characteristics, life history, migration, and how RCA manages for the species.

After her presentation, Betsy Dionne invited questions from the Board Members. There were no questions.

Chairman Ingram and Board Members thanked Betsy Dionne for a well-informed presentation.

Representative from County District 1 departed the meeting at the start of this agenda item.

16. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

There were no requested items.

17. CLOSED SESSION**17.1 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8**

Agency Negotiator: RCA – Executive Director or Designee

Under Negotiation: Price/Terms

Item	Assessor Parcel No(s).	Negotiating Party(ies)/Agent
1	347-280-031, 347-280-032 347-280-033, 347-280-034	Michael C. Adams and Roxana Adams (aka Gail Roxana Adams)
2	940-020-006, 940-020-009	Paige Harrison (Agent) Bill Tyler, Bob Tyler

After Closed Session, the meeting was reconvened. There were no announcements from Closed Session.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items before the RCA Board, Chairman Ingram adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m. The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, July 2, 2018, at 12:30 p.m., at the County of Riverside Administrative Center, Board Room, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.

Prepared by:



Rose Haro
RCA Administrative Manager

Respectfully submitted:



Honey Bernas
Director of Administrative Services