



WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEETING MINUTES Monday, March 31, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairman Eugene Montanez at 10:07 a.m. in the Fourth Floor Conference Room of the County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California 92501.

2. ROLL CALL

Board Members/Alternates Present

Bob Buster
Maryann Edwards
Jim Hyatt
Larry Dressel
Frank Hall
Robin Lowe
John Machisic
Eugene Montanez
Andy Melendrez
Jeff Stone
John Tavaglione
Gary Thomasian
Mark Yarbrough
John Zaitz

Board Members Absent

Marion Ashley
Robert Schiffner
Dale Stubblefield
Charles White
Roy Wilson

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michelle Randall, 12401 Dawson Canyon Road, Corona, reported and showed pictures depicting steps that she and others took to deter illegal activities such as dumping trash and off-road riding at the Toscana property by rebuilding the gate, set boulders and rocks on the tracks, picking up and cleaning up trash.

On behalf of the RCA Board of Directors, Chairman Montanez thanked Michelle Randall for her ongoing commitment to protect the reserve land.

Bob Buster suggested that the RCA send a letter of thanks to those involved in the effort. He requested that Michelle Randall provide RCA with a list of the participants.

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4. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Montanez announced that at the March 3, 2008 the RCA Board authorized Counsel to defend the RCA in the lawsuits brought by McElhinney and Stimmel.

5. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

There were no additions or revisions to the meeting agenda.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Gary Thomasian noted a clarification as it related to Agenda Item 7.2, Page 3, Second Paragraph of the March 3, 2008 minutes. He said that it will take four phases to complete the Murrieta Creek improvements. Phase II will complete the Temecula portion of the Murrieta Creek improvements.

M/S/C (STONE/ZAITZ) to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2008 meeting, including the clarification that there are four phases to complete the Murrieta Creek improvement project.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items were requested to be pulled from the Consent Calendar:

Agenda Item 7.3, Policy Relating to the Disclosure of Contributions by Parties Engaging in a Business Relationship with the WRCRCA Board of Directors; and

Agenda Item 7.4, MSHCP Local Development Mitigation Fee CPI Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2008-09.

M/S/C (TAVAGLIONE/STONE) to approve the following Consent Calendar items:

7.1 FISCAL YEAR 2007-08 SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

1. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Second Quarter Financial Statement; and
2. Approve the Budget Adjustment contained in the Financial Box on the staff report.

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7.2 AGREEMENT NO. 08002 BETWEEN THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AND U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR PARTIAL ANNUAL FUNDING OF AN INTERIM MONITORING PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR/BIOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Approve Agreement No. 08002 between the RCA and USFWS.

7.5 ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 08-003 APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT AND SUBGRANT FROM THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

1. Adopt Resolution No. 08-003, which approves the acceptance of a grant and subgrant from the Wildlife Conservation Board for the Casa Modelo property; and
2. Authorize the Chairman, pursuant to Legal Counsel's review, to execute a grant agreement and subgrant agreement on behalf of the Authority.

At this time, Chairman Montanez opened discussion on the agenda items that were pulled.

7.3 POLICY RELATING TO THE DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY PARTIES ENGAGING IN A BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gary Thomasian requested clarification on the disclosure of campaign contribution over \$250.

Chairman Montanez said the policy is to require persons or their agents doing business with the RCA to disclose campaign contributions over \$250 to a member of the RCA Board. However, the policy does not relieve elected officials from their responsibility to track their campaign contributions. The County of Riverside adopted a policy on March 18, 2008 and Jeff Stone has proposed that RCA also adopt a similar policy.

Jeff Stone added that members of the Board of Supervisors at fundraisers receive contributions from various sources in different districts, which may be part of an LLC or corporation. This is another means to aid elected officials with FPPC rules and regulations when they perform their duties as electeds.

A presentation on this matter will be provided by Steve DeBaun at the meeting of the RCA Board of Directors on May 5, 2008.

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M/S/C (STONE/THOMASIAN) to adopt Resolution No. 08-002, Policy Relating to the Disclosure of Contributions by Parties Engaging in a Business Relationship with the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors.

7.4 MSCHP LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE CPI ADJUSTMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-09

John Machisic stated that he is concerned about the MSHCP development mitigation fee CPI adjustment especially with the condition of the economy and suggested that the RCA maintain the same fee rates for next year similar to the action that was taken by the WRCOG.

Chairman Montanez stated that the Executive Committee discussed the fee adjustment at length. The fee adjustment is included in the MSHCP and in order to change it would require reopening of the Plan. Unlike the WRCOG, the RCA does not have the ability to make changes to the fee structure provisions unless it reopens the Plan.

Jeff Stone added that the RCA may be subject to litigation if it did not abide by the provisions in the MSHCP.

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

- 1. Encourage the County and member Cities to adopt the CPI adjustment for Fiscal Year 2008-09; and***
- 2. Direct staff to inform the County and member Cities of this action.***

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

8.1 California Department of Fish and Game MSHCP Staff Position

Charles Landry, Executive Director, informed the Board that because of State budget cutbacks, the California Department of Fish and Game has requested that the RCA fund the position for \$91,000/year effective next fiscal year. This is a full time position working on MSHCP activities.

M/S/C (TAVAGLIONE/BUSTER) to approve the proposal to fund a full-time position the California Fish and Games at \$91,000 per year to to work on MSHCP activities.

9. LAND ACQUISITION UPDATE

Ken Graff, Director of Land Acquisition and Monitoring, informed the Board that no additional properties were acquired since the last meeting.

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10. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

There were no items suggested by the Board Members for the next meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items to be considered, Chairman Montanez adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m. The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors is scheduled to be held on Monday, May 5, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the County Administrative Center, Board Room, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Honey Bernas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'H'.

Honey Bernas
Clerk of the Board