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MEETING MINUTES

May 3, 2010

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 Gary Thomasian at 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, First Floor, Riverside, California, 92501.

2. ROLL CALL

Board Members/Alternates Present

Marion Ashley
Bob Buster
Kevin Bash
Bob Cashman
Steve Di Memmo
Maryann Edwards
Jordan Ehrenkranz
Bonnie Flickinger
Mike Gardner
Jim Hyatt
Robin Lowe
John Machisic
Melissa Melendez
Eugene Montanez
Jeff Stone
Gary Thomasian
Mark Yarbrough

Board Members Absent

John Benoit
John Denver
Larry Dressel
John Tavaglione

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Thomasian reported that an RCA workshop was held this morning. Staff presentations were very well done and informative. There is a handout for RCA Board Members that were not able to attend the workshop.

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5. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

There were no additions/ revisions to the agenda.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S/C (HYATT/DI MEMMO) to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2010 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

7.1 MSHCP LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE ANNUAL CPI ADJUSTMENT

To direct staff not to implement the CPI adjustment to local mitigation fee for Fiscal Year 2010-11 and to inform members of this action.

7.2 AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AND AHERN, ADCOCK AND DEVLIN, LLP, FOR MSHCP MITIGATION FEE ATTESTATION

Approve Amendment No. 3 to the Professional Services Agreement between the RCA and Ahern, Adcock and Devlin, LLP.

7.3 AMENDMENT NO. 6 TO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT NO. 070100 BETWEEN THE WESTERN RIVESIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AND THE SANTA ANA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Approve Amendment No. 6 to the Cooperative Agreement No. 070100 between RCA and SAWA.

7.4 RESOLUTION NO. 10-003 AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME FOR MONITORING PROGRAM OVERSIGHT

Approve Resolution No. 10-003 authorizing a contract with the California Department of Fish and Game for monitoring oversight.

7.5 BIOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM WORK PLAN AND COST ESTIMATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-11

Approve the Biological Monitoring Program Work Plan and Cost Estimate for Fiscal Year 2010-11.

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8. RESOLUTION NO. 10-004 ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2010-11 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET FOR THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Honey Bernas, Director of Administrative Services, presented a summary of RCA's proposed Fiscal Year 2010-11 Operating and Capital Budget. Under Revenues, the proposed budget reflects: 1) an estimate of an approximate 21% reduction in total revenue as compared to the previous year; 2) projects a modest 5% increase in MSHCP Development Mitigation Fees; 3) donations reflect an anticipated decrease of approximately 59%; 4) grant funding is anticipated to increase by \$5 million, which includes a new \$0.6 million State Wildlife Grant; 5) projects a 50% decrease in TUMF revenue and zero revenues for Participating Special Entity; 6) reduces the projected budget for Civic and Infrastructure revenue to \$20,000 each; and, 7) projects a 7% decrease in Tipping Fee revenue. Under Appropriations, the proposed budget reflects: 1) an overall reduction of 33% in budgeted appropriations; 2) current staffing levels for FY 2010-11, furloughs will be discontinued and salary savings may be realized if furloughs are continued and/or vacancies through retirement are not filled; 3) 2% increase in benefits due to mainly to the unemployment insurance rate increasing and an increase in deferred compensation; 4) 6% overall increase in Appropriation 1 due primarily to retirement payoffs for two employees taking the Golden Handshake provision; 5) 32% decrease in contracts; and, 6) 42% decrease in land acquisition for an overall reduction of 33% in budgeted appropriations compared to last fiscal year.

In response to Steve Di Memmo if the 32% reduction under Contracts reflected less number of contracts or if the current contract costs were reduced with its current contractors, Honey Bernas said that overall contract cost was reduced by 32%. Recurring contract costs were reduced by 18.4%, and one contract was not renewed.

Bonnie Flickinger asked if there is a minimal impact in the expenditures if furloughs were not discontinued and what the salary savings would be if staff was furloughed. Honey Bernas said that RCA staff took a 10% reduction in salaries and, therefore, if the furloughs were continued, the salary savings would be 10% of \$1.12 million, or approximately \$112,000.

M/S/C (HYATT/FLICKINGER) to approve Resolution No. 10-004 adopting the Fiscal year 2010-11 Operating and Capital Budget for the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority.

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9. RECURRING CONTRACTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-11

At this time, Jeff Stone recused himself from discussion and Board action on this item and left the Board Room.

Honey Bernas reviewed the list of recurring contracts for renewal, scope and contract cost for each of the contractors. She stated that the total recurring cost was reduced by 18.4%.

M/S/C (LOWE/BUSTER) to approve the recurring contracts for Fiscal Year 2010-11, as listed in the staff report.

Jeff Stone returned to the meeting.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

10.1 Section 6 and Funding Update

Charlie Landry, Executive Director, said that legislation was introduced in the Senate to amend the current requirements for using Section 6 local match funds though the Department of Interior and Fish and Wildlife are still discussing a possible change to their policy. However, no action has been taken to date. It is not known at this time, if the legislation will be processed as a continuing resolution or a new appropriation. If it is processed as new appropriation, the language change may be incorporated. However, if it is a continuing resolution, the language amendment will have to be done next year.

Charlie Landry reported that RCA will be able to use a latest land donation from Vulcan Materials for Section 6 as its local match for recently acquired properties.

11. LAND ACQUISITION UPDATE

Ken Graff, Director of Land Acquisition, reported that since the RCA's last meeting, two properties closed escrow for an additional 327 acres totaling 45,567 acres. However, there will be a change in the acreage as a result of the Public/Quasi Public (PQP) reconciliation minor amendment. The change is as a result of the Department of Fish and Wildlife Service's (DFWS) opinion that several lands that they contributed from 2007-2009 that RCA counted as their contribution towards the MSHCP reserve were actually mitigation for projects. Staff will reflect the change in their report to the RCA Board at the next meeting.

12. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

No items were suggested by Board Members for the next meeting.

At this time, Chairman Thomasian adjourned the meeting for Closed Session.

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13. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

- 13.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**
Pursuant to Subdivision (c) of Government Code Section 54956.9
- RIC 10004733
 - RIC 530137

After Closed Session, Chairman Thomasian reconvened the meeting. There were no announcements from the Closed Session items.

14. ADJOURNMENT

With no other items before the RCA Board of Directors, Chairman Thomasian adjourned the meeting. The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, June 7, 2010, at 1:00 p.m., at the County Administrative Center, Board Room, First Floor, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.

Respectfully submitted,



Honey Bernas
Clerk of the Board