



MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairman Marion Ashley at 12:33 p.m. on Monday, February 4, 2013, in the Board Room of the Riverside County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California, 92501.

At this time, Chairman Ashley introduced the new RCA Board Members – Debbie Franklin (Banning), Tim Brown (Canyon Lake), Shellie Milne (Hemet), Natasha Johnson (Lake Elsinore), Harry Ramos (Murrieta). After introduction, the Board Members provided a brief profile of their background.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Ashley led the RCA Board Members and meeting attendees in a flag salute.

3. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present

Marion Ashley, *Riverside County District 5*
Kevin Bash, *City of Norco*
Ben Benoit, *City of Wildomar*
Roger Berg, *City of Beaumont*
Tim Brown, *City of Canyon Lake*
Maryann Edwards, *City of Temecula*
Debbie Franklin, *City of Banning*
Mike Gardner, *City of Riverside*
Tom Fuhrman, *City of Menifee*
Jim Hyatt, *City of Calimesa*
Kevin Jeffries, *Riverside County District 1*
Linda Krupa, *City of Hemet*
Natasha Johnson, *City of Lake Elsinore*
Verne Lauritzen, *City of Jurupa Valley*
Jesse Molina, *City of Moreno Valley**
Eugene Montanez, *City of Corona*
Scott Miller, *City of San Jacinto*
Harry Ramos, *City of Murrieta*
Adam Rush, *City of Eastvale*
Jeff Stone, *Riverside County District 3*
Mark Yarbrough, *City of Perris**

Board Members Absent

John Benoit, *Riverside County District 4*
John Tavaglione, *Riverside County District 2*

*Arrived after start of meeting

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4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Board Member announcements.

6. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

There were no additions/revisions to the agenda.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S/C (STONE/MONTANEZ) to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2013 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors, as corrected.

Abstain: Franklin, Milne

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

M/S/C (GARDNER/HYATT) to approve the following Consent Calendar items:

8.1 WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (MSHCP) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE COLLECTION AND CIVIC/INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2012

Receive and file the Western Riverside County MSHCP Local Development Mitigation Fee Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution Report for December 2012.

8.2 RESOLUTION NO. 13-001, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AMENDING ITS PUBLIC RECORDS ACT PROCEDURES

Adopt Resolution No. 13-001, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Amending Its Public Records Act Procedures.

8.3 FISCAL YEAR 2013 SECOND QUARTER CONSULTANT REPORTS

Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2013 Second Quarter Consultant Reports.

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9. RESOLUTION NO. 13-002, A 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, Land Acquisition Analyst, reported that every year the County Tax Collector's Office notifies public agencies of its intent to sell tax default properties. Public agencies are given the right of first refusal to review the parcel list to determine if any of the parcels meet the public agencies' goals and objectives. Staff has reviewed the list and identified fourteen (14) properties that are desirable for habitat conservation and meet the MSHCP goals by contributing to reserve assembly. He then showed the locations and provided a description of the properties. The total acreage of the properties is approximately 447 acres at a cost of approximately \$793,420 (approximately \$1,773/acre).

Jeff Stone advised the Board that normally at this time of year, the Tax Collector's Office posts the list of tax default properties and conducts a public auction. This year, for the first time, they will conduct an on-line public auction. In accordance with the law, public agencies have a right of first refusal to purchase the tax-defaulted properties. He spoke about the benefits of taking advantage of purchasing the properties, especially the properties that are adjacent to public lands already in conservation and contributing toward reserve assembly and the MSHCP goal of conserving 153,000 acres.

Tom Fuhrman asked how many years of property taxes are amassed in the purchase price, and if there were liens on the properties. He stated that the purchase price appears to be high if only the back taxes are included. He asked how many years the taxes are delinquent before the properties are put up for auction.

Brian Beck responded that a property is placed on the auction block after five (5) years of unpaid taxes and after going through the County process, including approval by the Board of Supervisors.

In response to Jim Hyatt's question as to the outcome of the tax default properties that the RCA approved the purchase of last year, Brian Beck said that the tax default properties approved by the RCA Board for purchase last year were redeemed. The tax default properties approved in 2011 are still in the process for purchase. Staff anticipates receiving an invoice from the Tax Collector's Office in the spring and close of escrow by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Beck noted, however, that the property owner still has the right to redeem the property until the process is finalized.

Tim Brown asked how the prices of the properties are determined and Brian Beck said that the purchase price, which includes back taxes and penalties, is set by the Tax Collector's Office. Tim Brown asked if the purchase price reflects unpaid taxes, plus penalties and interest only. Brian Beck stated that was correct.

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M/S/C (STONE/HYATT) to approve Resolution No. 13-002, A Resolution of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Approving the Purchase of Tax Default Property from the County of Riverside Tax Collector's Office.

Abstain: Brown

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Charlie Landry, Executive Director, reported on the following items:

10.1 Loan Program Update

Staff and its consultants are working toward adding the loan program in the Water Infrastructure Financing Innovation Authority (WIFIA) component of the Water Resources Development Act legislation. He briefed the RCA Board on the meetings held with senior staff of the Senate Committee of Environmental Public Works and Senator Barbara Boxer's Office, the Director of Governmental Affairs with Ducks Unlimited, the California Institute for Federal Policy Research, and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Civil Works.

10.2 Incoming Board and Alternate Member Orientation

An RCA orientation and TAP processing was held this morning, and there were fourteen (14) incoming RCA Board and Alternate members in attendance.

11. LAND ACQUISITION UPDATE

Brian Beck reported that since the last RCA Board meeting, two properties were added totaling approximately 105 acres bringing the reserve total to 45,849 acres. He then showed the location of the recently acquired properties.

12. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- A) Scott Miller requested a discussion regarding a letter of support to RCTC's initiative seeking CEQA Reform to the Governor's Office.
- B) Tom Fuhrman requested a discussion on public use policy on RCA properties. This request is as a result of an incident wherein the public was denied access to an RCA property.

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13. CLOSED SESSION ITEM

Michelle Ouellette, Legal Counsel, announced the Closed Session item. Chairman Ashley adjourned the meeting to Closed Session.

13.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Pursuant to Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9
■ EDCV12-02181 TJH (DTBx) Silverado Ranch Estates

After the Closed Session, the meeting reconvened. Michelle Ouellette announced that the RCA Board has authorized legal counsel to defend RCA in the matter of Silverado Ranch Estates vs. United States of America.

At this time, Chairman Ashley announced that with RCA Officers and staff travelling to Washington, D.C., to attend to matters of the RCA, the March 4, 2013 meeting will be cancelled. A Special Meeting will be scheduled and staff will inform the RCA Board Members of the Special Meeting date and time.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items before the RCA Board, Chairman Hyatt adjourned the meeting. A special meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors will be held at the County of Riverside Administrative Center, Board Room, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California, at a date and time to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,



Honey Bernas
Clerk of the Board