



MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairman Montanez at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, January 4, 2016, in the Board Room of the Riverside County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California, 92501.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. ROLL CALL - Taken by Rose Esparza, RCA Administrative Manager.

Board Members Present

Board Members Absent

<p>George Moyer, <i>City of Banning</i> Jeffrey Hewitt, <i>City of Calimesa</i> Tim Brown, <i>City of Canyon Lake</i> Eugene Montanez, <i>City of Corona</i> Clint Lorimore, <i>City of Eastvale*</i> Linda Krupa, <i>City of Hemet</i> Verne Lauritzen, <i>City of Jurupa Valley</i> Natasha Johnson, <i>City of Lake Elsinore</i> D. LaDonna Jempson, <i>City of Moreno Valley</i> Kevin Bash, <i>City of Norco</i> David Starr Rabb, <i>City of Perris</i> Mike Gardner, <i>City of Riverside, Alt*</i> Maryann Edwards, <i>City of Temecula</i> Ben Benoit, <i>City of Wildomar</i> Kevin Jeffries, <i>Riverside County District I</i> Chuck Washington, <i>Riverside County District III</i></p>	<p>Mark Orozco, <i>City of Beaumont</i> Matt Liesemeyer, <i>City of Meniffee</i> Jonathan Ingram, <i>City of Murrieta</i> vacant, <i>City of San Jacinto</i> John Tavaglione, <i>Riverside County District II</i> John Benoit, <i>Riverside County District IV</i> Marion Ashley, <i>Riverside County District V</i></p>
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*Arrived after roll call

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4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

5. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Member Jempson announced that the month of January is National Mentoring month, and on January 19, the City of Moreno Valley will be recognizing all of the non-profits in Moreno Valley that mentor at-risk youth. She encouraged all to do the same.

Board Member Edwards stated that she had been in Garland, Texas, during the holidays and witnessed the devastation of the tornado in the area. She wanted to publicly express thankfulness for the strict building codes that govern California should devastation occur in the area. Texas has strict building codes, but when faced with a tornado, it is difficult for buildings to withstand.

6. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

There were no additions or revisions to the agenda.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 7, 2015.

M/S/C (JEMPSON/KRUPA) to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2015 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

Ayes 12, Nays 0, Abstain 2 (Washington/Bash)

Board Member Lorimore arrived after the vote to approve the minutes at 12:35 p.m.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

Chairman Montanez pulled agenda item 8.2 at the request of Board Member Brown for discussion.

M/S/C (JOHNSON/KRUPA) to approve the Consent Calendar Agenda Item Nos. 8.1.

Ayes 15, Nays 0

8.1 WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (MSHCP) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE (LDMF) COLLECTION AND CIVIC/INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2015

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Receive and file the Western Riverside County MSHCP LDMF Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution Report for November 2015.

At this time, the Chairman addressed the following pulled Consent Calendar Item:

8.2 RESOLUTION NOS. 2016-001, AND 2016-002, RESOLUTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FOR ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY

Board Member Brown asked if this item was to approve the purchase of properties as well as to accept funds and what properties the item pertains to. Honey Bernas, Director of Administrative Services, answered that the Board of Directors already approved the acquisitions. She explained that the resolutions before the Board are to accept the grant funding from the Wildlife Conservation Board.

Chairman Montanez asked Charlie Landry if this is a new process. Charlie Landry, Executive Director, answered in the affirmative and stated that this is a new policy that is required from the Wildlife Conservation Board, the state agency that handles the Federal Section 6 funds, as well as the matching state funding. He further explained that with this new process, the Board will be asked to accept the grant funds and then closed session will be held on the item.

Honey Bernas clarified that the closed session will be held first and approval of the resolution will follow. She also answered Board Member Brown's question regarding which properties the resolutions pertain to stating that the resolutions pertain to the Bautista and TNC Caramello properties.

Chairman Montanez further clarified that in the future staff has recommended that the Board take action on the acquisition and resolution at the same meeting so that there is no lag time and everyone knows which properties the resolutions pertain to. This makes more sense and will speed up the process.

M/S/C (BENOIT/RABB) to adopt Resolution Nos. 2016-001 and 2016-002, Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Authorizing the Acceptance of Grant Funds for Acquisition of Real Property.

Ayes 15, Nays 0

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9. RATIFICATION OF THE CHAIRPERSON'S APPOINTMENT OF THE 2016 RCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman Montanez said that because Board Member Jeffries proposed that the 2017 Executive Committee be nominated by the entire RCA Board of Directors, he sent an e-mail to all Board Members to find out who was interested in serving on the Executive Committee. He received a few positive responses. The Chairman announced his appointments to the 2016 RCA Executive Committee as follows:

Eugene Montanez, City of Corona (Chairman)
Chuck Washington, District III (Vice Chairman)
John Tavaglione, District II (Past Chairman)
Marion Ashley, District V
Ben Benoit, City of Wildomar
Maryann Edwards, City of Temecula
Natasha Johnson, City of Lake Elsinore

M/S/C (KRUPA/BENOIT) to APPROVE THE RATIFICATION OF THE Chairperson's appointment of the 2016 RCA Executive Committee

Ayes 15 Nays 0

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

10.1 Update regarding the Fee Credit Policy

Charlie Landry, Executive Director, advised that this policy has been before the Executive Committee several times. Staff has been in discussions with permittees, the cities and county, and received valuable input. Staff received a last minute request for changes from a member agency and staff will be bringing the requested revisions back to the Executive Committee month. If approved by the Executive Committee, the policy will be brought to the Board in February 2016.

Board Member Brown confirmed that this policy will be brought to the full board for approval. Charlie Landry answered in the affirmative.

11. LAND ACQUISITION UPDATE

Charlie Landry, Executive Director, reported that RCA acquired nine properties totaling 589 acres, which brings the reserve to 49,790 acres.

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12. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Board Member Washington made reference to an e-mail that he and Chairman Montanez shared with reference to nominating someone from the Executive Committee or RCA Board for the Vice Chairman position.

Chairman Montanez stated that he spoke to Supervisor Jeffries because he requested that the appointment of the Executive Committee be voted on by the Board. Another complication with the current policy is the chairmanship alternates between the County and Cities. He suggested that the Executive Director hold a workshop because there are new members on the Board and new staff members at different cities. Topics of discussion could include, if the Board desires, to eliminate the forced alternation between the County and Cities, and also how the Executive Board is appointed or elected. Chairman Montanez spoke with Supervisor Jeffries who was in agreement with having the discussion at a workshop. A workshop setting would allow for a more in-depth discussion.

Chairman Montanez said that Board Member Benoit suggested the example of how RCTC has an area election to fill their executive board. He asked Board Members to give some thought to this matter and come up with some ideas on how to handle these issues. He further stated that voting on the Executive Committee by the entire Board of Directors in a meeting is complicated, but doing so by area is a great idea. He welcomed any other ideas that can be discussed at a workshop.

Board Member Washington commented that when you look at representation on RCA, the city representatives outnumber the county supervisors. As a philosophical issue, he would be supportive of having the cities have an extra turn before a county supervisor, acknowledging that he could not speak for all of the supervisors. As a practical matter, the recent nomination and vote that placed him as Vice Chairman was not with his approval.

Chairman Montanez stated that he is trying to rectify that issue as well.

Board Member Washington stated that he would appreciate that matter being rectified timely.

Chairman Montanez said from a practical matter, the supervisors have quite a few different responsibilities, serve on several committees, attend several meetings. When the RCA policy/bylaws were enacted, the intent was to assure that County had continual representation on the Executive Board, but it is a commitment that requires time. Chairman Montanez stated he believes there is a desire to develop a policy that makes sense for the Board and County Supervisors. He further stated that the next step will be to schedule a workshop. He volunteered to host the workshop at the City of Corona, which is not centrally located. Temecula has graciously hosted numerous workshops, but Temecula is not centrally located either. He suggested a Riverside or Moreno

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Valley location, which would be more centrally located for all members. Staff will work on setting a date and location and advise the Board. Chairman Montanez requested that members who are unable to attend submit their ideas and provide input concerning the policy.

Board Member Gardner arrived at 12:45p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items before the RCA Board, Chairman Montanez adjourned the meeting at 12:49 p.m. The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, February 1, 2016, at 12:30 p.m., at the County of Riverside Administrative Center, Board Room, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.

Prepared by:



Rose Esparza
Administrative Manager

Respectfully submitted:



Honey Bernas
Clerk of the Board