



**Elsinore - Murrieta - Anza  
Resource Conservation District**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
October 9, 2009  
1:30 PM**

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

A meeting of the Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza Resource Conservation District was called to order at 1:42 PM by President Long. Present were the following:  
Directors Long, Wheeler, Whittington, Rahn and Nelson  
Associate Director Head  
General Manager Rogers  
District Counsel Ray Johnson  
Public: Rachel Hamilton, Inland Empire Waterkeeper.

Motion was made by Nelson, second by Whittington, passed 5-0, to approve the Agenda.

**B. MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2009**

Motion was made by Whittington, second by Rahn, passed 5-0, to approve Minutes of the September 11, 2009 Regular Meeting.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rachael Hamilton, Project Manager for Inland Empire Waterkeeper of Riverside, introduced herself. She has been working for Waterkeeper since May, and reported on some of their activities. They have a major fundraiser coming up on Friday, October 30, at the Dos Lagos Golf Course in Corona. They have organized a high school level wetlands education program which

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT (CONT'D.)**

includes tours of the San Jacinto Wildlife Center, Prado Wetlands and similar sites. Their goal is to raise \$5,000 through the fundraiser.

Long suggested that EMARCD should do a similar fundraiser in the near future; Wheeler suggested a joint effort with San Jacinto Basin RCD.

**D. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Financial reports prepared by EMARCD's accounting firm were reviewed by the Board. Directors Wheeler and Whittington questioned Expense Item 510 – Office Supplies and Item 521 – Capitol Outlay. Rogers explained that these were expenses incurred in setting up the office, and that the accountants categorized them based upon relatively long-term usefulness vs. short term. A detailed listing can be provided if needed. Acceptance of the financial reports was moved by Nelson, seconded by Rahn, approved 5-0.

**E. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Rogers displayed information from the City of Wildomar for an RV storage and mini-storage projects on Corydon Street. There are no significant habitat issues, and no response will be submitted.

A detailed map of the area included within the District was received from the State Department of Conservation, entitled "Riverside County Important Farmland 2008, published September 2009. The District has been asked to check the map information and provide any suggested revisions.

**F. BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

2.1 Approve establishment of consultant relationship for grant application assistance and training. Long presented a request for approval of a contract with consultant Eldon Baber, ~~for 40 hours of service~~ *not to exceed \$5,000<sup>1</sup>* at the rate of \$125 per

---

<sup>1</sup> Corrected at request of President Long at Board Meeting of Nov. 13, 2009

hour. Moved by Whittington, second by Nelson. Attorney Johnson stated that residual funds from a previous benefactor could be used to pay the consultant.

Rahn stated his opposition to the use of a consultant. Money spent in this fashion may not go very far; the District does not yet have a specific program on which the consultant could assist us. Nelson argued that we have several programs, but do not have the experience necessary to apply for grants. Rahn replied that more detailed programs must be the first order of business, and that a generalist grant writer will not be able to assist with that. They generally write generalized responses that are easily identified and immediately dismissed by review committees. Broad discussion followed regarding need for long-term program planning, possibly in partnership with Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve and Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Whittington called for the question. Motion was denied 4-1, Long voting in favor.

2.2 Approve Notice of Intent with San Diego State University. Moved by Nelson, Second by Whittington.

Rahn is in the process of cleaning up the language of the agreement, and asked Rogers to send him the District's draft of the agreement, including the District's and the RCD Mission Statement for inclusion. One the final draft has been prepared by him President Long can sign the NOI on behalf of the District, and Rahn will forward to San Diego State officials for their signatures. Approved 4-0, Rahn abstaining.

2.3 Approve donation of \$450 from EMARCD to The Nature Conservancy and Riverside County for expenses incurred in conjunction with the Santa Margarita River Watershed Cleanup. Moved by Nelson, second by Whittington.

Long described the fifteen-year history of this event, led by Carole Bell, Manager of the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve, in which volunteers have removed almost 1,500 tons of trash from the watershed. The event

includes the Lakeland Village area as well, so it is completely within EMARCD's area.

EMARCD Board of Directors  
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

October 9, 2009  
Page 4

Long proposed donations of \$150 to The Nature Conservancy and \$300 to the County (for the Lakeland Village area); she will donate like amounts to EMARCD to offset the expense.

Approved 5-0

### 3.1 Discussion Items: None

#### Monthly Reports:

District Counsel, Ray Johnson, reported on five items:

1. Cornerstone Community Church parking lot / athletic field project, Johnson reported that he is providing legal representation to several neighbors opposing the project, primarily on its impact upon three separate watercourse.

2. Murrieta Creek Project: Johnson has received information that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) has notified the Cities of Murrieta and Temecula that plans for improvement of Murrieta Creek will need to be redone, to reduce costs. He recommends maintaining a close watch on the project.

3. Liberty Quarry: A truck traffic study is needed to validate information in the EIR, which claims reduced air quality impacts due to reduced truck traffic. He believes that a more rigorous study needs to be performed. The EIR appears to have miscounted traffic volumes for concrete and aggregate trucks; the new study should include both full and empty trucks, along with those associated with asphaltic concrete production.

4. Aguanga projects: There are a number of new development proposals in Aguanga area that bear watching. There are no immediate concerns, but Johnson will keep the District advised of any with serious impacts.

5. Ponte Winery: Johnson recommends the EMARCD look at the new Ponte Winery project, which is something of a model for environmentally sensitive design. It includes a 60-unit hotel and a 60-Kilowatt solar generator. The design is said to use less than 5,000 gallons of water per day. All food

waste is to be composted on site. The project proponent, Claudio Ponte, reports that "doing the right thing environmentally makes him money."

Rahn and Johnson will look into the possibility that EMARCD could establish a program for certification of sustainable wineries.

District Manager Rogers reported on several City of Wildomar development projects that appear to have limited negative environmental impacts. The Cornerstone Church project has been appealed, but on traffic issues. A number of General Plan revisions are before the County Planning Commission and were reviewed. These are all very preliminary, as the requested action is for the Commission to recommend to the Board of Supervisors whether or not a General Plan Amendment should be initiated. Most of the cases were continued to the November or later hearing dates. Long asked that particular attention be given to GPA 988, 83 acres northwest of La Cresta, adjacent to the Cleveland National Forest. GPA 1033 (Vail Lake USA) has been continued pending receipt of information from the applicant. Others will be reported on further as they proceed to hearing.

Nelson reported that the South Coast Resource Conservation and Development Area Council of the Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, will meet on October 30 in Riverside. Wheeler is the EMARCD representative, and will be attending.

Ad Hoc Grant Research Committee: Kathi Head reported on the priorities of the Committee:

1. Researching education grants
2. Funding a pilot project to approach HOA's and POA's regarding turf grass removal and replacement with low-water use plants and irrigation.
3. Conservation/Preservation of wildlife areas
4. Land Acquisition

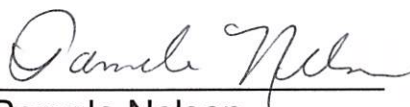
### **Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None.

**Adjournment:** Moved by Nelson, second by Rahn, to adjourn to 1:30 PM  
November 13, 2009, approved 5-0 at 4:00PM

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela Nelson  
Secretary of the Board

Approved by Board of Directors November 13, 2009

Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstained AAA