

## **Minutes-6/10/11**

### **Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza Resource Conservation District Regular Meeting ,Friday June 10, 2011, 1:30 pm Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve, Visitor Center 39400 Clinton Keith Rd. Murrieta, CA 92562**

**Call to Order: 1:54pm**

**Roll Call: Directors: Matt Rahn, Vicki Long, Pam Nelson and Kathi Head  
Public: Gary Thomasian**

**Motion to Approve the Agenda by Head, second, Rahn, vote: 4-0**

**Minutes of May 13, 2011: Motion to approve, Head, Rahn, second, vote:4-0**

#### ***Business portion of the Elsinore Murrieta Anza Resource Conservation District Board Meeting***

**Financial reports**            The first quarter will be sent to the Board, electronically, next week.

**Correspondence**            Long called the Greater San Diego RCD to say we would host the regional meeting next year—April.

**District Expenses**            No Extraordinary Expenses.

**Board Action Items:**            Approval requires a majority vote of directors.

#### **2.1 Appointment to vacant seat (Public Resource Code S9314 & Gov. Code S54974)**

An interested candidate, Gary Thomasian, spoke of his interest in land use and conservation. He is a long time Murrieta resident. He served on the RCA for 4 years during his time as a Murrieta City councilman. He believes there is a need for collaboration and partnering with agencies and other entities. Long explained the role of our RCD, some of our tasks and goals and our relationship with other groups.

Thomasian would like to work on some of the conserved Murrieta land. He would like to see funds coming to the RCDs using innovative methods such as portions of property tax from conservation easements.

Long explained acquisition of mitigation properties has been the EMARCD's main effort in recent years because the roles of all RCDs have morphed from agriculture to conservation and restoration.

Head made a motion to approve the appointment of Thomasian to the EMARCD Board, Rahn, seconded, vote: 4-0. Gary Thomasian was sworn in by Secretary, Pam Nelson, as a new Director on the Board.

#### **Discussion Items:**

—Rahn discussed the controlled burn on SKR properties at Lake Skinner and Lake Matthews where he is researching carbon monoxide levels generated. This study will be related to firefighter's health. This is an SDSU project for the new Fire Science dept.

--Rahn discussed the relationship of ag and solar energy. SMER has avocado groves and row crops. Can these be co-mingled with solar energy generation? There is a need for energy generation for farm needs, such as water pumping, and extra energy can be sold to the local electric corporation. Rahn is designing a project at SMER and with farmers in Fresno. Solar can provide shade, for example, for shade-needing crops. The Williamson Act would not allow this type of project on ag land. This project would show how agriculture could thrive with solar energy apparatus. Pomegranates seem to be a good test crop. The panels will be constructed in between the rows for shading the plants and staff. There could be many ag applications, such as for nurseries and hot houses. Water can be collected with the infrastructure, as well. Rahn would like to propose that the Board writes a letter of support and begin looking for projects to do on agricultural properties that have the Williamson Act designation in our District.

### **Old Business**

#### **3.1 Discussion of on-going projects and grant applications.**

--California State Parks OHV Grant :

Long and Nelson will go out to BLM parcels in Anza next week. Jennifer Taylor of BLM will help with this first inventory. She will share reporting, mapping and other tasks during the grant work.

-- IRWMP: If anyone has ideas for new projects, they need to be submitted right away.

### **New Business**

4.1: none

**Directors' Requests for Future Agenda Items: none**

### **Monthly Reports**

District Counsel                      Ray Johnson, absent

**Agency Reports**                      none

### **EMARCD Director Reports:**

--Long is working on an MOU with the City of Lake Elsinore. She continues to work with Jonathan Snapp-Cook (FWS) on vernal pools next to the Storm stadium. Long will receive funding from SAWA to help manage the project.

She is still waiting on an endowment agreement on a possible conservation easement for the Board.

--Head reported the WRCOG is beginning the AB 811 program. It's called the PACE program where homeowners can get a 7% loan for energy conservation projects. The loan would be attached to the property and amortized over a long term.

**Associate Director Report: none**

**Fire Safe Council report: none**

**Adjournment: Head made motion, Rahn seconded, vote: 4-0. 4:03pm**

**Next Scheduled Regular Meeting: Friday, July 8, 2011**