

Minutes

Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza Resource Conservation District

Regular Meeting

Friday April 10, 2015 1:30 pm

Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve

Visitor Center

39400 Clinton Keith Rd.

Murrieta, CA 92562

Call to Order: 1:38 pm, meeting recorded by Rose Corona

Roll Call:

Directors: Vicki Long, Rose Corona, Pam Nelson, Danny Martin and Kelcey Stricker (2:33pm)

Asst. Director: Kathi Head (absent)

Counsel: Ray Johnson

National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS): Bob Hewitt (absent)

Public: Greg Priamos, Riverside County attorney and Margaret Meyncke (1:55pm)

Motion to Approve the Agenda: Martin/Corona, 4-0, Nelson (yes), Long (yes), Martin (yes), Corona (yes).

Presentation: Partnering with Riverside Corona RCD; update and new opportunities
(Kerwin Russel and Shelli Lamb)

They described the contracted project with the EMARCD for Rancho California Water District for water-use auditing on properties in our District. They are very experienced since they have been involved in large corporations doing over 3000 properties since the 1980s. The current drought has caused a great need for their service. Agriculture, large schools, large business and residential properties are typical sites. They will provide with reports on soils, irrigation, water management, maintenance and/or improvements. Rancho has provided \$14,000 for our District's program.

They are also helping the District with our 1600 permit with CA Fish and Wildlife Dept. They described the report for our property on Clinton Keith. There is a possibility for mitigation credits.

Long said that there is a great opportunity that Supervisor Jeffries suggested. He thought a merge between the Districts might be the best idea for both Districts. Long is suggesting that we consider this. The CARCD is promoting consolidation be considered. Local Association Formation Commission (LAFCO) and Supervisor Washington have found the idea a good one. Long said that our budget is very tight. This would solve the problems of staffing and expenses for offices, etc. It's difficult to receive grants since we need matching funds. Their In-lieu fee program is in place for RCRCRD with the Army Corps and it could be expanded. Also, the irrigation management program could be expanded. Their staff are certified for endangered species so consulting can be done. The 1600 program could provide more funding on sites in our District. They have a water education program in place. They work with agriculture and have board members that come from that background. They have a \$5 million dollar budget currently.

Two Resolutions would need to be drafted and sent to LAFCO. It would be about a four-month process. County attorney, Greg Priamos, would be able facilitate the process.

They sit on a nine-acre property in Riverside that has agriculture and other scientific research projects in progress. There is also a Land-use Learning Center demonstration area. There is a field office at Temescal Canyon that can be used for education.

Long reiterated that there are no down-sides to this proposal. Nelson asked how the process can start. Long can put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Minutes:

January 9: Stricker/Nelson: approved, 3-0; Long (yes), Vicki (yes), and Nelson (yes) with correction of Stricker's attendance

February 6, 2015: Corona mentioned that the copy of the bills and checks are still lacking. The minutes were tabled

March, 2015: tabled for the same as above. Martin and Corona said that a description of the work should also be included.

Public Comments: Margaret has attended meetings before and is a member of the local Sierra Club, the Santa Margarita group doing Facebook and tabling events.

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

1.1 Financial reports: Tabled until the financials include copies of all bills and checks and monthly bank statements.

Long distributed our recent audit dated June,30, 2014. Margaret asked if we have to do one annually. Long explained it is best since we need the audit for several reasons including the new rule that an audit is included with the State Controller's report. It was performed by Cox, Valdez and Silbermann, CPA.

1.2 Correspondence: none

2.0 Action Items

2.1 Yearly 700 forms: Martin and Corona has submitted theirs to the county and will give Long a copy for the office. Corona brought hers to the meeting today and Long and Nelson will fill the hard copy out today.

2.2 Long sent the members conflict of interest information

2.3 Priamos' appointment as District counsel; tabled

2.4 Open House and workshop for the EMA board; agreed on April 16th

2.5 Change of designated office manager and key policy. Long is presently the office manager and will not be giving keys out. We don't have a Key policy. Tabled

2.6 Change of date and place for board meetings. Corona thinks that rotating the location might make it "fairer" for all the board members (driving distances). Scheduling different sites would make it more complicated, We need to find free and accessible sites. Board members will bring proposals to the next meeting.

2.7 Flag salute; Corona/Martin; 4-0; Nelson (yes), Long (yes), Martin (yes), Corona (yes), Stricker (yes)

2.8 Resignation of Kelcey Sticker accepted: Corona/Nelson: 4-0 Nelson (yes), Long (yes), Martin (yes), Corona (yes) Stricker (abstain)

2.9 EMA Board approval of Kelcey Stricker as Associate Director: Nelson/Long: Nelson (yes), Long (yes), Martin (no), Corona (no). Tabled; Kelcey will send her resume so that the board can review her background.

Agency Reports NRCS; Bob Hewitt, absent

3.0 Old Business Discussion of on-going projects and grant applications.

- Projects for IRWMP (Danny Martin): Citrus is a high water supply crop. It would be a test project of 100-acre pilot project. It would cost \$2000/acre to take the trees out. Rancho Water District's program will pay \$.60 /1000gallons saved. Project would save 700,000 gallons/year making \$40,000 /year. Citrus and avocado trees would be the likely targets due to water costs and pests associated.

- Leadership Awards programs: Ponte Winery Award presentation, April 22nd, 11am

- Safe Crossings for wildlife project: the group is meeting with Caltrans

-Education: Agriculture in the classroom

Calendar of events :

- April 18 Recycling Fashion Show, Monte de Oro Winery, 6pm

- April 22nd, Ponte 11am

- June 6, Murrieta Creek Regional Trail Ribbon-cutting event, 8am-noon

4.0 New Business -- Discussion

May 1, 2015 Board meeting: Winston Vickers, UC Davis Wildlife Health center/ I-5 corridor

Monthly Reports: none

District Counsel: Johnson & Sedlack Ray Johnson :

EMARCD Director Reports:

Associate Director Reports :

SAWA /Fire Safe Council Vicki Long:

Adjournment (3:18 pm) Motion; Rose/ Long, 3-0, Nelson (yes), Long (yes), Corona (yes)

