



Elsinore - Murrieta - Anza  
Resource Conservation District

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SEPTEMBER 11, 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 1:36 PM by President Long. Present were the following:  
Directors Long, Wheeler, Whittington and Nelson  
Associate Director Matriasciano  
General Manager Rogers  
Attorney Abigail Broedling, representing District Counsel Johnson  
Public: Kathi Head, Del Ross, and Louise Kenitzer, along with several  
Board member of the Rancho Glenoaks Homeowners' Association

Director Rahn entered the meeting at 1:54 PM

Motion was made by Wheeler, second by Nelson, passed 4-0, to approve the Agenda.

**B. MINUTES OF JULY 2, 2009**

Motion was made by Wheeler, second by Nelson, passed 4-0, to approve Minutes of the August 14, 2009 Regular Meeting, with minor corrections.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Louise Kenitzer and representative of the Rancho Glenoaks HOA presented a written report on their progress in controlling erosion on the Association's unpaved roads. They have been working with Riverside County

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

Code Enforcement Officer Hector Viray, along with Pacific Watershed Associates to create a complete document. All of the information, along with their completed manual of Best Management Practices for road maintenance and erosion protection for use by residents of HOA will shortly be posted on the HOA web site. Correspondence and excerpts from the Manual were presented to EMARCD.

Del Ross of Hemet has been involved with the Regional Water Quality Control Boards and the implementation of more comprehensive storm water regulations. The San Diego Board expects to implement major requirements affecting MS4 connections by July 2010. They have been involved primarily in Orange County (San Mateo Creek) but should be considering the Santa Margarita River watershed next.

Board President Long announced the resignation of Associate Director Jon Kochersberger because his job responsibilities at Camp Pendleton had greatly increased. Long is also starting a storm water management class at UC Riverside.

**D. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Financial reports prepared by EMARCD's accounting firm were reviewed by the Board. To save consulting fees, the accountant will not attend future Board meetings unless requested. She will be available to explain any unusual situations. Acceptance of the financial reports was moved by Rahn, seconded by Wheeler, and approved 5-0.

**E. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Rogers displayed information from the City of Wildomar for two projects. There are no significant habitat issues. One of the projects, an expansion of Cornerstone Community Church parking lots and athletic facilities, was the subject of a request from Wildomar resident Martha Bridges, who asked EMARCD to request that the City delay consideration of the project until more

information could be considered. The Board took no action on Ms. Bridges' request, and clarified the direction given to the manager at the August meeting regarding responses to City and County projects: It is not necessary to respond to every project within EMARD's jurisdiction. The District should respond only where it appears that a lead agency may have overlooked an issue that is within its sphere of responsibility.

**F. BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

**a. District Expenses**

1.1 Motion was made Wheeler, second by Rahn to approve purchase of **workers compensation insurance** only for the Manager from State Fund, at an estimated annual premium of \$ 430. The premium is less than half that quoted by SDRMA; Directors are not covered, but future volunteers in the field can be, with premiums roughly based upon wages assumed to be equal to the minimum wage. Approved 5-0.

1.2 Motion was made by Nelson, second by Whittington, to approve payment of additional premium of \$ 33.68 to **SDRMA** to insure contents of the District office (furniture, equipment, software, supplies, etc.). Long reported that initially the office contents was not covered, but after SAWA suffered a major loss when a pipe burst, flooding their office, she felt that the coverage was prudent Passed 5-0.

**b. Board Actions**

2.1 Motion was made by Nelson, second by Whittington, to approve invitation to Ms. **Kathi Head** to join the EMARCD Board as **Associate Director**. Ms. Head is retired from a career in public administration and redevelopment. She has a Masters in Environmental Studies from from California State University, Fullerton, and is interested in working on large-scale habitat-preservation issues. Approved 5-0.

2.2 Approval of resolutions related to Workers Compensation Insurance were not necessary due to the choice of State Fund as EMARCD's carrier. The item was dropped from the agenda at the request of the Manager.

2.3 Motion was made by Rahn, seconded by Nelson, to Approve Board Policy 2009-01, "**Board Meeting Conduct**". The Policy was revised as requested by the Board at the August meeting. Wheeler submitted a report in opposition, stating that the policy gave too much authority to the Board President without "compensating balance spelling out the duties and responsibilities of the Chair". Motion approved 4-1, Wheeler dissenting. Wheeler submitted a written dissent for the record.

2.4 Motion was made by Nelson, seconded by Rahn, to approve a request to **Mount San Jacinto College** for participation by **interns** from the MSJC Environmental Studies Department in EMARCD's programs and projects. Extensive discussion followed; Rahn cautioned that involvement with interns in the absence of a clear, detailed program with specific rules, deliverables, and benchmarks can be counterproductive for all concerned. By acclamation, it was decided to move the intern question off the agenda until a more detailed program can be developed.

Director Whittington left the meeting at 2:50 PM.

2.5. Rahn asked that this action item be changed to "**Review**" rather than "**Approve**" an agreement between EMARCD and **San Diego State University**. The agreement is to be a "Memorandum of Intent" rather than a "Memorandum of Understanding". Copies of a draft were distributed. The agreement has been forwarded to San Diego State's counsel for legal review. The Board asked that agreement be brought back for consideration at the October meeting, to give the Board a chance to review the document and compare it with other MOU's. Wheeler noted that he is in possession of several earlier MOU's that he believes are still in effect. He will provide those to Rogers for review and distribution to the Board.

### 3.1 Discussion Items

**District Counsel.** Attorney Abbe Broedling advised that the three new Board Policies had been reviewed by Counsel and were appropriate from a legal standpoint.

**District Manager.** Rogers reported on a chance meeting he had with Mr. Harold Myers, representing the owner of a 500+ acre property north of the Santa Margarita River and west of the SMR Ecological Reserve. It is known as "Thurber Ranch", and occupies the entirety of Gavillan Mountain. The owner is considering development of approximately 100 five-acre lots, but there are numerous obstacles to the development, including water supply, secondary access, and MSHCP issues. The owner also claims to be in negotiations with MCB Camp Pendleton, which may be interested in acquiring a conservation easement on the land to aid in protecting the Base water supply. Rahn said that he has had numerous contacts with the developer's representatives, and feels that development of the property is not imminent. There are several organizations that could be a part of future negotiations, including Trust for Public Lands, California Wildlife Conservation Board, The Nature Conservancy, EMARCD and San Diego State University.

**Director's Reports.**

- Nelson reported on a press release issued regarding the federal wilderness bill. Wendy Sparks is the local organizer for the California Wild Heritage campaign. Nelson asked Director Long to respond to Representative Issa's office. The Board agreed to support the legislation.
- Nelson also reported on the actions of the County "General Plan Advisory Committee" regarding "Smart Growth" visions and goals for the Anza community. Anza is changing from an agricultural to a residential committee, and according to the Chair of the GPAC they are not in a position to evaluate the groundwater situation. Recommendations will be considered by the Planning Commission in the near future.
- Rahn reported on the Liberty Quarry EIR effort, noting that Granite has a "Water Availability Letter" from Western Municipal Water District that will expire in February 2010. Availability of construction and operation water for the project is a serious question. A water use assessment will be required. EMARCD could assist by requesting input to the EIR on this issue from Sierra Club, California Avocado Commission and other affected organizations.

- Long said that EMARCD now has an "In Lieu Fee Number" from Army Corps of Engineers. She has been in contact with the Cities of Murrieta (Bob Kast) and Temecula (Mayor Edwards). There are several SAWA projects in Lake Elsinore, mostly involving tamarisk removal on the south shore (unincorporated areas) that EMARCD could be involved in. These would come with a 19% overhead payment to help support EMARCD. She has met with D.R. Horton representatives concerning habitat restoration areas in the French Valley area, west of Winchester road. She would like to find a grant for student bussing to the SMRER;

Rahn said that the Reserve would support such a program, but that San Diego State would have no way in the foreseeable future to fund staff costs.

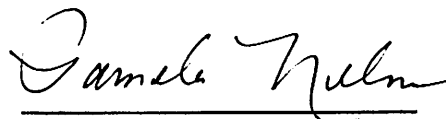
**NRCS Bob Hewitt:** Mr. Hewitt submitted an e-mail report, which is attached.

**Fire Safe Council:** No report

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Adjournment:** Moved by Nelson, second by Rahn, to adjourn to 1:30 PM October 9, 2009, approved 4-0 at 4:00PM



Pamela Nelson  
Secretary of the Board

Approved by Board of Directors October 9, 2009

Ayes 4 Noes 0 Abstained \_\_\_\_\_