

Minutes

Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza Resource Conservation District

Regular Meeting, Friday, Sept. 6th, 2013

Santa Rosa Plateau Visitor Center

Call to Order: 1:38pm

Roll Call: Directors Vicki Long, Pam Nelson, Gary Thomasian, Kathi Head (1:48pm), Matt Rahn, (2:10pm), Kelcey Strickler, associate director (1:50pm)

Legal counsel: Ray Johnson

NRCS: Bob Hewitt, absent

Public: Gary Nordquist (Wildomar City Manager) and Cheryl Carter. Cheryl is a resident of Lake Elsinore and is interested and is retired from a Utah irrigation district.

Motion to Approve the Agenda: Add action items and "none" removed. Move closed session to first of meeting after public comment. Thomasian, Long, 3-0

Minutes, July, 2013: Motion to approve, Head, Thomasian, 4-0

Public Comments: Nordquist told the Board of an upcoming event that we may want to participate in. Last November a parcel tax was approved by voters to fund Wildomar Parks for maintenance. Now after 2 years, there is a need to rehabilitate the parks. The SW Methodist church chose the parks as a project called the Great Day of Service. The goal is to get 500 volunteers to come to three of the parks to help with planting. 7Am to 1pm will be the time to volunteer. Native and drought-tolerant plants will be used.

Nordquist wanted to talk to us since the RCDs are agencies that can help communities with projects like this. He passed out the plant inventory and letter describing the project.

Strickler reviewed the inventory quickly, but will check more thoroughly and send him the Invasive Plant Council (IPC) list for a review.

There's a separate account number on the city website that will be used for the tax-deductible donations. Long will look into a Home depot discount and will send information about buffalo grass as a low-water and durable turf. The website will be up next Tuesday. Plaques, banners, tiles will give recognition to the donors.

Head spoke about the irrigation savings of using native plants since she worked on the Colony vegetative conversion project.

We discussed the use of native plants and how the public does not like the looks of the dormant stage in the summer. Management of pests is another issue so Head mentioned owl boxes and hot chili spray can be good deterrent for rodents. Poison is not a good choice.

Closed session (2:10pm): Reporting on ongoing issues.

Johnson made a report to the board and no action was made.

Adjourned and return to the regular meeting (2:20pm).

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

-Financial reports:

Long distributed the list of July/August bills. The board reviewed and approved, Nelson, Thomasian, 4-0.

Approval for payment of Johnson and Sedlack invoice for litigation fee invoice, \$1256.94. Thomasian, Head, 4-0

Long discussed the funds available for our mitigation activities and how the invoices will be tracked. Long asked for approval of \$1365 to be transferred from Union Bank to Wells Fargo general fund to reimburse for Live Oak Association's work on Greer Ranch and French Valley site monitoring. Thomasian, Head, 4-0.

-Correspondence: Bill Nelson thanked our board for our vote for his re-election to the CSDA board.

CSDA asked for our revenue report. They are asking for volunteers to be on their specialized committees. The newsletters were distributed.

-Board Action Items:

- 2.1 Accept Matt Rahn's letter of resignation as board member. Head, Nelson, 4-0, Rahn abstains. He would like to be an Associate Director so that he can be a consultant. Approved, Thomasian, Head, 4-0.
- 2.2 Associate director, Strickler, described her career history as an environmental scientist and consultant. She's worked on mitigation, restoration, wildlife movement and development processes/policies. Since there is a vacant board position now, the board appointed Kelcey as a new board member. Head, Thomasian, 4-0.

-Agency Reports: none

-Discussion Items: none

-Old Business: Discussion of on-going projects and grant applications

- CA State OHV grant: Nelson and Long are working with BLM and planning to finish by 2014

- Long will look into the stormwater grants
- Environmental Leader Award program: We will consider the City of Wildomar for the Parks program and the Anza Electric Coop for their alternative energy projects. Nelson will send more info to the board.

New Business: none

Directors' Requests for Future Agenda Items:

- Great Day of Service: our participation
- Future Associate directors

Monthly Reports:

- District Counsel: closed session (above).
- Firesafe Council/ RC&D: chipping will begin again
- Director Long: SAWA has lost their executive director and is looking for a new one. There's a reorganization underway.
- Long is going to ask the RCRCDD to help with a vegetative mapping of our tributaries.
- Southern California Safe Crossings project (wildlife crossings). Long talked with the artist Wyland about helping with fundraising. She will next talk to Senator Anderson and Caltrans. The question will be how to raise the funds.
- Wyland has a mobile educational vehicle that we could possibly recruit to send to schools in our district.
- Long discussed the Morgan Hill and Country Roads management and easement agreements. Long reported that she is doing a PAR for the Rancho Water District easement of of Guava Street. We have not heard from the Crown Hill easement project. Rahn suggested we look into an escape clause for our mitigation contracts. Also, there are better ways to receive the maintenance funding than receiving an endowment.
- Long reported on the result of our audit report. We have not been put on the agenda yet. Long will follow up on this with a letter. The Supervisors requested that we return. Long delivered our annual budget to the auditor on August 28th and received a stamped receipt.
- Director Nelson: Reported on the Salt and Nutrient management meetings. The next meeting is Sept. 11th. She reported and has talked to other locals, as a resident, about the green waste disposal that is occurring in the back-country with very little oversight. The county and the Regional Waterboard (region 9) is concerned and is asking for complaints. Rahn will send Nelson information to investigate. Maybe call CalFire. She is working with the Sierra Club on next year's celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness

Act. She reported on the group that is trying to form a new city that would extend from Vail Lake to the east side of Anza. The leaders of the movement, Johnson and Machado want to avoid the regulations of county code and the MSHCP.

Calendar of events

Sept. 11th: Temecula Salt and Nutrient Management meeting, IRWM grant. 1pm.

Oct.: Area RCD meeting in San Jacinto

Oct. 26th: Wildomar's Great Day of Service, 7am to 1pm.

Nov., 2013, Family Wildlife Festival at the Sta. Rosa Plateau.

Dec. 4th: Temecula Salt and Nutrient management meeting; 1pm

Adjournment: motion, Thomasian, Head, 5-0, 4:20pm

Gonda L Nelson Sept. 6th, 2013

Secretary's signature and date