

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
July 9, 2010  
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 1:40 PM on July 9, 2010 by President Long. Present were the following:

Directors Long, Nelson, Whittington, and Wheeler  
Associate Directors Head, Knoppel and Matrisciano  
General Manager Rogers  
General Counsel Johnson

Director Rahn was absent.

Visitors: Martha Bridges and Linda Ridenour

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

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

Motion was made by Nelson, second by Whittington, to approve Minutes of the June 11, 2010 regular meeting, as written. Wheeler questioned why his written Director's Report was not incorporated into the minutes. Rogers responded that the report was included in the record in its entirety.

Motion approved 4-0.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Martha Bridges introduced herself as President of the Butterfield Multi-Use Trails Committee, and introduced Linda Riidenour as the Vice President. The Committee was established in 1993; and it has emerged from dormancy and they are actively working with the Cities and Lake Elsinore, Wildomar and Murrieta, the County and the U.S. Forest Service to pull together an active trails network. Two staging areas have been designated, at Perret and Marna Obrien Parks, Trails from

County and the U.S. Forest Service to pull together an active trails network. Two staging areas have been designated, at Perret and Marna Obrien Parks, Trails from the two staging areas to the Forest Boundary connect with trail through the Forest to Elsinore Peak, making a long loop possible. Riverside County is grudgingly accepting the Committee's help, including use of volunteers to clear and maintain trails. The Cities and the County will do the heavy work. Wheeler questioned whether the trails were placed in dedicated easements; the speakers assured him that they were. Counsel noted that even in the absence of a recorded easement, prescriptive rights may exist. Long noted that Wildomar's original pre-incorporation "Vision Statement" included trails.

Matrisciano noted the relationship of the Butterfield trails situation to the major conference that he and Nelson attended on July 8, reported in detail later in the meeting.

Martha Bridges questioned the 60-day comment period on the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve's management plan, and asked if she could receive EMARCD's comments. Long noted confidence in the firm doing the plan; some trails may be changed, narrowed or eliminated due to overuse, and there may be other minor changes. Long asked if Johnson could write a response for EMARCD, to which he agreed.

Wheeler asked Bridges about the status of the Hoover Ranch project in Wildomar. She replied that the project is not in any way dormant; the developer is well-funded, they have been trying to build it for 15 years, and they are not going away. It is not defeated, just delayed. The EIR preparation will need to be carefully reviewed, as she does not believe that the City Staff can be trusted to do an honest evaluation.

#### **D. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Financial reports for June 2010, prepared by EMARCD's accounting firm, were reviewed by the Board.

Acceptance of the financial reports was moved by Nelson, second by Whittington. Wheeler objected to the format of the reports, stating that the sources of revenue are not apparent. Long said she would speak with the accountant about clarifying future reports. The financial reports were approved as submitted, 4-0.

#### **F. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Rogers presented correspondence as follows:

- 1.1 Letter from State Compensation Insurance Fund renewing Worker's Compensation. Rogers stated that the on-line renewal application has been completed; the renewal premium could be as low as the minimum \$200 with no employees. Insurance would cover Board members and volunteers working on District projects. Long questioned this, and asked if our General Liability coverage or Directors' personal insurance might cover. Rogers was told by the State Fund representative that Worker's Compensation would cover it. Long said she would look into it further before the premium is due in September.
- 1.2 California Special Districts Association, Ballot for Region Six Director, May 28, 2010. Action taken under "Action Items" below.
- 1.3 CSDA Proposed Bylaw Amendments, June 9, 2010. Action taken under "Action Items" below."

**G. DISTRICT EXPENSES**

Rogers reported no extraordinary expense for the month of June. The annual premium for General Liability insurance, \$1,410.80, was paid on July 7.

**H. BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

- 2.1 Vote for CSDA Director, Region 6,

After reviewing the written candidate statements, it was moved by Whittington, second by Nelson, to cast EMARCD's ballot for Bob Topolovac, Vice President of the Olivenhain Municipal Water District Board, Passed 4-0.

- 2.2 Vote for CSDA Bylaw amendments.

Rogers reviewed the proposed amendments, which he characterized as being essentially "clean-up" items defining membership status, voting procedures, resignation of director's and similar matters, and adding the Audit Committee as a standing committee. He recommended approval of the amendments. Moved by Wheeler, seconded by Whittington, approved 4-0.

- 2.3 Consideration of California Association of Resource Conservation District membership.

Rogers reminded the Board that they had asked in April for this to be reconsidered in July. The minimum dues are \$300. Moved by Nelson,

Second by Whittington to renew membership. Wheeler questioned the dues

amount and the benefits. Other members related several valuable benefits, including webinars, networking and the Annual Conference. Approved 3-1, Wheeler dissenting.

**J. Old Business**

**3.1 OHV Grant**

Rogers reported that he had met with Long and Nelson on June 15 to discuss carrying out the grant. We are waiting for an initial contact from the State Parks OHV Division to start work. Long stated that field work would probably start in the fall due to the heat and the fact that as a Restoration grant we actually have 3 years to complete it, although we would like to finish the initial planning this fiscal year so that we could submit a follow-up application for physical restoration work.

**3.2. Preparation of compiled financial statements for FY 2008-2009 and FY 2009-2010.**

Long reported a conversation with Laurie Marscher, CPA, estimating a charge of about \$600 to prepare compiled financial statements for submittal to the County Auditor. Moved by Whittington, second by Nelson, to authorize TRS to proceed with the work. Wheeler objected, saying that a full audit was required, and that we should contact the County Auditor for assistance. Motion approved 3-1, Wheeler dissenting.

**K. NEW BUSINESS**

**4.1 Approval of 2010-2011 Budget.**

Rogers presented the revised draft budget, as requested by the Board at the June meeting. The addition of \$300 for the CARCD dues, as previously approved, was requested. Any funds to be received from the OHV grant or other grants are not included. Moved by Whittington, second by Nelson, to approve a balanced budget in the amount of \$14,835. Approved 4-0.

**L. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. No requests were made.**

**M. MONTHLY REPORTS**

**District Counsel Johnson** reported on several projects of interest just north of the EMARCD boundary in the City of Menifee, the new Super Wal-Mart, and changes at Menifee Town Center. In Perris, 16 million square feet of new warehouse space is being proposed. Liberty Quarry EIR will be out soon; the County is being very quiet about the review process. He is representing Rural Communities United regarding the old Shamrock Materials batch plant on Highway 79 at Temecula Creek. It is now owned by Superior Readymix, and is operating as a legal non-conforming use. The Conditions of Approval for Shamrock's old Conditional Use Permit required removal of the batch plant after depletion of the original material deposit. Opening arguments in the lawsuit were made on July 8. Long offered EMARCD's assistance in accepting an easement on properties along Temecula Creek if it would assist in any way to resolve the lawsuit.

Johnson continues to work on matters pertaining to Greer Ranch, the Casino property in Lake Elsinore, and various easement matters concerning EMARCD.

**Rogers** reported on his efforts to complete work on various matters at the District office, as his last day with the District will be Monday, July 12. The Verizon service has been changed to per-minute charges for both local and long-distance calls, and the Internet connection has been lowered from 5mb/sec. to 1mb/sec., saving over \$100/month. He will clean up the minutes and filing on July 12. He asked for assistance from the Directors in establishing a backup protocol for the District computer files. Long said she would take care of it. Associate Director Matrisciano offered his assistance. Johnson recommended an on-line back from Carbonite.com.

Rogers expressed appreciation to the Directors for the opportunity to work with them during the past year, and offered his regrets that he was unsuccessful in identifying additional sources of funding. On behalf of the Board, Long thanked Rogers for his efforts, and challenged the other Directors to get back to shouldering the responsibilities that they had undertaken in past years.

**Nelson's** written report was received and distributed. She also mentioned the July 25 Sierra Sunday social fundraiser at Shadow Mountain Winery in Sunshine Summit. \$25 tickets are available from Lynn Davis.

**Nelson and Matrisciano** reported on their attendance July 8 at "The America's Great Outdoors Presidential Initiative" presentation at Occidental College in Los Angeles, and provided the Board with a copy of the program materials. Keynote speakers were U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and U.S. EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson. Many local groups were represented, and breakout sessions were well presented. Sierra Club, the California Wilderness Coalition, and several watershed groups attended.

Nelson was dismayed that some groups were there under false pretenses, particularly those representing off-highway motor vehicle interests.

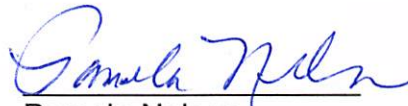
EMARCD Board of Directors  
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

July 9, 2010  
Page 6

**Knoppel** reported attendance at the horse manure management seminar put on by Mission RCD in Rainbow, and asked if EMARCD could do something similar. Long said she had attended the seminar as well, and supported the idea of a similar event put on by EMARCD. Johnson suggested Longshadow Ranch as a venue; Rogers suggested that County Waste Management Department, sponsors of the Master Composter Program, as a potential participant.

**Head** reported on her recent venture on a five-day service project with the Teton Science Center in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. She worked on bird box construction and placement, barbed wire removal, and other service projects intended to raise children's conservation consciousness. She also observed efforts on a national bird banding and census program. Long asked if such a program would work locally. General discussion ensued on possible programs at Dripping Springs campground (USFS), Lake Skinner, and the Santa Margarita River Ecological Reserve.

**Adjournment:** Moved by Whittington, second by Nelson, to adjourn to 1:30 PM August 13, 2010, approved 4-0, at 3:22 PM

  
Pamela Nelson  
Secretary of the Board

Approved by Board of Directors August 13, 2010

Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Noes \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained \_\_\_\_\_