



**Elsinore - Murrieta - Anza
Resource Conservation District**

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
February 19, 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 1:42 PM by President Long. Present were the following:

Directors Long, Nelson, and Wheeler
Associate Director Matrisciano
General Manager Rogers
Visitors Dan Wood and Annika Knoppel

Directors Whittington and Rahn and General Counsel Johnson were absent.

Motion was made by Nelson, second by Long, passed 3-0, to approve the Agenda.

B. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2009

Motion was made by Nelson, second by Long, to approve Minutes of the December 11, 2009 regular meeting, as written.

Approved, 3-0.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

D. FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial reports prepared by EMARCD's accounting firm were reviewed by the Board. Long explained that a new account had been established at Union Bank, at the recommendation of the District Accountants, to hold a \$75,000 endowment received from Shea Homes. This is to maintain a conservation easement on the property marketed as "Adeline's Farm", in the vicinity of Washington Street and Benton Road, just west of Lake Skinner, in the French Valley area. The easement was recorded February 5, 2010. The earnings from the endowment will be used to monitor and report on the condition of the easement, and to take such enforcement action as may be necessary under the terms of the easement agreement.

Acceptance of the financial reports was moved by Nelson, seconded by Wheeler, approved 3-0.

E. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Rogers presented correspondence as follows:

1. City of Wildomar, Joseph Kasiri and Steve Nauert. Change of Zone from Rural Residential (R-R) to Manufacturing-Service Commercial (M-SC. This is a zone change only, for a 2.2-acre parcel at the southeast corner of Clinton Keith Road and Jana Lane, north of I-15. There is no significant effect on any conservation issues that might be of concern to EMARCD,

2. California Association of Resource Conservation Districts Annual Convention, Squaw Valley. Rogers reported on the written material sent by CARCD. Wheeler asked why EMARCD belongs to CARCD, as a number of other RCD's do not, and he questioned whether the benefits of belonging are consistent with the cost. In the late 1990's there was a legislative proposal to carry out the original intent of RCD formation, but CARCD successfully lobbied against it. Long said that EMARCD's dues are paid to August, and the issue can be revisited prior to renewing. Nelson said that her experience with CARCD included a number of positive benefits, including the List Serve, training programs and beneficial interaction and information exchange with other RCD's.

Rogers was directed to place consideration of renewal of CARCD membership on the July agenda.

3. City of Temecula, notice of City Council hearing on February 23 for the Santa Margarita Area Annexation No. 2. No action required.

4. City of Lake Elsinore, Lake Elsinore Motocross Facilities, Change of Operations. This is a proposal to change the type of vehicles racing at the existing facility, and does not involve any significant changes to the existing venue. Rogers noted that the NOI was received after the public comment period had expired, and was asked by the Board to

discuss this with the City and request that future notifications be sent in a more timely manner.

Associate Director Head entered the meeting at 2:10 PM

5. City of Wildomar, NOI for Hoover Ranch, Tentative Tract Map 31895 Amd. No.8, with associated GPA and Change of Zone. Wheeler and Long noted the extensive history of this project, which pre-dated the formation of the City of Wildomar. Rogers was directed to gather information and prepare an appropriate response with the assistance of District Counsel Johnson.

F. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

2.1 Consideration of joining The Irrigation Association. Rogers introduced the Board to The Irrigation Association, a non-project trade group headquartered in Falls Church, Virginia. Informational materials from the Association were distributed, and the website (www.irrigation.org) was noted. The Association provides training and education in both ornamental and agricultural irrigation, and issues certifications for individuals in various disciplines that will be beneficial to EMARCD in its efforts toward further involvement in water conservation matters. The appropriate category of membership for the District is Associate (Government/University), with annual dues of \$300.

Moved by Wheeler, second by Nelson, to approve joining The Irrigation Association as an Associate Member (Government/University) for \$300 annual dues.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

OLD BUSINESS

Rogers described efforts to complete the California State Parks OHV Trust Fund Grant Application, including his frustration with the On-Line Grant Application process, and the excellent support he was receiving from the State Parks Staff in Sacramento. The submittal deadline is Monday, March 1 at midnight.

Nelson reported on her attendance at a capacity building grant workshop at Riverside County. The State Department of Water Resources has provided \$50,000 for a groundwater study in Anza. This and related efforts will be vital to the Anza and Aguanga communities, as future growth and development are tied to the availability of water. Many believe that there is insufficient groundwater to support significant growth or development in the area.

Nelson also reported on the upcoming Small Farms Conference planned for February 28-March 2 at the Del Mar Marriott Hotel. She is volunteering on behalf of EMARCD in a number of areas. The local Small Farms conference proposed to be hosted by EMARCD

(tentative dates Nov. 13,-14, 2010) was discussed; MWD and the Riverside County Farm Bureau were mentioned as possible sources of the estimated \$2,000 to \$3,000 in seed money that will be needed. Local tours, a food tasting event, and workshops were mentioned as possible activities. Wheeler suggested that a one-day event might be more manageable.

Nelson also discussed ongoing watershed education efforts. She is interested in promoting educational efforts through the public schools, the Boys and Girls Club, Scout troops, and others. Nelson and Long met recently with Jason Hlebakos, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies at Mount San Jacinto College. A Funding Fair was held on February 2, attended by various State agencies, where sources of funding were displayed.

NEW BUSINESS None.

MONTHLY REPORTS

District Counsel Johnson was not present.

District Manager Rogers had no further report on activities other than as noted above.

Director's Reports:

Long reported on attendance at the Upper Santa Margarita River IRWMP Stakeholder Workshop on February 16 at the Rancho California Water District office. The meeting was also attended by Nelson, Wheeler and Rogers. Long has also attended the regular meetings of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board and SAWA, met with MSJC's Jason Hlebakos along with Director Nelson, and is currently taking UCR Riverside Extension classes on GPS use and on Grant Funding. She has met with Riverside County Supervisor Tavaglione to determine how EMARCD can assist Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District in maintaining its MS4 permits and is also working on MOU's with the Cities of Lake Elsinore, Wildomar, and Temecula. The MOU with Murrieta is complete; Rahn is working on the MOU with SDSU.

Associate Director Head reported that she had been asked to address the RCWD Board on behalf of the Colony HOA, regarding the need for landscape conversion programs and funding to be provided for homeowners' associations, along with public outreach for HOA members on irrigation water conservation matters.

Long and Nelson reported that they had attended a meeting at RCWD with Metropolitan Water District representatives. MWD may have more funds available for water-saving initiative.

Associate Director Matrisciano arrived at 3:05 PM, reporting on behalf of the Fire Safe Council of a grant application for preparation of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

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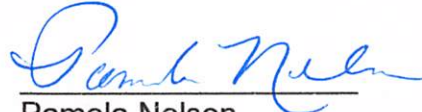
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Rogers presented a brief written report dated February 16 from District Conservationist Robert S. Hewitt, Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, in lieu of an in-person report.

Adjournment: Moved by Nelson, second by Wheeler, to adjourn to 1:30 PM March 12, 2010, approved 3-0 at 3:10 PM



Pamela Nelson
Secretary of the Board

Approved by Board of Directors March 12, 2010

Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstained 2