

Minutes

Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza Resource Conservation District Regular meeting, Friday, Oct. 8, 2010, 1:30pm Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve, Visitor Center

Motion to approve the agenda: Dir. Whittington, second, Dir. Nelson, vote, 5-0

Call to order: 1:54pm

Attendees: Directors: Vicki Long, Matt Rahn, Pam Nelson, Bob Wheeler and Terry Whittington
Associate Director: Kathi Head (2:30pm)

Counsel: Ray Johnson

Public: David Larom and Eric Humel, SDSU

9/10/10 minutes: motion to approve, Dir. Nelson, second, Dir. Rahn, vote, 5-0.

Public comment: Dir. Rahn invited Dr. Larom and Eric Humel to discuss the new SDSU sustainable farming project called CREATE. The project is a result of a food security class Dr. Larom taught last Spring. The name of the farm might be Aztec Farm and the purpose would be to grow food and treat the land well while conserving water. This could be an CSU Extension site where there would be community and student participation.

Eric has experience in many fields including Agricultural Ecology. This site would be used as a demonstration farm as well as for education, outreach and research. Ideas for types of produce, distribution and sale of food, paybacks (beauty, groundwater recharge, wildlife, etc) were discussed. Using a pastoral system and an agriforest method would increase the diversity of the site.

Initial funding for the project would be approximately \$50,000. Dir. Long will contact our NRCS rep., Bob Hewitt, to ask for services. Shea O'Keefe, from the Escondido office, would be a good NRCS staff person to help since she is already working at SMER on various projects.

A motion was made by Dir. Rahn to have Dr. Larom send the proposal for CREATE to our Board for review. Seconded by Dir. Whittington and passed 5-0.

Financial Reports: Ray Johnson: 1) why is our land not listed as an asset? Dir. Wheeler asked if we can sell our land? Ray said yes, that's why it is an asset.
2) not enough break down of endowment fund
3) more explanation needed on Balance sheet for tracking

Dir. Long said changing the Balance sheet can be very expensive. Ray Johnson suggested creating a separate sheet, then.

Motion to approve the Financial Report with investigation into ways to have more clarity of assets. Dir. Rahn, second, Dir. Whittington, vote, 5-1, Dir. Wheeler opposed.

Correspondence: Workshop on Insects and Diseases affecting Native Oaks, Oct. 20, 2010.
Cleanups on Oct. 23rd for the Santa Margarita River watershed and Lakeland Village. The EMARCD participation is with food and funding.

District Expenses: no extraordinary expenses

Action Items: none

Old Business:

On-going projects and grant applications:

California State Parks OHV Grant: Long and Nelson will meet with BLM and Grant reps.

New Business: Discussion of TNC land next to SMER

A 20-acre parcel on the North end of SMER offered as a donation to the SDSU Foundation serving as a matching fund. The paperwork was too messy and the offer was rejected. There are easement for public access, horse trails and a road along the edge. TNC wants a conservation

easement over it once it is donated so these uses need to be eliminated. Ray Johnson said these can be taken care of by the county through consent items on agendas. Dir. Rahn suggested that the RCD consider taking this parcel once the paperwork is done.

Dir. Whittington made the motion to have Dir. Rahn send the details to Ray Johnson for review.

Dir. Nelson seconded and motion approved, 5-0.

Monthly reports:

Dir. Nelson submitted a written report and added her work on a Wildlife Crossings proposal to the Resilient Habitat project of the Sierra club. She is also working with local high schools (Temecula Valley, Murrieta Mesa and Hamilton) through the Environmental Youth Program (CREEC).

Adjournment at 3:29pm: motion to approve, Dir. Nelson, second, Dir. Rahn, vote, 4-0

Secretary's signature: 