

## **Minutes**

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

Regular Meeting, Thursday, Feb. 3, 2014

Santa Rosa Plateau Visitor Center

#### **Call to Order: 1:35pm**

**Roll Call:** Directors Vicki Long, Pam Nelson, Gary Thomasian (absent), Kathi Head and Kelcey Stricker. Associate Directors, Matt Rahn, (absent) and Dave McElroy,

Legal counsel: Ray Johnson (absent)

NRCS: Bob Hewitt

Public: none

**Report on proposed Baseline Funding for RCDs from the State:** Paul Williams (Area chair of the SoCal Inland Region ) and Mandy Parks (IERCD)

Paul met with the CARCD along with the Area RCD representatives for a quarterly meeting. Paul was impressed with the CARCD and how they work on Bills and conservation strategy. They know all the legislators and non-profits.

The RCDs major "asks" were to be recognized and more visible and to be assisted in funding. To receive funding the RCDs need to follow basic criteria that Paul and Mandy discussed. They passed out information on the Tier 1, 2 and 3 scoring levels that we will need to follow. Once the RCDs are compliant, the Dept. of Conservation will ask for funding from the CA State Budget. Some RCDs will be eliminated and it is recommended that some merge. For instance, we could merge with San Jacinto Basin.

**Motion to Approve the Agenda:** Head, Stricker, 4-0, Stricker (yes), Long(yes), Head(yes), Nelson(yes)

**Minutes, January 10, 2014.** Motion to approve, Stricker, Head, 4-0; Stricker (yes ), Long(yes ), Head(yes ), Nelson(yes )

**Public Comments:** n/a

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

**1.1 Financial reports:** Long distributed the Financial Report showing a new format. The Balance Sheet reflected the 6-month period ending in December 31, 2013. There was also the list of February expenses and accounts.

Vote to approve February Bills to be paid: Nelson, Stricker; 4-0, Stricker (yes ), Long (yes ), Head(yes ), Nelson(yes )

**1.2 Correspondence:** Received letter from the SDRMA that we will be awarded a discount due to our 12-year good customer record. Another letter received was sent from our legal counsel, stating there could be a conflict of interest with our Board Chair since she is on the Board on another group that. The third letter was from the IERCDC signed by the Board President, Paul Williams, stating that their RCD will be resigning from the South Coast Resource Conservation & Development Council, effective Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

**2.1 Approve updated Investment Policy:** Head, Stricker, 4-0, Stricker (yes ), Long(yes ), Head(yes ), Nelson(yes )

**2.2 Approve updated Records Retention Policy:** Nelson, Head, 4-0, Stricker (yes ), Long(yes ), Head(yes ), Nelson(yes )

**Agency Report:** Bob Hewitt, NRCS

--34 Cost-sharing applications were accepted for irrigation improvements. They can receive soil sensors, retrofitting of equipment and advice from this funding. This program is funded by Rancho Water District from a grant that is matched by the local NRCS EQUIP funding.

He is helping the tribes, Santa Rosa and Cahuilla Reservations with irrigation improvements and cattle management.

Another program is an air quality program to get rid of all old tractors due to the pollution impacts of these vehicles.

He's working with farmers to make Agricultural erosion control plans.

**Old Business:**

**3.1 Discussion of on-going projects and grant applications**

--CA State Parks OHV grant: Report due in March

--Leadership Awards program; Ponte or Europa are being considered. Stricker will look into a tour for Europa. Johnson and Nelson will contact Ponte.

--Safe Crossings for Wildlife project: There will be a special meeting with the Board to discuss this project. Long is working on how to get fund-raising by creating a 501c3 to fund this project. Nelson brought up discussions with the Cleveland National Forest about the need for the project since the Trabuco and Palomar Districts are fragmented due to the Freeway 15. Long said we need to partner to get support.

**New Business:**

4.1 700 forms are due in March, bring yours to the next meeting

4.2 Ethics training in March and April

**Directors' Requests for Future Agenda Items:**

Special meeting for the Safe Crossings Project

**Monthly Reports:**

5.1 Director's Reports: none

**Calendar:**

--Feb.:

--March: file 700 forms due

--April: Recycling Fashion Show at Monte de Oro

--May:

**Adjournment: 3:45pm.** Motion, Nelson, Head, 3-0; Long (yes), Head (yes), Nelson (yes)

*Garrett Nelson 3/13/14*

**Secretary's signature and date**