

# Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza Resource Conservation District

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, April 10, 2008 -- 2:00pm

Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve – Visitor Center  
39400 Clinton Keith Road, Murrieta, CA 92562

### Members Present:

Pamela Nelson, President  
Vicki Long, Vice President  
Bob Wheeler, Treasurer  
Charolette Fox, Secretary  
Terry Whittington, Director  
Dan Matrisciano, Associate Director

### Members Absent/Excused

Bob Hewitt, NRCS

### Staff or Guests Present:

Tom Bond

### Reportable Closed Session Discussions

No Closed Session was held.

### Motion to Approve the Agenda as Presented:

Motion to add Item 7.7, Special District Association Election; M/S Long/Fox, Carried 5-0

#### 1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

President Pam Nelson called the meeting to order at 2:17pm. Self introductions were made.

#### 2.0 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of January 10, 2008 were approved; M/S Nelson/Wheeler. Minutes of March 13, 2008 were approved; M/S Long/Whittington.

#### 3.0 Financial Report

Bob Wheeler reviewed the Financial Report with the Board. He asked for clarification about an entry titled "Casino Property" on the Special Board Summary of March 31, 2008. Vicki Long responded that "Casino Property" refers to a development property, and it is not related to any Indian Gaming facility. M/S Nelson/Whittington to accept the Financial Report; Carried 5-0.

#### 4.0 Public Comments

a) Guest Tom Bond lives in Rainbow and he is concerned about a race track to be built by the Pala Indian Reservation. Tom currently monitors the decibel levels over the Pala Reservation and has graphed the ambient sound levels. Although construction noise is audible, so far the ambient levels are not above the legal limit. He has written three (3) letters to San Diego County Supervisor Bill Horn and a response is expected. The property in question is right over the San Luis River and leaching of sewage and oil does occur.

Tom called the land leasee and the track developer, who knowingly or unknowingly volunteered additional information. President Nelson has toured the site and will keep in contact with the U.S. EPA regarding biological studies. The contact in Sacramento is Amy Miller. Pam suggested that Tom also contact the new Sierra Club for Temecula and request a presentation.

b) Tom is aware of a new power plant proposed near Hwy 76 in San Diego County near the Pala Reservation. He asked the EMARCD Board whether this would be a natural gas plant. The Board has no

specific knowledge of this project and directed Tom to the California Energy Commission for more information.

## **5.0 Presentations**

None

## **6.0 Correspondence**

President Nelson briefly reviewed correspondence and materials that had been received.

## **7.0 Action Items - Approval requires a majority vote of directors.**

### **7.1 Submission of Bills for Payment**

a) Vicki Long presented a voucher for In-Kind expenses of \$1,500 made as a retainer payment of attorney Ray Johnson. Invoices for legal services will be presented by Mr. Johnson when services are rendered.

b) The semi-annual charges for the storage unit will be invoiced in early May. In order not to delay payment, it was moved to pay this invoice upon receipt. M/S Wheeler/Long, Carried 5-0.

### **7.2 Mitigation**

No issues for action.

### **7.3 Anza Earth Day Event**

Pam anticipates EMARCD expenses to be \$150. M/S Wheeler/Long that expenses be capped at \$150. Carried 5-0

Pam asked for volunteers to help set up and staff the booth at Hamilton High School on April 26. Charolette agreed to help from 9:00am to Noon, to provide copies of the EMARCD newsletter and materials from Master Gardeners and Master Composters. The Board discussed other possible exhibits and displays.

### **7.4 Save Our Southwest Hills (SOS) "Bango" List**

A list of businesses and supporters is being developed by SOS under the acronym of "Bango." The project relates to Liberty Quarry. During discussion it was suggested that EMARCD get more information and also review the EIR before joining the list. M/S Long/Nelson, Carried 5-0.

### **7.5 AB 1618 (Hollingsworth) - re Landscape Fire Clearance**

This bill died in committee of the California State legislature. The concern expressed was the increase of residential brush clearance from 100 feet to 500 or 1,000 feet.

### **7.6 Meeting with Mission RCD**

Bob reported that Scott Murray, President of Mission RCD, is setting up a date to meet with members of the EMARCD. Bob, Pam, Vicki, and Ray Johnson as our attorney will be included. The purpose is to discuss mitigation opportunities that lie within EMARCD District boundaries. Vicki related that recently a mitigation opportunity in La Cresta was referred to EMARCD by Judy Mitchell, Executive Director for Mission RCD.

### **7.7 LAFCO Nominations for the Special District Association**

Each dues paying member of the Special District Association will have an opportunity to vote on one (1) alternate member of LAFCO. Pam presented three (3) names of potential candidates for the Board's consideration: Brian Buescher, Nancy Wright, and Robert Rodriguez. Other candidates may be nominated from the floor at the meeting to be held in Beaumont [April 10]. M/S Long/Nelson, Carried 5-0, to support Brian Buescher of the De Luz CSD for election.

## **8.0 Reports**

### **8.1 Agency Reports**

None

## 8.2 Director's Reports

Pam referred to her written report and briefly mentioned site visits that are planned. She noted that EMARCD is mentioned for our mapping efforts in the SAWA Annual Report. She announced a tour of the Santa Margarita River will be held May 17 by the Bureau of Reclamation. Frank Miller will be the tour leader.

Vicki presented a written report and updated the Board on mapping efforts being assisted by Dr. Hopkins.

Charolette submitted a written report. Bob indicated he was aware of earlier efforts by Master Gardeners to provide free public workshops for residents and teachers. He asked if EMARCD could aid the Master Gardener program in their efforts with the City of Temecula to re-establish this program, and suggested that if a letter of support is needed it would be appropriate for EMARCD to write a letter. Not enough information is available currently to know whether a letter is needed.

Bob updated the Board on issues of concern for the Wine Country, and for Anza. He reported a packed auditorium for the informational meeting presented by the Water Master. Bob and Dan are working together on other land use and fire safe issues.

## 8.3 Associate Director's Report

Dan Matrisciano reported on the rural aspect of lands within urban areas and referred to Meadow View as such a community. He noted that the future of Burrowing Owls, as well as other wildlife and native habitat, are ongoing concerns for the area. In addition, Dan explained the large maps he has prepared to show areas close to Wine Country that are threatened or already adversely impacted by illegal off-road vehicles.

## 8.4 Firesafe Council Report

Two grants of \$100,000 each were submitted, and have been approved.

## 8.5 Committee Reports

Committee Chairs reports were covered during Director Reports.

## 9.0 Old Business

Pam referred the Board to the Agenda for Old Business items.

## 10.0 New Business

CARCD - Bob, Charolette, and Dan will attend the Baja Region Annual Meeting on April 30. EMARCD's annual report/newsletter will be available for distribution.

### Search for Grant Writer

It's realized the unique nature of an RCD will require an experienced grant writer. Vicki will ask Dr. Hopkins to suggest some names.

### EMARCD Budget

A budget must be available by June 1, 2008; the Chart of Accounts, paid invoices, and past financial statements will be used as reference documents.

## 11.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26pm.

Charolette Fox  
Charolette Fox, Secretary

April 10, 2008  
Date Approved

*approved as corrected,  
corrections noted in minutes  
of May 8, 2008*