

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of December 14, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Olga Diaz - Chair
Jim Cunningham-Vice Chair
Dianne Jacob
Lesa Heebner
Sherri Lightner
Don Mosier
Pam Slater-Price
Tom Golich
Becky Bartling

REPRESENTING

City of Escondido
City of Poway
County of San Diego
City of Solana Beach
City of San Diego
City of Del Mar
County of San Diego
Citizens Advisory Committee
22 District Agricultural Association

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Wayne Brechtel	JPA Counsel
Dick Bobertz	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Susan Carter	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Shawna Anderson	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Dave Roberts	Supervisor-elect
Jacqueline Winterer	Friends of the SDRV
Phil Pryde	Audubon Society
Rand Newman	San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Pat Tennant	Southern California Edison

Introduction and Announcements

Chair Diaz convened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the County Administration Building, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 358, San Diego, CA 92101

The River Park staff and Board members introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes of October 19, 2012-

It was noted that page 6 of the minutes had an error, which should be corrected to show that Jay Powell spoke, not Jake Powell. Boardmember Slater-Price made a motion to approve the minutes of October 19, 2012 as corrected, Boardmember Heebner seconded the motion. All in favor, with Boardmembers Jacob and Lightner abstaining.

Executive Director's Report- Director Bobertz reported on the settlement of the lawsuit with the 22nd District Agricultural Association.

Public Comment- Jacqueline Winterer asked the Board members to try to keep their seats on the JPA Board. Several Board members said that committee assignments in the jurisdictions had not been completed yet.

CONSENT

1. FY 2012/13 Budget Amendment (to appropriate grant funds received)
2. Application for Recreational Trails Program Grant
3. Acceptance of Donation of Two Trailers

Boardmember Slater-Price made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Boardmember Jacob seconded. Vice-Chair Cunningham supported the motion. All in favor.

ACTION

4. Nominating Committee for Next Year's Chair and Vice-Chair and Committees

Chair Diaz appointed Board Members Golich, Lightner and Mosier to serve on the Nominating Committee. Board member Golich volunteered to be the Chair of the committee. Vice-Chair Cunningham moved approval, Supervisor Slater-Price seconded, all approved.

5. Southern California Edison Wetland Restoration Project

Executive Director Bobertz explained that he had negotiated with SCE regarding their obligation to provide office space for the rangers at the lagoon per the existing agreement. He felt that the proposed amendment to the agreement is the best result of that negotiation. It provides for SCE to pay the JPA \$4,000 per month for ten years, after which time SCE would have no further obligation to provide office space or storage or additional payments for office space or storage to the JPA. Board member Jacob asked if the money would be put into a separate account designated for the Ranger Station. Mr. Bobertz said yes. Ms. Jacob asked Pat Tennant, the SCE project manager, if SCE could advance the money so that the JPA could use it now to build the Ranger Station, but Mr. Tennant said that SCE would not approve paying the money upfront. He explained that the funding that SCE has available comes from three buckets: Operations & Maintenance, Capital, and Shareholders. The last bucket provides for some corporate giving opportunities, and he said that JPA could apply for grants through that source. Board member Golich commented that interest rates are very low right now, so that obtaining a mortgage using the collateral provided by the SCE revenue stream in the amendment to the agreement would be good timing. Board member Jacob moved approval of the proposed amendment to the trails management agreement with SCE. Motion seconded by Mr. Golich. All in favor.

Pat Tennant gave the Board an update on the progress of the SCE Wetland Restoration Project. He thanked Supervisor Slater-Price for all her help over the years. He said that this has been a productive year. At the end of 2011 the inlet was opened. The revetment at the turn in the river was constructed. Independent CCC monitoring has been ongoing on this wetland site and the two reference sites. He said that we will have annual reports. The bird species numbers have doubled with the implementation of the project, and the fish and eel grass moved right in.

6. Meeting with the Mayor of San Diego

Executive Director Bobertz recommended that the Board appoint a Committee to meet with the Mayor to discuss deferred contributions amounting to \$675,296 as of the date of the meeting

(\$700,296 less the \$25,000 provided by Councilmember's Lightner from her office budget), disputed city charges of \$248,216 for city staff time associated with construction of the West Bernardo Bike Path, and renewing the JPA agreement. Board member Jacob said the meeting focus should also include resuming the City's regular annual contribution. Chair Diaz asked for volunteers from the Board to meet as a group with the Mayor. Board members Cunningham and Heebner volunteered. Chair Diaz also asked Supervisor-elect Dave Roberts to participate on the committee, and he agreed. Chair Diaz asked Board member Lightner if she would like to join the committee, but she said she would prefer to negotiate with the Mayor separately. Motion to approve: Board member Cunningham, 2nd Board member Slater-Price, all in favor.

INFORMATION

7. Status Reports (Oral)

- a. River Park Projects- Staff reported on the status of the lighting on the David Kreitzer Lake Hodges Bike/Ped Bridge. Agreement has been conceptually reached for the JPA to hook into a City pullbox. However, a permit from Caltrans will be required because the conduit will run along the Caltrans overpass structure.

Susan Carter reported that staff is hoping to get the Lagoon Trailside Open Air Classroom on the January Coastal Commission agenda so that Phase One can begin before the bird nesting season.

Susan Carter reported on the enormous progress made at the Santa Ysabel Backcountry Interpretive Center. The space is shared by the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, San Diego River Park Foundation, Volcan Mountain Foundation and Wildlife Research Institute. She said that SOHO had done a great job of stocking the "general store" with interesting, old-fashioned items to purchase. She urged the Board members to make a trip up there soon during the hours it is open, from 11-5, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

8. Coordination Reports (oral)

- a. San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy- No report
- b. Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley- No report
- c. Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation-No report
- d. San Dieguito Lagoon Committee- No report

9. Jurisdictional Status Reports- Becky Bartling reported that the expansion of Horsepark has been a cooperative experience with the River Park staff and now the Horsepark Trail is almost done. She added that the restoration of the west portion of the south lot has been approved.

Chair Diaz reported that the Amgen bicycle tour is planned for May 2013. It will start off in downtown Escondido, but will use roads along the San Dieguito River Park. People will attend from all over the world, coming in a week in advance. This is an opportunity to showcase the Park. She also reported that Escondido Creek Conservancy had received \$25,000 to create a pocket park.

Chair Diaz adjourned the meeting at 11:00. She invited all present to join the Board upstairs for a farewell tribute to Supervisor Slater-Price.

These minutes approved by Board Action

Date

Executive Director