

**SAN LUIS REY WATERSHED COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES: 07/27/2009**

- **(Item 1) Call to Order:** 1:05

- **(Item 2) List of Attendees present on 07/27/2009:**

Cynthia Mallett	City of Oceanside
Scott Norris	County of San Diego, Department of Public Works
David Allen	Fallbrook Land Conservancy
Joshlynn Tanner	Native American Environmental Protection Coalition (NAEPC)
Heidi Brow	Pala Band of Mission Indians
Bud Swanson	Rainbow Stakeholder
Don Bowman	Rainbow Stakeholder
Amy Campbell	US DOI Bureau of Reclamation
Paul Dorey	Vista Irrigation District

- **(Item 3) Approval of Minutes:**

Hard copies of the minutes from June 22, 2009 were available at today's meeting; however approval of those minutes will be moved to the August Meeting in order to give everyone a chance to review them for any changes.

- **(Item 4) SLRWC Incorporation & Nonprofit Formation Status:**

Now that we have opened a bank account at the Pacific Western Bank in Fallbrook, Cynthia Mallett will be able to mail the IRS Form, which will set our status as a non-profit organization.

The San Luis Rey Watershed Council has a new address!!

**San Luis Rey Watershed Council
PO Box 1435
Bonsall, CA 92003**

The SLRWC discussed putting a "financial update" item on the monthly agenda, which will be done by the Chief Financial Officer, David Allen. This month David reported that the SLRWC has set up a bank account, and as of June 30, 2009, we have \$458.00 in our account.

- **(Item 5) Pala Raceway:**

The SLRWC/David Allen sent a letter to the Pala Band of Mission Indians (PBMI) on July 1st, 2009, to voice their concern over noise issues from the Pala Raceway; PBMI sent a response letter back to the SLRWC on July 24, 2009. The PBMI letter invited the SLRWC to suggest mitigation measures they might like to see implemented, and to provide further details on any complaints they might have received (ie: date/location of complaint, weather conditions, decibel readings if any, etc). It is important to note that the raceway, being on a federal land (Tribal land) is not subject to state or county jurisdiction; the Tribe must meet all applicable federal regulations, which they have done.

David Allen reported that he met with a noise expert, who told him that 2 & 4 stroke motors make different sounds, and can be difficult to monitor the noise levels of, depending on topography, weather, etc. He looked into the American Motorcycle Association, which he reports has noise standards, and someone from that agency would be available to come out to monitor noise for \$25/hour. David also reported that some people were voicing concerns over possible expansion activities such as monster track and drag races; however, the PBMI representative refuted those claims as being unfounded rumors, and had not originated from the Tribe.

There were 2 individual Rainbow homeowners, Bud Swanson and Don Bowman, who attended the SLRWC meeting in order to voice their concerns as impacted property owners. They both contacted the Tribe to voice concerns over the noise from the raceway, and have been working with PBMI and raceway staff, all of whom have come to their residences for site visits. The homeowners report that these noise issues are impacting their lifestyles, saying they feel that they can no longer work or eat outside in their yards. Their houses are approximately 5 miles away from the raceway. Bud reports that he feels the Tribe is working with them on solutions and is concerned with how the local community feels; he said he is willing to give it some time to see if the noise mitigation measures are working.

It is important that the community understand that, as a sovereign nation, the Pala Tribe is subject only to federal regulations (not state or county), and the Pala Environmental Department is the compliance authority in this case. It is recommended that anyone wishing to voice their complaint should do so to the correct authority, the Tribe; any comments or complaints should be sent, in writing, to the Tribal Chairman / PBMI. The propagation of noise can be a complex issue, with many variances due to weather conditions (ie: smog/mist or full sun), natural topography which can amplify or dampen the noise, and many other items. This is why, the more specific your complaint (ie: dates, times, locations where the noise was heard, description of the extent or type of disturbance, weather observations, and decibel data, if available), the more thoroughly the Tribe can address those concerns. If there are any mitigation measures you would like to see implemented, please send those in as well. Only concerns made in writing to the Tribe will be considered, and to date the Tribe had only received 4 such letters.

- **(Item 6) Administrative Issues:**

Annual Budget:

Cynthia Mallett put together some preliminary figures of what we would need to start for a bare-bones budget, and came up with a minimum of \$1500; David Allen recommended setting a minimum budget of around \$5000 to start with. Some items we may want to include are: filing fees; printing/telephone/postage costs; insurance for board members; post office box rental; website maintenance fees; and travel/legal fees. It was noted that we should draft a simple budget for now, with only the bare necessity of expenses that we will have every year; we should leave off projects (ie: website maintenance, etc) and those expenses not strictly required right now to get this organization up and running. Additionally, any budget that is set now is only a preliminary draft, as it is the responsibility of the board to develop and approve a budget.

Annual Meeting:

The SLRWC's Annual Meeting will be held October 26, 2009, at our usual meeting location: Fallbrook Public Utility Meeting Room. The items that we **must** do during the annual meeting are: hold a vote to elect the Board of Directors for the SLRWC; certify the meeting minutes. We discussed the possibility of providing free food at the meeting, to draw some additional stakeholders. Some of the possible keynote speakers the SLRWC threw around include: George Wilkins (flood & fire issues on the SLR Watershed); Rob Roy/La Jolla (water monitoring projects); DFG or NOAA representative (steelhead issues/plans).

We should definitely present some preliminary short and long-term work plans, as well as discuss how to increase membership and other ways to raise some money for the group.

It was agreed upon to convene a subcommittee (tentatively scheduled for August 7th) to: draft emails to membership requesting update information and nominations for the board; determine the nomination protocols/forms, as set by our by-laws; set long and short-term work plan goals; set a preliminary budget; plan the annual meeting; and get the necessary paperwork/nomination forms/etc. out on time. We also need to work on updating the current membership information (ie: designated voting members, correct contact information, attendance records).

We will be sending out an email to all of our members to alert them to the fact that we are calling for SLRWC Board of Director nominations, between now and the October meeting. Members can either self-nominate, or else nominate others for the positions. The only requirements are that those nominated must have a letter on file from their organization that designates them as voting members, and they must attend at least 2 consecutive meetings before the October 26th meeting (they will be considered eligible to run/vote at their 2nd meeting attended, even if that's the October 26th meeting).

Possible Website:

The SLRWC discussed the possibility of setting up a small website, that would (initially) hold our monthly meeting minutes, by-laws, voting actions, general information about our group and our watershed, and descriptions of projects going on in/around the SLR Watershed. It is reported that Microsoft Office Live has templates you can use to set up a simple website, and it only costs \$15 to buy the domain site.

VOTING ITEM

(Authorizing the purchase of a website domain, specifically, www.slrwc.org):

The SLRWC would like to set up a simple website, and would like to purchase the domain name: www.slrwc.org.

- Paul Dorey MOTIONED to accept the purchase of the website domain name: www.slrwc.org
- Scott Norris SECONDED the motion
- CALL FOR DISCUSSION: no views were voiced/discussed
- CALL TO VOTE: Motion to accept was passed unanimously.

• **(Item 7) News and Reports From Attendee's:**

Cynthia Mallett ~ City of Oceanside:

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has cancelled the August 12th meeting, regarding the issue of granting Gregory Canyon Limited their waste discharge permit, on the grounds that Gregory Canyon's EIR is no longer complete, now that Olivenhain MWD has backed out of providing Gregory Canyon with recycled water.

A new Steelhead issue has come up—NOAA is seeking public comment on their draft plan to recover endangered steelhead trout in southern California, and will be hosting a public workshop in August. The public workshop will be held August 25th, from 3pm to 5pm, at the Carlsbad Fish & Wildlife Office (6010 Hidden Valley Rd, Carlsbad). The public comments must be received by NOAA by 5pm on September 21st; you can email comments to steelheadplan.swr@noaa.gov; you can mail written comments to—Penny Ruvelas, National Marine Fisheries Service, 501 West Ocean Blvd., suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213. ****Please note: this is a different steelhead report / issue that has come up, separate from the Department of Fish & Game’s draft report—San Luis Rey Watershed Assessment for Steelhead.****

For more information, please see: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/recovery/>

To view a copy of the 430 page plan:

http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/recovery/So_cal/southern_california_steelhead_public_draft_recovery_plan.pdf

Heidi Brow ~ Pala Band of Mission Indians:

Pala Band of Mission Indians will be hosting a tire collection event August 24-29, at the Pala Tribal Transfer Station. The Transfer Station is right off of Highway 76, directly across from the Pala Raceway. This tire collection event is open to everyone, and is made possible through grant funds from the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB).

Joshlynn Tanner ~ Native American Environmental Protection Coalition (NAEPC):

NAEPC hosted an educational event for tribal kids last weekend at the Lazy H Ranch. They had lots of education / outreach on water conservation and alternative energies. They had a great turnout, with kids from lots of the different local tribes.

Amy Campbell ~ US DOI Bureau of Reclamation:

Amy recommended that the SLRWC submit some of their long term plans (once we’ve drafted them) to the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), on items such as water conservation, water recycling, brine studies, or storm water recharge pilot programs. BOR may be able to consider some of these projects for funding. Amy also stated that she had contacts from the LA/San Gabriel Watershed, if that would be useful for our group.

Paul Dorey ~ Vista Irrigation District:

Paul Dorey is now the president of the Board for Vista Irrigation District, which has given him a lot more responsibility (and work). Most recently, he has been working on the tier level changes, necessary to help consumers conserve more water.

David Allen ~ Fallbrook Land Conservancy:

David reported the National Park Department of the Interior has grants available (due date: August 1) for trail planning; this would be a great project to partner on with the County or a local tribe.

The California Special District Association (CSDA) had an article: “The Economic Crisis—Are Grants the Answer?” by Amy Wolfe.

Scott Norris ~ County of San Diego:

Scott is still checking with the County’s GIS Department (who is pretty back-logged at the moment) on the maps that we requested for our SLRWC Meetings.

• **(Item 8) Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

2009 Meetings:

August 24, 2009

September 28, 2009

October 26, 2009