SAWA MEETING MINUTES

June 25th, 2020
Meeting Location:
1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C
Riverside, CA 92507
9:00 A.M.

BOARD ADMNISTRATIVE ITEMS

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Neugebauer called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

(Via Zoom Conference Call)
Mandy Parkes – IERCD; Melody Aimar – SAWA; Jennette El Morsy – SAWA; Brett Mills – SJBRCD; Brian Brady – SAWA; Rick Neugebauer – TEAMRCD; James Law – SAWA; Dick Zembal – OCWD; Kerwin Russell – RCRCD; Greg Powers – Jackson Tidus;

III. PUBLIC INPUT – Oral communication from the public audience on any subject matter within SAWA's subject matter jurisdiction. There was no public input at this time.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approve Minutes for May 28, 2020
b. Approve Financial Statement for May 2020

Director Mills moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Director Parkes seconded with requested corrections and the motion passed unanimously, 4-0 by roll call

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	*Absent*	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Mr. Russell was not in Zoom meeting at time of vote.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. ILF Project – Brian Brady

Mr. Brady reported that SAWA continues discussions with RCRCD and Dudek regarding procedures, methodology and funding to conclude SAWA's ILF program obligations.

b. Treasurer's Report – Brett Mills

Mr. Mills reported on $545,540.62 in deposits and $178,151.86 invoiced out, most of which is still within 30 days.

GENERAL ITEMS

VI. SAWA PROJECT REPORTS

a. Brian Brady, Executive Director – SAWA

Mr. Brady reported on working with SAWA's CPA to make application for forgiveness of the $431,328 Paycheck Protection Program loan received under the federal government's CARES Act. SAWA continues to develop an upper Santa Ana River habitat restoration project jointly with Hana Resources and SBVMWD. A grant from the California Wildlife Conservation Board would fund the potential project.

b. Kerwin Russell – RCRCD
Mr. Russell reported that RCRCD is waiting to hear back on the Griffin project to get SAWA's HRS Dept. out there.

c. Dick Zembal – OCWD
Mr. Zembal reported that the sediment demonstration project at Prado was taken to the Board and it was approved.

d. Rick Neugebauer – Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
Mr. Neugebauer reported on work with local HOA in Meadowview on a restoration project. Mr. Neugebauer also reported that TEAMRCD is working on some grants and they have a new Office Manager.

e. Mandy Parkes – Inland Empire RCD
Ms. Parkes reported on submitting proposals for easements.

f. Brett Mills – San Jacinto Basin RCD
Mr. Mills reported on SAWA's HRS Dept. doing work out on conservation sites. Mr. Mills also reported that there are a few more projects in the wings.

g. Bonnie Johnson – OCWD
Absent

h. Jennette El Morsy, Administrative Services Manager – SAWA
Ms. El Morsy reported on getting the workplace ready for staff to return into the office and coming up with a new Policy for that, incorporating all the guidelines that State and OSHA had. Ms. El Morsy also reported on preparations for the audit, which will be a virtual audit. Ms. El Morsy renewed SAWA's DIR Public Works license for 3 years and is working on Mid-Year Budget Revisions.

i. James Law, Habitat Restoration Services Manager – SAWA
Mr. Law reported on the Hidden Valley Mann Fire Area added to Prop 84. Mr. Law also updated on other work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD: The HRS department conducted treatments at: TEAM RCD – Riv Flood Projects and homeless monitoring.
- Riverside-Corona RCD: The HRS department conducted treatments at the follow: RLC Alessandro Arroyo 1.52, SAWPA Van Buren Bridge, Quail Run Phase II, SAR – Dump to Van Buren and HH.
- Inland Empire RCD: SAWA's HRS department conducted treatments at: City of Chino Hills – Hickory Creek, CDFW unassigned, Sunnyslope, Prop 84 and SBVMWD – Multiple Locations.
- San Jacinto Basin RCD: The HRS department conducted treatments at Wolfskill 1.2, Raceway Ford, May Ranch and Canyon Heights.

- Orange County Water District: The HRS department conducted treatments at: Prop 84, Santiago Phase II, Irvine Park and CDFW unassigned.

j. Melody Aimar, Biological Programs Manager – SAWA

Ms. Aimar reported on MSHCP Dept. staff working from home, using personal vehicles and SAWA trucks. Ms. Aimar & Mr. Campanella worked on scheduling staff staggered in office, conducting performance evaluations, completing the 2019 annual report and submitting a draft to RCA. The species occurrence dataset was submitted to RCA for review. Ms. Aimar also updated on other MSHCP Dept. work including:

- Rare plants: 9-3 objectives focus June (Chickweed oxtheca).
- California Gnatcatcher: Vegetation data collection complete.
- Least Bell's Vireo: Point counts/nest monitoring near completion.
- American Bittern: Done – none detected.
- Norther Harrier/White-tailed Kites: Transects/nest search – done – No NOHA nests found, some WTKI nests detected.
- Burrowing Owl: Camera traps – 2 active nests in SJWA, Skunk Hollow has 3 pairs and at least 1 nest with 8 nestlings.
- Coast Range Newt: Surveys in SA Mtns. met objectives.
- Quino Checkerspot: Done.
- Herps: Potrero ACEC Herp array's – In progress.
- Mammals: LAPM trapping begins June 15.
- Clinton Keith Overcrossing: Camera traps at overcrossing/undercrossing.
- Vernal Pools: Complete.
- Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly: Prep and scouting began.

Ms. Aimar reported on WHMS Dept. biologists in field and working from home. BHCO Traps open throughout watershed. Vireo nesting delayed, most sites report increased numbers. Biologists monitoring Prop 84 Arundo spraying/other projects when needed. California Least Tern nesting but dramatically decreased numbers. Vireo Noise Study in San Tim – SBCTA. New-IEUA nest avoidance survey. New-SBVMWD Cactus Basin LBVI/CAGN/BUOW surveys. Assist USGS Vireo DNA study. GR Golf Club – share nest avoidance presentation and conduct nest avoidance surveys. Ms. Aimar also updated on work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Inland Empire RCD: Devil's Canyon Project – check wildlife cameras - coverboards – night drives (owls/herps). Goose Creek Vireo monitoring. New-LNRC nest avoidance surveys.
- Orange County Water District: Prop 84 Arundo maintenance biomonitoring. CAGN surveys at Hwy71-west and near the dam. Bat/Swallow diet study- DNA sampling complete – awaiting analysis. Sunnyslope SAS restoration.
- Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD: No work this month.
- Riverside-Corona RCD: No work this month.
- San Jacinto Basin RCD: No work this month.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Board Member comments at this time.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

Public Employee Performance Evaluation (§54957) Title: Executive Director
There was nothing to report at this time.

IX. **NEXT MEETING** – July 23, 2020 will be held at the SAWA Headquarters, 1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C, Riverside, CA 92507 and remotely via Zoom.

X. **ADJOURN** – The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 A.M.

Notice: All open session agenda materials will be available for inspection by members of the public at the SAWA office located at 1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C, Riverside, CA 92507. Please contact Maria Arellano at (951) 780-1012 x106 for this information (Government Code Section 54957.5). In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in a Board meeting, please contact the Administrative Services Manager at (951) 780-1012 x101. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting.

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