



**SAWA MEETING MINUTES**

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
 Meeting Location:  
 1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C  
 Riverside, CA 92507  
 9:00 A.M.

**BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Naugebauer called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

**II. INTRODUCTIONS**

Rick Naugebauer – TEAMRCD; Brian Brady – SAWA; Kerwin Russell – RCRCD; Brett Mills – SJBRCD; Jennette El Morsy – SAWA; James Law – SAWA; Bonnie Johnson – OCWD; Melody Aimar – SAWA; Kimberly Kuznicki – SAWA;

**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 February 24, 2022
- b. Approve Financial Statement for February 2022

Director Mills moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Director Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 4-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	<i>Absent</i>
Alternate Johnson	Aye	Mills	Aye		

**V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a. ILF Project – Brian Brady

Mr. Brady reported SAWA staff met with staff of the City of Elsinore on March 16, 2022 regarding the potential for ILF-related invasive removal on City controlled properties. Project sites surveyed and potential was very encouraging. City staff is exploring the issue of conservation easements to protect the restoration work.

Mr. Neugebauer asked what the timeline is and what the monetary value of the work for the city of Elsinore would be. Mr. Law responded that the city of Elsinore would be getting non-native removal and native restoration at no cost to the city. Many of the parcels being looked at are along the lake, which cannot be developed. Since the parcels are not able to be developed, Mr. Law is hopeful to be able to place a CE on the parcels. Mr. Neugebauer asked how long it will take to place a CE. Mr. Russell stated it depends on legal and who SAWA is working with to place the CE. Mr. Mills responded that a third party CE holder is required as well.

- b. Treasurer’s Report – Brett Mills

Mr. Mills reported the deposit detail was \$16,416.73 and aging detail is \$251,639.00.

**VI. ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Accept, Receive and File Auditor’s Report for the 2020 Financial Statements

Mr. Brady reported State and Federal law require that SAWA, in order to maintain its 501(c)3 tax exemption status, have its annual financial statements audited. The Board was presented with the 2020 Financial Statements Audit Report and Correspondence prepared by Halliday & Company. Mr. Brady reported signing the next engagement letter and will start the 2021 audit in June. In terms of the 2020 audit, Mr. Brady reported it is unqualified, completely clear, there were no material adjustments. In terms of the net position, the unrestricted moved from \$573,000.00 to \$791,000.00. The auditor and Mr. Brady discussed one of the impacts of the pandemic was that the mileage went from about \$50,000.00 to over \$100,000.00. This was a result of going to remote conditions. Total assets went up over a half of a million dollars, most of that was the PPP loan of \$431,000.00 and because of that, liabilities went up. In 2021, assets will go down and the liability will go away. Mr. Mills asked if the loan was forgiven and Mr. Brady clarified that it had been completely forgiven. Mr. Brady recommended that the Board accept the 2020 Financial Statements Audit Report. Further, if accepted, that the Audit Report be received and filed with SAWA Corporate Records.

Director Mills moved to accept, receive and file the Auditor's Report for the 2020 Financial Statements. Director Alternate Johnson seconded and the motioned passed unanimously, 4-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Absent
Alternate Johnson	Aye	Mills	Aye		

**GENERAL ITEMS**

**VII. SAWA PROJECT REPORTS**

a. Brian Brady, Executive Director – SAWA

Mr. Brady reported SAWA and RLC staffs met in February to explore potential shared-cost savings such as office/warehouse space and administrative functions. Topics discussed included each organization's financial framework, culture, facilities and assets. The RLC board will discuss the potential partnering opportunities at their March board meeting and provide SAWA their feedback thereafter.

b. Kerwin Russell – RCRC

Mr. Russell reported that RCRC would probably extend the weeding season and start watering if it does not rain. RCRC is currently working on maintenance right now.

c. Dick Zembal – OCWD

Absent

d. Rick Neugebauer – Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD

Mr. Neugebauer reported that TEAMRCD had a presentation by Bob Cullen with Flood Control. Mr. Neugebauer also reported that Teri Biancardi has been working on the Cal Recycle Grant opportunity.

e. Mandy Parkes – Inland Empire RCD

Absent

f. Brett Mills – San Jacinto Basin RCD

Mr. Mills reported on speaking with Mr. Law to get the crew out at May Ranch and Mosaic and Canyon Heights for maintenance and clean up.

g. Bonnie Johnson – OCWD

Ms. Johnson reported that Cameron found an automatic pig feeding out at Sunnyslope. The warden asked to leave it in place in order to try to catch whoever placed it out there.

h. Jennette El Morsy, Administrative Services Manager – SAWA

Ms. El Morsy reported on A/R for February Invoice Total of \$276,382.58. Finalized 2020 Financial Audit. Working on IRS Form 5500 data for Retirement Plan Annual Year-end questionnaire & census. OCYES - Sponsorship Booth Information for OCWD. Renewed SonicWall for MSHCP. Upgraded main office Ricoh printer. Requested limit increase on Pfleet fuel cards due to price of gas. Hired new HRS Restoration Technician - Joshua Savage. In the process of hiring Seasonal BHCO Field Assistants. Ordered new backup battery for HRS warehouse. Coordinated Defensive Driver Online Training for new hires.

i. James Law, Habitat Restoration Services – SAWA

Mr. Law reported on Prop 84 site management, Carbon Canyon Fire Safe Council – Arundo treatments, ILF, Cal Recycle Grant, TEAM RCD/Riv. Flood Assessments and City of Chino Hills – Palms – Completed. Mr. Law also updated on other work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD: The HRS department conducted homeless monitoring and treatments at the TEAM RCD – Riv. Flood Facilities.
- Riverside-Corona RCD: The HRS department conducted treatments at the follow: Prop 84, SAWPA Van Buren Bridge and Temescal Canyon 3M – 2.86.
- Inland Empire RCD: The HRS department conducted treatments at: Prop 84, Sunnyslope and RLC – Cienega.
- San Jacinto Basin RCD: The HRS department conducted treatments at: SCE – 1.2 and RLC – Alessandro Arroyo.
- Orange County Water District: The HRS department conducted treatments at: Prop 84 and Irvine Park.

j. Melody Aimar, Biological Programs Manger – SAWA

Ms. Aimar reported on MSHCP Dept. Monthly WRC MSHCP Management and Monitoring Coordination Meeting Presentation “*Western Riverside County MSHCP Monitoring and Management Annual Updates - 2021*”. Staff working from home, staggering in office, using personal vehicles and SAWA trucks. Mr. Campanella managing remote workflow. Monthly Leads meeting via Zoom. Ms. Aimar attended monthly RCA Managers Meeting. Data archive and server file clean up in progress. Ms. Aimar also updated on other MSHCP work including:

- Rare plants: Engelmann Oak surveys – preparing. Brand's Phacelia study – ongoing.
  - Purple Martin: Report in progress.
  - California Spotted Owl: Report in progress.
  - CAGN nesting: Report in progress.
  - Tri-colored Blackbird: Prep/training for summer surveys. Breeding colony found at SJWA.
  - Mammals: Prep for LAPM surveys. LAPM – Report in progress.
  - Herps/Fish: Scouting Western Pond Turtle trapping locations. Western Spadefoot surveys – in progress. Arroyo Toad habitat scouting – in progress.
  - Vernal Pools: Surveys in progress.
  - Clinton Keith Overcrossing: Camera traps at overcrossing/undercrossing. New cameras installed to detect butterfly use.
  - Quino Checkerspot Butterfly: Surveys – ongoing (1<sup>st</sup> adult detected at MSR on 3/1). Report – in progress.
  - Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly: Report – in progress.
  - Data/GIS Analysis: Transition to electronic data collection – in progress. 2021 Species Occurrence Dataset – in progress. QC 2021 data – in progress. Report maps – in progress.
- Ms. Aimar reported on WHMS Dept. IEUA – Breeding Bird Surveys – in progress. BHCO – All traps deployed. USGS finalizing new database. Seasonal BHCO assistant recruitment – ongoing. LBVI survey areas preparation. First Vireo arrived on 3/14. Field Maps and Survey

123 Training on 3/8. Pre-season biologist Zoom meeting on 3/15. HRS nest avoidance biomonitoring – in progress. SBVMWD 2021 Results PowerPoint Presentation on 3/1. SBVMWD 2022 Proposal awarded on 3/15. Ms. Aimar attends Prop 84 monthly meeting. Ms. Aimar coordinating with SBVMWD and RivCo Parks Rangers on homeless camp safety. Ms. Aimar attends multiple weekly virtual meeting(s). Ms. Aimar also updated on other work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Inland Empire RCD: Nest Avoidance training conducted on 3/9.
- Orange County Water District: Prop 84 Arundo biomonitoring – in progress as needed, monthly meeting. Bat/Swallow diet study – complete and submitted. Sunnyslope SAS restoration and substrate surveys – ongoing. California Least Tern monitoring – season prep in progress. Ms. Aimar/Biologist attends weekly NR meeting.
- Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD: No work this month.
- Riverside-Corona RCD: No work this month.
- San Jacinto Basin RCD: No work this month.

**VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

There were no Board Member comments at this time.

**IX. NEXT MEETING** – April 28, 2022 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 9:31 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.**

Please post 72 hours before meeting