



SAWA MEETING MINUTES

May 28th, 2020
 Meeting Location:
 1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C
 Riverside, CA 92507
 9:00 A.M.

BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vise-Chairperson Parkes called the meeting to order at 9:11 A.M.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

(Via Zoom Conference Call)

Dick Zembal – OCWD; Brett Mills – SJBRCD; Mandy Parkes – IERCD; Kerwin Russell – RCRC; Brian Brady – SAWA; Jennette El Morsy – SAWA; Greg Powers – Jackson Tidus; Melody Aimar – 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 April 23, 2020
- b. Approve Financial Statement for April 2020

Director Zembal moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Director Mills seconded and the motion passed 4-0 by roll call

Neugebauer	<i>Absent</i>	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. ILF Project – Brian Brady

Mr. Brady continues working with Dudek. SAWA is continuing discussions with the ACOE regarding procedures, methodology and funding to conclude SAWA’s ILF program obligations. Mr. Brady reported that ACOE would like SAWA to work with its two member agencies that have ILF programs. There is 32 acres area just inside RCRC’s service boundary that Mr. Brady is working on with Mr. Russell.

- b. Treasurer’s Report – Brett Mills

Mr. Mills reported on the accounts balances, Corps monies. Mr. Mills reported on outstanding invoices for \$288,931.65.

GENERAL ITEMS

VI. SAWA PROJECT REPORTS

- a. Brian Brady, Executive Director – SAWA

Mr. Brady reported that SAWA successfully made application and received final approval from the SBA and Bank of America for a Paycheck Protection Program loan under the federal

government's CARES Act. Loan proceeds of \$431,328 were received on 5/11/20. Mr. Brady updated on the finalized negotiations with RCA's management concerning the 2020-2021 MSHCP budget. The RCA Board is expected to approve their 2020-2021 capital and operating budget on June 1. Mr. Brady reported that SAWA continues to work with Hana Resources and SBVMWD, on an upper Santa Ana River habitat restoration project. A grant from the California Wildlife Conservation Board would fund the potential project.

b. Kerwin Russell – RCRC

Mr. Russell reported on work adjustments due to the coronavirus.

c. Dick Zembal – OCWD

Mr. Zembal did not have any updates at this time.

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

Absent

e. Mandy Parkes – Inland Empire RCD

Ms. Parkes reported that in mid-March IERCD stopped doing external work and started working from home. Ms. Parkes also reported that IERCD has since opened back up small groups working on sites where social distancing is possible.

f. Brett Mills – San Jacinto Basin RCD

Mr. Mills reported that SJBRCD is also working on sites where social distancing is possible.

g. Bonnie Johnson – OCWD

Absent

h. Jennette El Morsy – SAWA

Ms. El Morsy worked on the renewed Liability/Workers' Comp Insurance Policy Effective June 1, 2020. Ms. El Morsy completed DOI Grant Solution Training for USFWS Project. Ms. El Morsy is also working on SAWA updates for COVID-19.

i. James Law – SAWA

Absent

j. Melody Aimar – SAWA

Ms. Aimar reported on MSHCP Dept. working from home, using personal vehicles and SAWA trucks. Ms. Aimar & Mr. Campanella completed 2019 annual report – submitted draft to RCA. Ms. Aimar completed FY 2020-21 work plan. Ms. Aimar reported that species occurrence dataset is near completion. Ms. Aimar also updated on other MSHCP Dept. work including:

- Rare plants: Phacelia stellaris study – done. 9-3 objectives focus in May and June.
- California Gnatcatcher: Vegetation data collection in progress.
- Least Bell's Vireo: Point counts/nest monitoring.
- American Bittern: On-going – none detected.
- Northern Harrier/White-tailed Kites: Transects/nest search.
- Coast Range Newt: Surveys ongoing in SA Mtns. – high numbers and reproduction.
- Quino Checkerspot: Near complete.
- Herps: Potrero ACEC Herp array's – In progress.
- Mammals: Detected at SJWA. LAPM trapping begins in June.
- Clinton Keith Overcrossing: Camera traps at overcrossing/undercrossing.
- Vernal Pools: Pool surveys/Vegetation surveys.

Ms. Aimar reported on WHMS Dept. biologists in field and working from home. BHCO Traps are 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. Vireo Noise Study in San Tim – SBCTA. Ms. Aimar completed DOI Grant Solutions training. 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).
- Orange County Water District: Prop 84 Arundo maintenance biomonitoring. CAGN surveys at Hwy71-west and near the dam. Southwester Willow Flycatcher – surveys in SBNF begin in May. 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. NEXT MEETING – June 25, 2020 will be held at the SAWA Headquarters, 1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C, Riverside, CA 92507 and remotely via Zoom.

IX. ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 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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