SAWA MEETING MINUTES

October 28th, 2021
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

Melody Aimar – SAWA; Brett Mills – SJBRCD; Greg Powers – Jackson Tidus; Brian Brady – SAWA; Dick Zembal – OCWD; Mandy Parkes – IERCD; Jose Iniguez – RCRCD; James Law – SAWA; Teri Biancardi – TEAMRCD; Rick Neugebauer – TEAMRCD; Jennette El Morsy – 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 Administrative Committee Meeting Minutes for September 21, 2021
b. Approve Minutes for September 23, 2021
c. Approve Financial Statement for September 2021

Director Zembal moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Director Neugebauer seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Alternate Iniguez	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. ILF Project – Brian Brady

Mr. Brady reported that Mr. Law has been searching for and has found a potential property, Elsinore Waters Edge Associates LLC. The property is along the channel in Lake Elsinore along the Storms stadium. Mr. Law stated that SAWA did functional wetlands assessment in 2007. Mr. Law is working with Dudek to try to find out the firm that did the assessment. Mr. Law hopes to get some background knowledge on what their thought process was when they got the assessment and where they are now with the properties and see if there is an opportunity to collaborate for the ILF placement of 32.4 acres of tamarisk removal.
Mr. Brady is hopeful for some positive feedback before the next board meeting.

b. Treasurer's Report – Brett Mills

Mr. Mills gave a report on Aging Detail. Mr. Mill's requested clarification from Ms. El Morsy about the Deposit Detail in regards to the Undeposited Funds. Ms. El Morsy explained that the

funds have been deposited and are waiting for the account to move the funds to the correct spot.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

a. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Policy and Procedure to Recruit New Class A (Designating Agencies) and Class B Representation on SAWA's Board of Directors

Mr. Brady reported that this item was requested by a Board majority in late 2018 to provide a framework for considering additional Class A and/or B Board members. The item was discussed by the full Board at their January and April meetings this year, as well as at the Administration Committee last month. Staff has incorporated various Board member comments to the attached policy and draft procedure drafts. At the request of several Board members, the current drafts are being brought back to the full Board rather than a Board committee. Mr. Brady provided an updated PowerPoint presentation to the Board to facilitate Board discussion.

Mr. Mills asked for clarification from Mr. Powers the definition of supermajority. Mr. Powers replied that this comes directly from the by laws. The by laws state that if SAWA were to add a new Category A director it requires first a ⅘ vote of the SAWA Board. If that occurs, it would then go to each respective agencies and would need a majority vote (⅗) to approve the addition of a Category A designating agency/director. Mr. Mills stated he would like to bring the draft back to SJBRCD and get their thoughts. Mr. Powers stated that it is important for the Board to know that nothing in the draft changes what is already in the by laws. It is meant to provide guidelines on things to consider when looking at potentially adding a new Category A or a Category B director/agency, but it does not change anything that is already set and stone for SAWA including the by laws, articles of incorporation, etc. For a copy of the presentation, please contact Administrative Services Manager Ms. El Morsy at jennette@sawatershed.org.

Mr. Mills wanted to make it clear that he wanted to bring the draft back to his Board before voting.

Mr. Brady wanted to inform the Board that if they do so choose to approve, that it is approving it in a substantially final form. This allows the staff and Mr. Powers to make non substantive changes if there are typos, etc.

Mr. Powers confirmed it would be a motion to approve in substantial form attached to the Board Packet authorizing the Executive Director and General Counsel to make minor, non substantive changes.

Mr. Neugebauer asked Mr. Mills if he would feel comfortable voting under those circumstances. Mr. Mills stated that he has made it clear that he wants to bring it to his Board before. Mr. Neugebauer proposed continuing the item until next month.

Mr. Zembal stated that he would like to request that dissenting members on this particular item next month, he would like to hear on the record why this item is not in SAWA's best interest if there is anybody who is going to dissent. Mr. Neugebauer agreed.

In regards to Mr. Zembal's statement on dissenting members, Mr. Mills wanted to make sure it was clear that a letter was sent out by the Board President, Dr. Roy Mason, on behalf of SJBRCD and that he would resubmit it to the Board.

Director Neugebauer moved to continue this item at the next meeting. Director Parkes seconded and the motion passed, 4-1

Neugebauer	Aye	Alternate Iniguez	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	*Nay*	Mills	Aye		

Director Parkes left the meeting at 9:34 A.M.

GENERAL ITEMS

VII. SAWA PROJECT REPORTS

a. Brian Brady, Executive Director – SAWA
Mr. Brady reported continuing work on the 2020 audit. SAWA staff continues to work with SBVMWD, Hana Resources and the County of Riverside to develop an upper Santa Ana River habitat restoration project. Recent work items associated with the project plan include CEQA compliance (re: a categorical exemption), habitat restoration plan and required permitting. Mr. Brady stated that staff continues to evaluate small warehouse leasing options for the MSHCP program. Staff continues to explore opportunities to work with Mission Resource Conservation District. SAWA, once again, sponsored a table at the Rivers & Lands Conservancy's 2021 Gala on October 21.

b. Kerwin Russell – RCRCD
Absent. Mr. Iniguez, on behalf of Mr. Russell.
Mr. Iniguez reported that RCRCD are updating their bird book and would like a contact from SAWA that may have some pictures sent over to Mr. Russell.

c. Dick Zembal – OCWD
Mr. Zembal did not have any updates at this time.

d. Rick Neugebauer – Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
Mr. Neugebauer reported having a number of ongoing projects. TEAMRCD have a couple of new projects coming up and things are moving along smoothly.

e. Mandy Parkes – Inland Empire RCD
Absent

f. Brett Mills – San Jacinto Basin RCD
Mr. Bills did not have any updates at this time.

g. Bonnie Johnson – OCWD
Absent

h. Jennette El Morsy, Administrative Services Manager – SAWA
Ms. El Morsy reported on A/R Sept Invoices Total $224,381.01. SAWA is in the process of 2020 Financial Audit. Submitted the IRS Form 5500 Annual Retirement Tax Filing. Working on 2022 Budget. Renewal of MSHCP Warehouse Lease. Coordinated Online Defensive Driver Training for new hires/HRS. Coordinated Mandatory Online Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for staff. Annual Sprinkler Inspection for all warehouse units. Annual Fire Extinguisher Inspection. Hired MSHCP Herp Taxa Lean, Nathan Kudla. Lastly, Employee Benefit Open Enrollment.

i. James Law, Habitat Restoration Services Manager – SAWA
Mr. Law reported on Prop 84 site management/bid walk/contracting/removal, Riverside Flood Control Lake Elsinore Outlet Channel, Riverside Flood Control – Line C Project, and Upstream Sunnyslope project. Mr. Law also updated on other work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD: The HRS department conducted homeless monitoring, Riv Flood – Lake Elsinore Outlet Channel and is treating the TEAM RCD – Riv Flood Project.

- Riverside-Corona RCD: The HRS department conducted treatments at the follow: Riv Flood – Line C, Quail Run Phase II, Mockingbird MCB and SAWPA – Van Buren Bridge.
- Inland Empire RCD: The HRS department conducted treatments at: CDFW unassigned, Chino Hills – Carbon Canyon, Prop 84 and San Timoteo.
- San Jacinto Basin RCD: The HRS department conducted treatments at: RLC – Alessandro Arroyo 1.52, Wolfskill 1.2 and Wolfskill 1.47.
- Orange County Water District: The HRS department conducted treatments at: Prop 84, and CDFW unassigned.

j. Melody Aimar, Biological Monitoring Programs Manager – SAWA

Ms. Aimar reported on MSHCP Dept. Monthly WRC MSHCP Management and Monitoring Coordination Meeting on 10/14. Staff working from home, staggering in office, using personal vehicles and SAWA trucks. Mr. Campanella managing remote workflow. Staff updates of Herp Taxa Lead – New hire to started 8/18 and Monthly Leads meeting via Zoom. Ms. Aimar collaborating with FWS (Will Miller)/other NCCP's on region-wide herp monitoring. Ms. Aimar attended monthly RCA Managers Meeting. Ms. Aimar coordinating Wilderness First Aid training with RivCo Parks, CDFW, IERCD. Data archive and server file clean-up in progress. Ms. Aimar also updated on other MSHCP Dept. work including:

- Rare plants: Plant surveys complete - Conducting Engelmann Oak surveys.
- Purple Martin: Report – in progress.
- California Spotted Owl: Report in progress.
- Mammals: LAPM trapping – complete.
- Herps/Fish: Riverwalk 10/21.
- Clinton Keith Overcrossing: Camera traps at overcrossing/undercrossing. New cameras installed to detect butterfly use.
- Quino Checkerspot Butterfly: Report – in progress.
- Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly: Surveys – complete. Arthropod surveys – complete. Vegetation surveys in progress.
- Data/GIS Analysis: Transition to electronic data collection – in progress.

Ms. Aimar reported on WHMS Dept. BHCO – Winter traps open in Prado and San Jacinto. Annual Vireo report – in progress. Annual Mitigation Report – Complete. Riverwalk – 10/21. Ms. Aimar coordinating with SBVMWD and RivCo Parks Rangers on homeless camp safety. Ms. Aimar and Biologist attended meetings re: Sunnyslope trash clean-up and public outreach. SAWA/OCWD – joint presentation at Jurupa HS "Take out the Trash" event. Ms. Aimar coordinating with IERCD, CDWF, RivCo Parks to schedule Wilderness First Aid training. California Least Tern monitoring – data complete. Vireo Noise Study in San Tim (SBCTA) – in progress. Ms. Aimar attends multiple weekly virtual meeting(s). Staff Zoom meeting(s) – as needed. Creating vireo/cowbird database – on hold until Fall. Three IEUA proposals – in progress. Ms. Amiar also update on work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Inland Empire RCD: Goose Creek Vireo –surveys in progress; biomonitoring ISR.
- Orange County Water District: Prop 84 Arundo biomonitoring – in progress as needed, monthly meeting. Bat/Swallow diet study- DNA sampling/analysis complete – report in progress. Sunnyslope SAS restoration and substrate surveys. Manager 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** – November 18, 2021 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 9:44 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