SAWA MEETING MINUTES

September 24th, 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 9:03 A.M.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

(Via Zoom Conference Call)
Chris Jones – SBVMWD; Brian Brady – SAWA; Jennette El Morsy – SAWA; Greg Powers – Jackson Tidus; Brett Mills – SJBRCD; Mandy Parkes – IERCD; James Law – SAWA; Bonnie Johnson – OCWD; Kerwin Russell – RCRCD; Rick Neugebauer – TEAMRCD; 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 July 23, 2020
b. Approve Minutes for September 3, 2020 Special Meeting
c. Approve Financial Statement for July 2020
d. Approve Financial Statement for August 2020

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

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Alternate Johnson	Aye	Mills	Aye		

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. ILF Project – Brian Brady

Mr. Brady reported that Michael Sweesy and Laurie Monarres of Dudek have been in communication with Michael Ladouceur, Senior Project Manager at US Army Corps of Engineers, regarding SAWA's ILF program. Michael is investigating site protection alternatives which may be acceptable to the Corps. An answer is expected later this month.

b. Treasurer's Report – Brett Mills

Mr. Mills reported that everything is looking good with only $250k of invoices out in the 1-30 day and $160k in deposits.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

a. Election of SAWA Corporate Officers

Section 305 of SAWA By-laws call for the election of SAWA Board Officers at the annual meeting to be held on the fourth Thursday in September. Section 400 identifies the Officers of the Corporation as the Chairperson, the vice Chairperson, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

Chairperson Neugebauer opened the nominations for office of Chairperson. Director Parkes moved to nominate Director Neugebauer. Director Neugebauer accepted the nomination for Chairperson. The motion for Director Neugebauer for office of Chairperson passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Alternate Johnson	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Chairperson Neugebauer opened the nominations for office of Vice Chairperson. Director Neugebauer moved to nominate Director Parkes. The motion for Director Parkes for office of Vice Chairperson passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Alternate Johnson	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Chairperson Neugebauer opened up the nominations for office of Secretary. Director Parkes nominated Director Russell. The motion for Director Russell for office of Secretary passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Alternate Johnson	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Chairperson Neugebauer opened up the nominations for office of Treasurer. Director Mills nominated Director Zembal. Director Russell nominated Director Mills. The motion for Director Zembal for office of Treasurer passed, 4-0-1

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Alternate Johnson	*Abstained*	Mills	Aye		

Director Mills respectfully withdrew his nomination for office of Treasurer.

b. Designation of SAWA Board Committees and Assignment of Committee Members
Section 600 of SAWA By-laws call for the designation of Board advisory committees by the Board of Directors. The following are the committees approved by the Board: Administration (policies and procedures, human resources, and legal); Audit and Finance (accounting, budget, purchasing, and investment). Section 601 of the By-laws stipulates that the committees shall continue as such until the annual meeting of the Board and until his or her successor is appointed.

Chairperson Neugebauer opened the nominations for the Administration Committee. Director Parkes nominated herself and Director Neugebauer nominated himself. Director Alternate Johnson moved to close nominations for Administrative Committee.
The motion for Director Parkes and Director Neugebauer to serve on the Administrative Committee passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Alternate Johnson	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Chairperson Neugebauer opened the nominations for the Audit & Finance Committee. Director Neugebauer nominated Director Zembal and Director Russell. Director Mills moved to close nominations for Audit and Finance Committee.
The motion for Director Zembal and Director Russell to serve on the Audit & Finance Committee passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Alternate Johnson	Aye	Mills	Aye		

GENERAL ITEMS

VII. SAWA PROJECT REPORTS

a. Brian Brady, Executive Director – SAWA
Mr. Brady reported that SAWA staff continue to work with SBVMWD, Hana Resources and the County of Riverside to develop an upper Santa Ana River habitat restoration project. A grant pre-application was submitted to the California Wildlife Conservation Board (CWCB) in early August. CWCB response was positive, inviting the working group to submit a full funding proposal by September 18th. Final CWCB approval is slated for November 18th. SAWA staff continue to explore grant-funded southern California water restoration projects through the Bonneville Environmental Fund. Mr. Brady also reported that work has begun on the 2021 SAWA Operating Budget. SAWA staff and Director Mills are participating in the final interviews prior to finalizing SAWA's 2019 Financial Audit.

b. Kerwin Russell – RCRCD
Mr. Russell reported that RCRCD is working with SAWA on the Griffin project.

c. Dick Zembal – OCWD
Absent

d. Rick Neugebauer – Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
Mr. Neugebauer did not have any updates at this time.

e. Mandy Parkes – Inland Empire RCD
Ms. Parkes reported that IERCD easement in Yucaipa near the gender reveal party that broke out in a fire, is now half burned. Ms. Parkes also reported that IERCD, NRCS and other agencies are working together to try to help moving forward.

f. Brett Mills – San Jacinto Basin RCD
Mr. Mills reported that SJBRCD is working with SAWA to get some invasive removal done at various project sites.

g. Bonnie Johnson – OCWD
Ms. Johnson reported that Prop 84 is getting ready to start back up now that bird season is over.

h. Jennette El Morsy, Administrative Services Manager – SAWA
Ms. El Morsy reported on work including the Annual Financial Audit, SCIF Workers' Comp Audit and submitting Prevailing Wage Labor Compliance reports from RPW for Prop 84 to OCWD. Ms. El Morsy also reported on working with IT getting VPN Licenses for staff working remotely after field season and creating a BYOD & Working Remotely Policy. Ms. El Morsy is working on getting online CPR & First Aid Training for MSHCP Dept. HRS Dept. has renewed Hazardous Materials Permit.

i. James Law, Habitat Restoration Services Manager – SAWA
Mr. Law reported on the ongoing ILF, waiting on the task order from Riverside Flood Control Project and TEAM RCD Riverside Flood Projects. Mr. Law also updated on other work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Temecula-Elsinore-Ana-Murrieta RCD: The HRS Dept. conducted homeless monitoring and treatment at the TEAM RCD – Riv. Flood Projects.
- Riverside-Corona RCD: The HRS Dept. conducted treatments at the following: Quail Run Phase II, Temescal, Mockingbird MCB, RLC – Alessandro Arroyo 1.52, SAWPA – Van Buren Bridge and HH. Griffith Residential was started and there are two more days left. The HRS Dept. is waiting on a part to come in before the project can be finished.
- Inland Empire RCD: The HRS Dept. conducted treatments at: City of Chino Hills – Hickory Creek, CDFW unassigned, Sunnyslope, HH and Prop 84.
- San Jacinto Basin RCD: The HRS Dept. conducted treatment at Wolfskill 1.2, Raceway Ford and Wolfskill 1.47.
- Orange County Water District: The HRS Dept. conducted treatments at: Prop 84, OCCC Aliso Creek, 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, staggering in office, using personal and SAWA trucks. MSHCP Supervisor, Mr. Campanella, is managing remote workflow and attended a virtual workshop. Ms. Aimar is reviewing virtual training and workshop opportunities. Ms. Aimar and Mr. Campanella completed the 2019 annual report and submitted a draft to RCA. Species occurrence dataset was also submitted to RCA for review. 1st Quarterly report is in progress. Ms. Aimar attended various meeting including the All Hands post survey Zoom Meeting for MOUP and Winter Raptors; the monthly RCA Managers Meeting; San Diego MSCP monthly managers meeting and the Endangered Butterfly workshop. Ms. Aimar also updated on other MSHCP Dept. work including:

- Rare Plants: Rainbow Manzanita surveys. Data entry in progress, SRP report complete.
- White-tailed Kite: Draft report.
- Northern Harrier: Draft report.
- Mountain Plover: Draft report.
- Burrowing Owl: 10 pairs found at four sites.
- Herps: Potrero ACEC Herp array's – In progress Mountain snake surveys.
- Mammals: LAPM trapping in Lake Perris in progress.
- Clinton Keith Overcrossing: Camera traps at overcrossing/undercrossing.
- Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly: Scouting began in early June. 1st DSF found 6/23. Surveys on-going 3 times/week. Season done.
- Data/GIS Analysis: ArcGIS Online training, for manager/supervisor, leads.

Ms. Aimar reported on WHMS Dept. biologists working from home. Biologist working on USGS pond turtle trapping. BHCO Winter traps open at Prado/San Jacinto dairies. Vireo data analysis and regulatory reporting in progress. Biologists monitoring Prop 84 arundo spraying and other projects when needed. California Least Tern data analysis. Vireo Noise Study in San Tim – SBCTA. SBVMWD Cactus Basin LBVI/CAGN/BUOW surveys report submitted. Annual Mitigation report/permit review in progress. Ms. Aimar attended the WCB Grant Hidden Valley weekly meeting and monthly SDMMP meeting. Ms. Aimar also updated on work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Inland Empire RCD: Devil's Canyon Project – check wildlife cameras, coverboards, night drives (owl/herps). Goose Creek Vireo – data analysis.
- Orange County Water District: Biologists assisting with vegetation cube surveys. Prop 84 arundo maintenance biomonitoring. Bat/Swallow diet study – DNA sampling complete, awaiting analysis. Sunnyslope SAS restoration and substrate surveys. Ms. Aimar 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 – October 22, 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 9:36 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