

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP
MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 6, 2015**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 PM, Thursday, August 6th, 2015 at the Boulevard Fire Training Room behind the Boulevard Fire Department located at 39919 Ribbonwood Road, Boulevard CA 91905

A. ROLL CALL (Determination of quorum):

- Members present: **1) Robert Maupin; 2) Earl Goodnight; 3) Kevin Keane; 4) Donna Tisdale**
5) Michele Strand; 6) Paula Byrd; 7) Ron Hynum

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

C. APPROVE MINUTES FOR MARCH 5TH MEETING:

- **M/S: MAUPIN/HYNUM: Approve July 2nd minutes with corrections. Passed 7-0-0**

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

- Cherry Diefenbach and York Heimerdinger gave an update on the controversy over Pine Valley Water Company's (PVMWC) water sales contract with Rough Acres Water Company.
- Many PVMWC shareholders are finally waking up and do not agree with their Board's decision to sell 16 acre feet of water, over 60 day period.
- The Board's rate survey was provided and discussed. It threatens rate hikes if the sales contract is terminated. Most shareholders are worried about impacts to groundwater and to their neighbors in Boulevard where Pine Valley's water could support Soitec's Rugged Solar project that is opposed. An information packet was handed to the Chair.
- Linda Shannon asked about the periodic closing of the I-8 on and off ramp at Ribbonwood: She was informed that the ramps are part of a repaving project that is supported by the batch plant at the motel. She also asked when Rough Acres Water Company was made official: The response was 2012.
- Kevin Keane gave an update on the copper landline telephone service that is scheduled to be retired or abandoned by the telephone companies, leaving only cell phone service and/or the possibility of fiber optic being installed. Phone companies are reportedly resorting to buying repair parts for the old copper network on Ebay.

E. ACTION ITEMS:

1. ALCOHOL LICENSING, COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP INVOLVEMENT, AND BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY 1-121 "PUBLIC CONVENIENCE OR NECESSITY".

- William Perno, Alcohol and other Drug Prevention Specialist , with the Institute for Public Strategies gave a detailed presentation on the formal process for Alcohol Licensing, including maps, crime statistics, and public participation opportunities.
- East County Community Change Project is funded by the County.
- Goal is to ensure the license fits the neighborhood.
- Perno stated that each \$1 in sales = \$8.95 in expenses with a \$3 billion price tag for San Diego County and \$38.4 billion for California. East County has highest rate of alcoholism.

- County Policy 1-121 allows for 30-day public comment for “high-crime areas” and “undue concentration areas” that exceed County average.
- Planning Groups can appeal licenses approved by Planning and Development Services Director, within 10 days. The County Planning Commission would then have final vote to approve or deny.
- Licenses stay with the address.
- Local census tract is already at limit (8 licenses) for on-site sales and already exceeds off-site sales (14).
- Once a license is posted, the limited protest period starts.
- No action was taken.

2. JOINT CPUC AND FOREST SERVICE FINAL EIR/EIS AND FOREST SERVICE DRAFT RECORD OF DECISION HAVE BEEN RELEASED FOR SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC’S MASTER SPECIAL USE PERMIT / PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT APPLICATION.

- The selected “Environmentally Superior Alternative” for SDG&E’s \$450 million project includes rebuilding/upgrading Line 6931 that runs east/west through Boulevard with taller steel poles from the new Boulevard substation to the Crestwood Substation instead of the using the Alternative TL625 loop-in at the Suncrest Substation in Japatul.
- Previous requests were made for undergrounding line through Boulevard, similar to the partial Boulevard undergrounding of the new 138kV lines between Boulevard and ECO Substation
- On August 6th, the CPUC’s Administrative Law Judge issued a ruling requiring SDG&E to update its Magnetic Field Management Plan.
- **M/S:STRAND/HYNUM: Authorize Chair to submit comments (on MSUP FEIR/EIS): Approved 7-0-0**

F. GROUP BUSINESS: Announcements; correspondence; discussion items; project updates

- Chair reported on the Howard Jarvis Taxpayer’s Association’s August 6th announcement of a tentative ruling in their Fire Tax case, granting certification of a class including all people who are entitled to a refund of the taxes they paid and who timely filed Petitions for Redetermination.
- The July 13th Notice of Hwy 94 Improvement Project DEIR and Public Hearing was made available.
- The July 21st announcement of Assemblyman Brian Jone’s August 13th Drought Town Hall meeting was shared.
- The July 22nd DPW Multi-Year Resurfacing /Maintenance Program letter was noted, along with two Jewel Valley Road projects listed for FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17.
- The County’s July 29th letter on Amended Conditions on landscaping for Site Master’s MUP 14-005 was noted.

1. REVITALIZATION REPORT by Tammy Daubach:

- EDCO and Fire Safe Council will host trash, e-waste, and chipping services on August 29th in Campo, September 26th in Boulevard, and October 24th in Jacumba.
- Tables, chairs, and more have been donated to the Boulevard Community Center. We will take more donations if the items are in good shape.
- The Fire Department is still searching for the missing community owned tables that were loaned for the grand opening of the new Boulevard Fire Station, but it is unlikely that they will be found.
- Danielle Cook received a grant, so Boulevard will be receiving cement picnic tables. The grant also covers information boards promoting the Historic Highway 94 / Old 80 loop. Those signs will go up soon.

- Tammy emailed the County to let them know that AA, Meals-on-Wheels, and Feeding America really are in need of a permanent location soon.

2. **FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORT by Tammy Daubach:**

- Our FSC has received a \$2,500 SDG&E Safety Grant. Request to be considered for a larger amount since we cover 5 communities, fell on deaf ears. Our FSC received the same amount as all the other FSCs that serve only one community.
- One-half of this grant has already been used for senior property clean-ups.
- We will have to budget for the CPA and, unless we do a fundraiser that will be all the money we have for this year.
- The Thursday trailer fire in Boulevard was Leroy Molde's home. He is 75 years old and he and his wife have lived here for 12 years. He was a regular attendant and music provider at the Volunteer Fire Department pancake breakfasts. Cash donations are being collected by Jacumba Women's Club. They are also accepting household goods. They plan on staying in the area.

3. **COURT OVERTURNS SOITEC SOLAR'S FINAL PROGRAMATIC EIR APPROVAL:**

- On June 25th, Judge Meyer issued an order setting aside the County's approvals.
- Previously, Soitec had announced the sale of most (but not all) of their solar assets to ConcenSolar (a partner of Suncore).
- Soitec kept the Rugged Solar project and are looking for buyers.
- Soitec terminated the TDS project in February, one month after County approval due to lack of buyers.
- The Chair reported that on August 5th, Soitec announced the end of negotiations with ConcenSolar regarding sale of solar assets, and they continue to refocus on electronics.
- Jim Whalen reported that Soitec is exploring its options.

4. **GREGORY LANSING'S SLAPP SUIT DISMISSED: CASE: 37-2014-00025797 CU-MC-CTL.**

- The Chair said the entire case was dismissed and it will be nice to have this item off of the agenda.
- Lansing has until August 21st to file an appeal.

5. **TULE WIND – IBERDROLA ANNOUNCES 15 YEAR POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT (PPA) FOR 132MW:**

- Two unresolved appeals remain in the 9th Circuit Court challenging the District Court's ruling that supported BLM's Tule Wind project approvals.
- On 11-19-14, Tule Wind formally requested that BLM extend their deadline for the construction Notice to Proceed (NTP) by two years to December 31, 2016. BLM only extended the NTP to 12-31-15, saying a two year extension "may not be consistent with the best use of public lands".
- Tule Wind is working with County staff on compliance with MUP conditions.
- No Eagle Take Permits issued.
- New court ruling overturned FWS approval of 3-year Take Permits. No word on how ruling may impact Tule Wind or PPA.
- No application for extension for Notice to Proceed has been filed.
- Jim Whalen said the project should start next year.

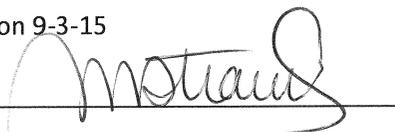
6. **TULE WIND'S LEASE APPLICATION WITH STATE LANDS COMMISSION (SLC) FOR WIND TURBINES, ROADS, & INFRASTRUCTURE, MAY BE HEARD IN OCTOBER.**

- Tule Wind's lease application land appraisal is currently under review for SLC land abutting the Manzanita Reservation on the north.
 - SLC's staff reports that the hearing could take place at their October 16th meeting in San Diego, or a later meeting.
7. **TULE WIND PHASE II:**
- USFWS rejected Tule Wind's Eagle Take Permit application. However, data review and permit work continues.
 - An unresolved lawsuit was filed by a non-profit group in September 2014 challenging the BIA's 2013 approval of 20 turbines on Ewiiapaayp tribal lands for Tule II.
 - No New Info.
8. **2.9MW CHAPMAN SOLAR RANCH, PDS2015-MUP-15-005. LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-15-21-001: REVISED PLOT PLANS AND GRADING PLANS RECEIVED 6-10-15.**
- Jim Whalen stated that their responses to comment letters will take several months and then will go back to the County for their review.
9. **COMPREHENSIVE RENEWABLE ENERGY POD (CREP) 13-007:**
- No new date has been set for the meeting.
 - Jim Whalen said that the County doesn't like the draft. There is not enough meat.
10. **ROUGH ACRES RANCH CAMPGROUND/CONFERENCE CENTER: PDS2012-3300-12-021 (MUP):**
- Another 30 day extension for the Draft EIR.
 - Jim Whalen said they are working on the studies that the County has required.
11. **ROUGH ACRES RANCH ROAD – MAJOR GRADING PERMIT PENDING: PDS2011-2700-15622: APPLICANT GREGG HAMANN:**
- New proposed private connector road between Ribbonwood Road and McCain Valley Road as main access for Iberdrola's Tule Wind project (and secondary access for campground/conference center).
 - Shared road means they are sharing the cost with Tule wind. So they are waiting for Tule Wind.
12. **20 MW JACUMBA SOLAR MUP PDS2014 MUP-14-041 DRAFT EIR:**
- Public comment on the DEIR closed on June 1st.
 - 10MW batter storage in 10 cargo containers on 108 acres
 - South of Old 80 and west of SDG&E's ECO substation on Boulevard
13. **APPEAL OF WIND ENERGY ORDINANCE AND PLAN AMENDMENT:**
- An appeal was filed by a non-profit group challenging the Superior Court ruling upholding the County's Wind Energy Ordinance and Boulevard Community Plan amendments. No hearing date has been set.
14. **DESERT RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN (DRECP) MARCH 10 PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCED NEW PHASED APPROACH:**
- Still working on completing Phase 1.

G. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:20 PM. NEXT REGULAR MEETING SET FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2015:

Minutes approved by Group on 9-3-15

Michele Strand, Secretary:



For More information contact Donna Tisdale, Chair at 619-766-4170 or ortisdale.donna@gmail.com