

# **APPROVED MINUTES**

## **San Diego County Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee**

**Meeting – April 8, 2011**

**Barona Golf Events Center  
1932 Wildcat Canyon Road  
Lakeside, CA 92040**

### **I. Welcome and Roll Call**

Committee chair and County Supervisor Dianne Jacob called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm and committee members introduced themselves.

#### **Members Present:**

Dianne Jacob, County Supervisor  
Edwin “Thorpe” Romero, Chairman, Barona Band of Mission Indians  
Mark Lewis, Mayor, City of El Cajon  
Commander Barletta for Sheriff Gore, County Sheriff  
Don Steuer, County Chief Financial Officer  
Sheilla Alvarez, Representative, Barona Band of Mission Indians  
Adam Day, Representative, Sycuan Band of The Kumeyaay Nation

#### **Members Absent:**

All members present &/or represented.

#### **Legal Advisor:**

Shiri Hoffman and Lori Winfree, Office of County Counsel

#### **Staff:**

Teresa Brownyard, County Chief Administrative Office

### **II. Approval of minutes for the meeting of February 23, 2011**

ACTION: The committee approved the minutes by unanimous vote.

### **III. Oral Presentations by Grant Applicants**

Committee chair Jacob provided instructions to speakers, including that applicants will be given two minutes for each proposed project to address the committee to provide information. Member Romero, Barona Band Chairman, added that the process is difficult. He noted the importance of the recent state audit, and expressed that compliance is very important. He added that committee members are here to support the communities, and that they believe in the projects. Member Romero also said that committee members take their responsibility to ensure compliance very seriously. He noted that his introduction is intended to give speakers insight into the upcoming nature of questions that they will be asking of projects.

1. Ellen Schmeding with County HHSA, Aging & Independent Services provided an overview of the Adult Protective Services - Maintaining the Health and Wellbeing of Seniors proposed two year project. She said they are requesting \$431,250 in funding which is 5.6% of the total project cost (\$7,700,891). She noted a March 2011 GAO report and current findings on elder abuse and problem gambling among seniors.
2. Kathy Jackson with County HHSA, Child Welfare Services provided an overview of the Spirit of the Family proposed project. She said that they are requesting \$160,000 in funding which is 100% of the total project cost. She noted the many partnerships and the need for the Child Welfare Services, Indian Specialty Unit that manages cases throughout the County. Member Romero noted that the grant application is confusing in that funds must be used for off-reservation impacts. He requested clarification. Ms. Jackson responded that they serve all populations both on and off-reservation. Member Romero advised her to amend the application so it was clear.
3. Louise Lecklitner with County HHSA, Behavioral Health Services provided an overview of the Bridge to Recovery: Screening - Brief Intervention and Referral proposed project. She said that they are requesting \$198,697 in funding which is 11.5% of the total project cost (\$1,698,897). She noted that casino gambling is well established in the County and is enjoyable for most adults. She said that studies document the relationship between problem gambling and an increased risk for mental health issues and substance abuse relapse. She said the project proposes to expand current screening tool to include the validated 2 question Lie-Bet Instrument, and that the data shows that problem gambling impacts all areas of San Diego, not just one casino or one geographic area. She noted that data shows that Barona and Sycuan are consistently in the top three San Diego casinos of preference. Member Alvarez asked how the 11.5% impact was derived. Ms. Lecklitner noted that the project is \$1.5M total and the need for \$198,697 to fund two staff, training and other necessities. She said that the percentage of impact is actually 11.7% rather than the 11.5% and that the application should be corrected.
4. Jesse Rodriguez with the County District Attorney's Office provided an overview of the Tribal and Casino Liaison Program proposed projects. He said that they have submitted an option for a 1 year project for which they are requesting \$90,356 in funding and a 3 year project with a funding request of \$271,072 (see #5 below). He noted the importance of continuing this valuable program to expedite the investigation and prosecution of crime through collaboration between Tribal Governments and the DA's office. Member Romero asked why costs went down from the previous grant awarded for \$160k for the annual program. Mr. Rodriguez said that they have reduced staff and will have to cut back on the time they can commit to the program; as such the budget has been reduced based on actual time, more efficient operations and less staff available to work on the project. It is a realistic allocation of the DA staff available for the project and only includes casino matters.
5. Jesse Rodriguez with the County District Attorney's Office provided an overview of the Tribal and Casino Liaison Program proposed projects. He said that they have submitted an option for a 1 year project for which they are requesting \$90,356 in funding (see #4 above) and a 3 year project with a funding request of \$271,072. This three year option is to ensure continuity of the valuable program. Member Romero asked to confirm costs for the program and if the 3 year funding would prevent them from applying for more

funds for the program. Member Romero directed legal counsel to confirm the legality, while noting that it is similar to previous road projects with a 3 year timeline.

6. Bob Goralka with County Department of Public Works provided an overview of the Preservation of Standard and Safe Roadway Maintenance Levels: 10 Cubic Yard Hook Truck w/ Dump Body and Water Tank project. He said that they are requesting \$210,000 in funding for the proposed project which is 100% of the total project cost. He said that this versatile dump truck is used for routine road maintenance, grading, shoulder repair, vegetation managing, and debris and litter removal. He noted that increased travel to Barona and Sycuan casinos exceeds 10% of the overall County street routine maintenance workload, therefore justifying 100% of the cost to add one truck to the County's fleet of 27.
7. Bob Goralka with County Department of Public Works provided an overview of the Dehesa Road / Harbison Canyon Road Intersection Northbound Right-Turn Lane project. He said that they are requesting \$400,000 in funding for the proposed 21 month project which is 100% of the total project cost. He noted that this road improvement would not be necessary if there was not Sycuan Casino traffic. Member Day asked why the cost was so high for the signal. Mr. Goralka clarified that the cost also includes additional lanes and right of way acquisition. Member Day asked if there was documentation for support for the project from the Planning Group. Mr. Goralka confirmed that there is support and said that he would provide the additional information requested.
8. Bob Goralka with County Department of Public Works provided an overview of the Dehesa Road / Harbison Canyon Road Intersection Signalization and Improvements project. He said that they are requesting \$1,087,500 in funding for the proposed three year project which is 75% of the total project cost of \$1,450,000. He noted that this road improvement may not be necessary if not for the Sycuan Casino traffic, and that the County proposes to share costs (25%), which is the proportional share to commensurate with the share of casino traffic volume compared to the total road traffic volume. Member Day's request above in #7 also applies to this project. Mr. Goralka will provide documentation to show support for the project from the Planning Group.
9. Bob Goralka with County Department of Public Works provided an overview of the Dehesa Road / Singing Trails Drive Intersection Improvements project. He said that they are requesting \$532,000 in funding for the proposed three year project, which is 40% of the total project cost of \$1,330,000. He noted that this road improvement may not be necessary if not for the Sycuan Casino traffic, and that the County proposes to share costs (60%), which is the proportional share to commensurate with the share of casino traffic volume compared to the total road traffic volume.
10. Bob Goralka with County Department of Public Works provided an overview of the Dehesa Road / Sycuan Summit Drive Intersection Improvements project. He said that they are requesting \$780,000 in funding for the proposed three year project, which is 60% of the total project cost of \$1,300,000. He noted that this road improvement may not be necessary if not for the Sycuan Casino traffic, and that the County proposes to share costs (40%), which is the proportional share to commensurate with the share of casino traffic volume compared to the total road traffic volume.

11. Bob Goralka with County Department of Public Works provided an overview of the Dehesa Road Rubberized Asphalt - Between El Cajon City Boundary and Willow Glen Drive (2.0 miles) project. He said that they are requesting \$600,000 in funding for the proposed project, which is 40% of the total project cost of \$1,500,000. He noted that this road improvement may not be necessary if not for the Sycuan Casino traffic, and that the County proposes to share costs (60%), which is the proportional share to commensurate with the share of casino traffic volume compared to the total road traffic volume.
12. Bob Goralka with County Department of Public Works provided an overview of the Dehesa Road Rubberized Asphalt - Between Willow Glen Drive and Harbison Canyon Road (3.2 miles) project. He said that they are requesting \$1,200,000 in funding for the proposed project, which is 60% of the total project cost of \$2,000,000. He noted that this road improvement may not be necessary if not for the Sycuan Casino traffic, and that the County proposes to share costs (40%), which is the proportional share to commensurate with the share of casino traffic volume compared to the total road traffic volume.

Member Romero noted that County Public Works had submitted seven projects and that all mitigate impacts from Sycuan Casino. He asked why there were not any projects submitted to mitigate impacts from Barona Casino. He asked why there is a bubble around Barona and said that he would like to see projects submitted for areas north and south of the casino. He stated that he can think of examples of potential projects, specifically calling out improvements needed north of Barona toward Ramona.

13. Bill Saumier w/ County Department of Parks and Recreation provided an overview of the Oakoasis Park Improvements Project. He said that they are requesting \$264,960 in funding for the proposed project, which is 96% of the total cost of the project of \$276,000. He noted that this project is part of a larger \$1.3M project that includes campground improvements, and that the funds for the well drilling to ensure water supply is a key component. Mr. Saumier noted that they have had to drill deep to get water and that the yield was low. Member Romero said that they believe in parks but wanted to see data to justify the project. He clarified that for 36 years they have had to work on wells, sometimes drilling 2,000 feet to get water on tribal lands. He stated that there is not a conclusive tie to the casino. Member Romero asked for more information, specifically data to support that 96% of the impact is tied to the casino. He noted that it is necessary to take into account population growth, and that he would like to see more data, regardless of the difference in opinion. Member Jacob asked what year the casino was built. Member Romero noted in 2002 with golf in 2001. Mr. Saumier noted that water well production was only used for calculation purposes for this grant. In no way is the County saying that the tribal land wells had anything to do with the reduction in production at the Oakoasis Park.
14. Ken Miller with the San Diego County Fire Authority provided an overview of the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Firefighters for all Risk Emergencies (Structural & Wildland Fire Responses) project. He said that they are requesting \$273,878 in funding for the proposed project, which is 12.2% of the total project cost of \$2,242,379. He said that the project is necessary to continue to purchase fire safety gear for firefighters, in cooperation with partner agencies. The fire agencies respond to casino related incidents on a regular basis, and the request for funding is proportional to these calls based on data collected.

15. Ken Miller with the San Diego County Fire Authority provided an overview of the San Diego County Wildfire Risk Assessment System project. He said that they are requesting \$153,172.17 in funding for the proposed project, which is 61% of the total project cost of \$251,456. He noted the catastrophic wildfires of 2003 and 2007 and the importance of this project, which will provide the means for resource managers to identify and target the communities most at risk, to test mitigation strategies and best practices and to gauge a return on investment for mitigation projects. Funding requested is proportional to data collected demonstrating that the region is impacted by the significant increase in dynamic populations due to the thousands (estimate is 7,500) of employees and patrons that visit local casinos daily. Member Alvarez asked for greater detail on the 61% impact, specifically why higher for PPE, and that \$95,000 has already been spent. Mr. Miller responded that 61% was the balance of the project funding needed and not the complete proportionate share for a year.
16. Ken Miller with the San Diego County Fire Authority provided an overview of the Consultant Analysis Report: Tribal Fire Service Blending Into the County Fire System Enhancing Fire Insurance Availability for Tribal and Non-Tribal Members project. He said that they are requesting \$100,000 in funding for the proposed project, which is 15% of the total project cost of \$659,678. He noted that the funds are necessary to continue to improve fire service response through cooperative efforts with partner agencies. He said that analysis of casino and tribal incidents indicates that fire personnel respond to such incidents on a regular basis.
17. Mr. Dennis Davies with the City of El Cajon provided an overview of the Granite Hills Pavement Resurfacing project. He said that they are requesting \$78,000 in funding for the proposed project, which is 26% of the total project cost of \$300,000. He noted that the pavement on Granite Hills has been greatly impacted by the development of the Sycuan Casino, and he provided data from SANDAG traffic modeling estimates to justify the proportionate request. He stated that the project also includes modification to the traffic signal at Granite Hills and Dehesa Road to provide a wireless communication system that will allow the signal to be controlled at City Hall in order to adjust for traffic fluctuations caused by special events or emergencies such as fires. He added that Granite Hills Drive will be resurfaced with rubberized pavement that will use recycled tires.
18. Perry Esquer w/ City of San Diego Fire-Rescue provided an overview of the SDFD On-Board Moving Map System project. He said that they are requesting \$147,533 in funding for the proposed project, which is 3% of the total project cost of \$6,300,000. He noted that the map equipment is needed for Helicopter 2, one of the two helicopters owned and operated by the City to serve the region. Member Romero noted that 3% sounds low and asked for additional information on how it was derived. Mr. Esquer noted that it is based on the Regional Helicopter Program cost of \$6,300,000. He noted that the total cost of the mapping component is \$164,483. Member Alvarez asked him to evaluate the figures.
19. Bill Paskle with the Alpine Fire Protection District provided an overview of the Roof Ventilation Training Prop project. He said that they are requesting \$11,961.53 in funding for the proposed project, which is 50% of the total project cost of \$23,925.05. He noted that the purchase of the training tools will be used for tactical vertical roof ventilation which will refine and expand training exercises and heighten firefighter safety. He said

that SANDAG data on average daily trips in this service area continue to exceed 50,000 and that the impact is demonstrated by a 26% growth in vehicle responses from 2008 – 2010, and that the funds requested are proportionate to the impact. Member Alvarez asked for more information on how they derived the proportionate share. She also wanted information specific to off-reservation impacts.

20. Bill Paskle with the Alpine Fire Protection District provided an overview of the Carbon Monoxide Monitors project. He said that they are requesting \$8,512 in funding for the proposed project, which is 50% of the total project cost of \$17,024.10. He noted that the purchase of the three Rad-57 Handheld Carbon Monoxide (CO) monitors will mitigate the risk of CO poisoning, and that they are key to provide a tool for recognition to immediately provide on-scene treatment. He said that based on SANDAG daily trip data the impact is demonstrated by a 26% growth in vehicle responses from 2008 – 2010. Member Alvarez's comments above are also directed to this project, in that she would like more information on how the proportionate share was derived in relation to the off-reservation impacts.
21. Gary Croucher with the San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District provided an overview of the Auto Extrication Equipment project. He said that they are requesting \$26,000 in funding for the proposed two month project which is 100% of the total project cost. He noted that the funds will be used to purchase new rescue equipment to be used for automotive extraction needs and that trip data was used to justify the funding request for the project, which will be used exclusively on vehicle traffic. Member Alvarez asked if 100% of the cars traveling along the road going to the Casinos. Mr. Croucher clarified that he used the Average Daily Trip (ADT) numbers used by the County (based on square footage and on other variables of each casino) and that those calculations indicate that Sycuan Casino created 12,328 average daily trips (100% going to the casino – 75% of those daily trips traveling through San Miguel), Viejas created 11,741 average daily trips (100% going to the casino). He noted that clarifying documentation is included in his grant application. Ms. Alvarez asked if the funding request will cover the costs. He responded that it will.
22. Bob Niderost with the County Sheriff's Department, Valley Center Substation provided an overview of the Valley Center Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) project. He said that they are requesting \$78,673.25 in funding for the proposed project which is 100% of the total project cost. He is requesting funds for an ALPR and a marked Sheriff's patrol vehicle to monitor passing vehicles. He noted that the ALPR is image-processing technology used to identify persons or vehicles with license plates connected to crimes. He provided data including that the Valley Center area casinos can host upwards of 50,000 visitors per day. He also said that vehicles are reported stolen from casino parking lots and said that the Sheriff's San Marcos Crime Analysis staff has summarized patterns of theft over the past two years, with attention to incidents related to tribal casinos. Member Romero asked if the request for 100% of funding can be attributed to the casinos, and why a Dodge Charger is specified. Mr. Niderost responded that the Dodge Charger is necessary in lieu of a 4WD vehicle as it is specifically designed for pursuit driving. The station only has 4WD vehicles and they are not designed for pursuits.
23. John Torchia with the North County Fire Protection District (NCFPD) provided an overview of the New Type 1 Fire Engine project. He said that they are requesting

\$206,000 in funding for the proposed project which is 33% of the total project cost of \$618,000. He noted that funds will be used to contribute to the purchase of a Type 1 Fire Engine with a rescue body, and that the engine will be placed into service at the NCFPD Station #4. He said that statistical data was obtained to analyze response data for I-15 and SR-76 as they respond to incidents along these roadways from media responses to fires.

24. Member Jacob called for a speaker for the request for \$36,620 for the Valley Center Traffic Calming Project. She noted that the applicant was determined to be ineligible and this is the final opportunity to defend the project. No speaker came forward.

Member Romero commented that the presentations were good. He reiterated the need for additional data in some cases and urged continued caution and clarity on data and information. He also said that the state is looking closely at counties and that we want to continue our excellent job upholding the intent of the program. He praised the committee members and staff on the hard work to develop a rigorous grant process.

Member Jacob reiterated that the audit made it very clear that projects must have a quantifiable determination of impacts from casinos on their local jurisdiction. She noted that the State doesn't always understand local circumstances and that it is necessary for applications to be very clear.

Member Jacob noted that there has been a request for additional information. Committee members approved a due date of Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 5:00 pm for applicants to provide additional data, new information and/or resubmit applications to better evaluate the proposals for funding consideration. She advised applicants to use the constructive comments of committee members to provide additional information and respond to and clarify requests, if they choose, by the Tuesday deadline. Member Jacob asked Ms. Brownyard to confirm the timeline and next steps.

Ms. Brownyard stated that she will collect the additional data and information received by the April 12, 2011 5 pm deadline and compile and distribute for the committee. She noted that Tribes must submit the sponsorship letter to the IGLCBC by April 21; and that the next and final meeting of the committee will be May 4 at which time the committee will approve the selection of grants for FY10-11 and the associated resolution. Ms. Brownyard noted that she will file the public notice and post documents for the May 4 meeting by April 27, 2011. She confirmed that the deadline for submittal of recommended projects to the State Controller's Office is May 13, 2011 and that the deadline for the State allocation of grant funding is June 30, 2011. Ms. Brownyard noted that the County will also have administrative costs to include, which may be up to the 2% limit (\$62,000), as the audit took a lot of staff time.

#### **IV. Public Comments and Communications**

Member Jacob asked if participants had other issues for discussion. No further comments were presented.

#### **V. Adjournment**

With no further matters to consider, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 pm.