

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP (BPG)
MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 7, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM at the Backcountry Resource Center- Community Room, 39919 Ribbonwood Rd, Boulevard CA 91905 (modular behind old Boulevard Fire Station)

A. ROLL CALL/MEMBERS PRESENT: 1) Robert Maupin; 2) Earl Goodnight 3) Kevin Keane; 4) Donna Tisdale.
MEMBERS ABSENT: 5) Michele Strand (excused) 6) Michael Coyne (excused); 7) Ronald Hynum (excused)

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: (OPTIONAL) (please silence cell phones)

C. ACT ON MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 3RD MEETING:

M/S: Maupin/Goodnight: Approve January 3, 2019 minutes as corrected: Passed: 4-0-0

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: No non-agenda public comments were made.

E. ACTION ITEMS (Agenda items may be taken out of order upon request):

1. **BOULDER BRUSH LLC GEN-TIE LINE & SUBSTATION FACILITIES: APPLICATIONS FOR MAJOR USE PERMIT, ENVIRONMENTAL INITIAL STUDY, AND HEIGHT LIMIT EXEMPTION ; PDSMUP-19-002; ER-19-16-001:**

- Tisdale reported that project neighbors, Jeff and Tammy Morrison and Cliff and Conception Caldwell, had contacted her via email saying they could not make the meeting but wanted her to relay their opposition.
- Bob Maupin stated that he has problems with high voltage lines around people, saying the 500kV line that runs through his property killed his wife who contracted polycythemia right after the line went into operation. He also expressed concern that it may have caused his own recent but slow growing cancer.
- Concerns with turbine locations, new high voltage lines, proximity to adjacent private properties, road and project construction, and other project impacts were raised and discussed.
- Tule Wind construction and operation impacts have taught neighbors what to expect and it's not pretty.
- Tisdale stated that Community Choice and Climate Action Plans now represent big problems for Boulevard by providing multiple potential buyers for energy from local projects. We have no clue who is bidding.
- We get major disproportionate local impacts while energy and alleged benefits serve other communities.
- Jim Whalen suggested the community ask for something.
- There was push back against selling out for limited benefits that still don't help impacted property owners, public health and safety, quality of life, and property values.
- Ricky and Pam Guy talked about adverse impacts from construction and operation of Tule Wind turbines. No one has responded to complaints.
- Pam Guy said she was tired of the turbines 'kicking her ass' with noise, vibrations, shadow flicker, disruption of her cell service that she needs to work from home, and more. Their 17-year old son is on track to be a professional horse trainer at their ranch. How can that happen with the impacts from existing turbines and more turbines, lines and substations, planned so close?

- Ricky Guy talked about how much time and money they have invested in their ranch and that it would be hard to find a similar property that they could use and afford—if they could even sell theirs.
- Guy also said that even if they were bought out by developers at 125% it would not be enough and would kick them into a higher property tax bracket.
- When asked who opposed these projects, everyone raised their hand with the exception of Jim Whalen.
- Whalen asked if there was support for buying out impacted property owners.
- Tisdale said she would support buying out willing impacted property owners if that is what they wanted.
- There seemed to be a consensus on that issue.
- Chair called for a motion.
- ***M/S: Maupin/Keane: Authorize the Chair to submit comments in opposition to Boulder Brush Gen-Tie line, Substation Facilities, and height limit waiver for 150 foot tall poles: Passed: 4-0-0***

F. GROUP BUSINESS & PROJECT UPDATES – DISCUSSION ONLY

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:

- Bronwyn Brown, PDS project manager for Jacumba Valley Ranch Solar, expects the Notice of Project to be released for public comment in about 1-2 months.
- Ernie Bartley with County Traffic Engineering is checking into coordination with Caltrans on requests for new No Outlet signage to alert big rig drivers exiting I-8 that Ribbonwood Road north and south frontage road Avenida De Robles Verdes. There is no designated I-8 business loop for Boulevard needed for signs.
- Manzanita tribal members have informed the Chair that their leadership is working on 18 new large wind turbines with a vote scheduled in March.

3. REVITALIZATION REPORT by Tammy Daubach:

- Community clean-up dates for this year: August 31st for Boulevard; September 28th for Campo; October 26th for Jacumba; and November 28th for Potrero. Last year, 80.6 tons of trash was collected. 19 tons less than 2017. 535 tires were collected and 40 loads of brush were chipped.
- Yoga classes are available at the Backcountry Resource Center: 2nd and last Tuesdays of the month at 5:00 PM.
- The Jacumba Friends of the Library bake sale goes from Feb 12th through 16th.

4. FIRE SAFE COUNCIL (FSC) REPORT by Tammy Daubach:

- Free chipping is available through Sunrise Powerlink grants. Flyers are available.
- Free smoke detectors are available through the Burn Institute.
- Burn Permits are being issued by CalFire. Sandbags can be picked up from the Boulevard Fire Station.
- Due to the new Governor and 2018's wildfires, the Board of Supervisors have given CalFire more funding to perform inspections on properties. They hope to make all inspections annual.
- The Fire Hazard Severity Zones Map hasn't been updated in years and was compiled for 40 mph wind speeds. At the state level, they are changing the map to reflect 70 mph wind speeds. Our area looked bad before and we're going to look worse when they finish the map.

- Home insurance companies have already jumped on this. They will be doing home inspections on all their policies. They will be increasing their rates. AAA, Hartford, and Traveler's will no longer be insuring homes in California. It's been advised that if you want to replace your policy, do not cancel your current policy until you are signed up with a new one. You may not be able to get insurance again.
- Information on street signs and preparing your house for a winter freeze is available.
- Fire Safe and Revitalization will be meeting on the same days at the Backcountry Resource Center.
- Fire Safe will meet at 6:30 PM and Revitalization will meet at 7:30 PM: April 18th, July 18th, and November 21st.
- Our FSC is updating our CWPP. A public meeting for comments will be scheduled before March.
- The Tule Jim fire break is completed. The Tierra Del Sol fire break has been started.

5. **TERRA-GEN'S 252 MW - 60 TURBINE CAMPO WIND PLANNED FOR 2,200 ACRES OF THE CAMPO RESERVATION:**

- The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) contact said they are compiling comments to be posted at campowind.com.
- He also said that they had accepted comments sent in during the government shutdown so there will be no further comment extension.
- San Diego County is a Cooperating Agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance for the Campo Wind Energy Project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- The BIA sent a letter to the County dated August 22, 2018 and the County responded on September 17, 2018.
- The County did not provide comments on the Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft EIS because the County will be involved in the EIS and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the Boulder Brush project, which is connected to the Campo Wind project.

6. **TERRA-GEN'S 126 MW TORREY WIND PROJECT: PDS2018-MUP-18-014:**

- PDS Project Manager, Bronwyn Brown, said she anticipates that the Draft EIR will be going out in the next 2-3 months. She will provide a preliminary notification on the release date.

7. **TULE WIND PHASE 1 – NOISE /COMMUNITY COMPLAINT CONTACTS:**

Toll Free Project Hotline & Noise Complaints directly to Iberdrola /Avangrid: 855-369-9337; windcommunity@avangrid.com. Noise complaints can also be made to San Diego County Noise Control & Code Compliance: (858) 694-3741 or e-mail PDS.CodeCompliance@sdcountry.ca.gov; and to BLM: Carrie Sahagun @ csahagun@blm.gov, 760-337-4437. It may be best to address complaints to Iberdrola/Avangrid and copy all the other contacts on every email complaint filed. Keep a record of all complaints and any responses.

8. **TULE WIND PHASE II:**

- Bronwyn Brown reported that Tule Wind is currently determining the placement of up to 24 turbines on land owned by the State and Ewiiapaayp Reservation.

9. **74 MW RUGGED SOLAR: PDS2017-MUP-12-007W1 MAJOR USE PERMIT MODIFICATION-NEW PROJECT**

DESCRIPTON: MUP extended to February 2019:

- On request, Bronwyn Brown provided documentation showing she had granted a second 6-month time extension to July 2, 2019 so Clean Focus and Hamanns could resolve land ownership and parcelization issues.
- Bronwyn asked Jim Whalen to keep her updated over the next 6 months on the progress of this project including the boundary adjustment with Frankie Thibadeau's estate and the transaction between Tule Wind and Clean Focus regarding the \$700,000 or so that Clean Focus owes Tule for their share of the gen-tie.
- Whalen also informed the County that the Hamann's are consolidating all of its three previous ownership entities at the time of the MUP approval into one owner.

- That new owner will be the Waterstone Foundation, a charitable 501c3 foundation. Claims were made that all proceeds from the Rugged Solar project will go to charity. Whalen stated that keeping the project going will fund good works.
10. **60 MW 420 ACRE BOULEVARD SOLAR MUP12-010TE PDS2012-3300-12-00 @ 796 Tierra Del Sol Road; MUP set to expire on February 15 2019:**
- Bronwyn Brown provided documentation on the following:
 - She had received a request from Jim Whalen and granted a 1-year Permit extension to Feb 15, 2020.
 - She asked Whalen to provide an update on July 2, 2019.
 - Invenergy is no longer the project developer. They never responded with a submittal to the County on the 2017 scoping letter for the MUP Modification.
 - Invenergy stopped making option payments to Mr. Brown, the property owner in March 2018.
 - Mr. Brown hired an attorney for breach of contract.
 - In August 2018, Invenergy provided a quit claim deed.
 - The County is still waiting for Invenergy to complete the financial change in responsibility.
 - Bronwyn has elevated it to the Finance Department and sent the Quitclaim Deed.
 - Once she hears back from them regarding next steps on changing the financial responsibility to Mr. Brown (property owner), she will let Whalen know.
 - Whalen reported that he worked on the permit extension only and is not representing the project otherwise.
11. **100MW BOULEVARD ENERGY STORAGE FACILITY; PDS 2017-ZAP-17-006; MINOR USE PERMIT FOR 2 ACRE PROJECT LOCATED ON APN'S# 612-09-059; 612-09-019; 612-09-017, NEAR BOULEVARD SUBSTATION: MUP extended to February 2019:**
- No news to report. No word on any permit extension.

G. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:06 PM: NEXT MEETING SET FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2019 @ BACKCOUNTRY RESOURCE CENTER.

Minutes/summary approved by Group on 3-7-19

Michele Strand, Secretary: _____

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

Current and past meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted on the County website @

<http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html>

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