

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP
MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

MEETING CALLE TO ORDER: 7:00 PM, Thursday, September 1, 2016

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

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

C. MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 4TH MEETING:

- *M/S: Hynum/Maupin: Accept the August 4th minutes as corrected: Passed: 5-0-0*

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

- Public concerns were raised over potential air and ground water impacts and the legality of recent dumping of tons of asphalt grindings on local properties, including adjacent to Clover Flat School, and previous reports noting potential for lead and hydrocarbon contaminants migrating off-site through water and air.
- The grindings are known as Recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP).
- The resurfacing project on I-8 is the current source of asphalt grindings.
- Previous grindings source in 2014 was roadbed trenching of Old Hwy 80 and Carrizo Road in Jacumba for burying of SDG&E's new 138kV line between Boulevard and Jacumba.
- Chair reported no luck in 2014 when seeking clarification and resolution to RAP and air and groundwater concerns.
- The CPUC staff reported back that the RAP grindings had been "donated" to property owners by the contractor.
- It was assumed that the current grindings had also been "donated" in order for the contractor to avoid the need to properly transport the RAP materials to a facility authorized to accept it.
- Statements were made regarding intent to contact agencies regarding current situation when time allows.
- Chair requested help in researching this issue.

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

1. **TULE WIND: SHOULD THE GROUP REQUEST A SUBSEQUENT EIR (CEQA)AND SUPPLEMENTAL EIS (NEPA) AND CORRESPONDING PROJECT APPROVAL MODIFICATIONS AND/OR ENDORSE THE FORMAL REQUESTS SUBMITTED TO THE COUNTY BY DONNA TISDALE ON AUGUST 9TH AND/OR THE AUGUST 26TH REQUEST SUBMITTED TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY, BLM, CPUC, AND STATE LANDS COMMISSION BY THE ATTORNEY FOR BACKCOUNTRY AGAINST DUMPS?**
 - Hard copies were available of both the formal requests for SEIR/SEIS as referenced in agenda item, along with the most recent Tule Wind plot plan. Both were discussed.
 - Several neighbors impacted by the Tule Wind project were present and repeated their concerns regarding adverse impacts to their properties and quality of life, including a boundary dispute over transmission line easements.
 - The September 1st UT news article was provided. It reported on Tule Wind's August 31st groundbreaking ceremony at Rough Acres Ranch.
 - The Chair said she had not been notified of the groundbreaking ceremony but she had accidentally stumbled onto the end of that ceremony on her way out to the McCain Valley Recreation Area. Numerous private security vehicles and some suit and tie folks were seen driving out.
 - Tammy reported hearing that there were hundreds of people present and security was present.
 - The Chair noted that the video and photos in the UT article showed just a few people present.
 - *M/S: Maupin/Goodnight: To endorse the formal requests for the preparation of a Subsequent EIR/Supplemental EIS for Tule Wind submitted by Law Offices of Stephan C. Volker / Backcountry Against Dumps, dated August 26th, and the separate request submitted by Donna Tisdale, dated August 9th.*
2. **SHOULD THE OCTOBER MEETING DATE BE MOVED FROM OCTOBER 6TH TO OCTOBER 13TH TO ACCOMMODATE THE CHAIR'S ABSENCE OR GO ON AS SCHEDULED WITHOUT THE CHAIR?**
 - The Chair will be unavailable on Oct 6th but the Vice-Chair is available and willing to chair the meeting.

- Planner Keane noted that October 13 is the same day as the Tule Wind hearing in San Diego.
- **M/S: Maupin/Keane: Move the meeting to Thursday October 13: Passed: 5-0-0**

3. MEDICAL MARIJUANA ORDINANCE OPTIONS PUBLIC REVIEW:

- The ordinance addresses collective cultivation and exchange of marijuana solely among members of Medical Marijuana Collective Facilities.
- According to staff, *under the existing ordinance as well as under the various options there are no sites available in the Boulevard Planning area.*
- There was a consensus that it was best to let sleeping dogs lay.
- **NO ACTION WAS TAKEN**

F. GROUP BUSINESS & PROJECT UPDATES – DISCUSSION ONLY

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:

- No November election. Only the four BPG incumbents filed for election to the BPG's four open seats.
- **6-8 PM Sept 13 CREP workshop:** County staff will be holding a public workshop in Boulevard at the old fire station equipment bay to discuss the Comprehensive Renewable Energy Plan that could include a Renewable Energy Overlay Zone over the Boulevard and/or Jacumba Planning Areas.
- The \$60-70 million Desert Line rail upgrade is expected to start construction soon on existing lines between San Diego and Ocotillo. 30-car trains will operate locally with a new intermodal rail facility planned in the Coyote Wells area of Ocotillo, where 100-car double stacked trains will be assembled for delivery to the Union Pacific at Plaster City.
- Comments were made that \$70 million may not be enough to upgrade the deteriorated tracks and collapsed tunnels.

2. REVITALIZATION REPORT BY TAMMY DAUBACH:

- **October 29th:** Tire recycling will be available at the Boulevard Community Clean-up event, courtesy of the RECFSC. Large tires, tires with rims, and more than 9 tires will require a call to check if the County will be able to take them.
- **October 1st:** The Jacumba Fall Festival will be at Jacumba Park from 7AM-2PM. The library will have events as well.

3. FIRE SAFE COUNCIL (FSC) REPORT BY TAMMY DAUBACH:

- FSC is willing to pick up tires and trash for the clean-up days and hazardous waste for the September 17th event from 9AM-2PM at the old Potrero Fire Department.
- Over 14 tons of trash was removed at Potrero's clean-up day. Outside toys, mattresses, and couches were three of most popular items, which is typical of the first event.

4. TULE WIND PROJECT:

- Chair reported that the BLM, in response to her request, informed her that 5 wind turbines have been eliminated from the most southerly section of turbines located within the Lark Canyon OHV Park, west of McCain Valley Road and north of Rough Acres Ranch's main complex.
- Two appeals requesting a 10 judge panel at the 9th Circuit Court have been denied.
- As of July 18th, according to the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), no Eagle Act take permit application has been submitted for either Tule I or Tule II wind projects. The USFWS anticipates a permit application on the Tule 1 project, in the spring of 2017, but they have no information on when to expect an application for Tule II.

5. TULE WIND LEASE APPLICATION SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 13TH STATE LANDS COMMISSION'S HEARING IN SAN DIEGO :

- The Chair urged interested parties to participate and speak at the October 13th hearing in San Diego and to send in comments prior to that hearing.

6. ROUGH ACRES RANCH CAMPGROUND/CONFERENCE CENTER: PDS2012-3300-12-021 (MUP); DRAFT EIR PENDING:

- Ryan was present in Jim Whalen's place. No new information available.

7. COMPREHENSIVE RENEWABLE ENERGY PLAN (CREP) POD 13-007: REPORT ON AUGUST 17TH CREP TAC MEETING:

- The Chair reported on the August 17th CREP Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting.
- A consensus of the TAC members prioritized inclusion of Renewable Energy Overlay Zones to help fast track renewable energy projects.

- Boulevard and /or Jacumba Planning Areas are the most likely targets for such Overlay Zones.
- There are also concerns with potential for newly authorized Infrastructure Finance Districts that, if authorized, could generate property taxes that could help support wealthy developers within that district or zone.
- Another TAC meeting is tentatively set for Sept 21st.
- The community was urged to participate in the Sept 13th CREP/CAP workshop in Boulevard

8. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP): REPORT ON AUGUST 2^{OTH} CHAIRS MEETING WITH COUNTY:

- The Chair reported participating in the Chair's CAP meeting on August 2nd where she urged other group chairs to stay alert on the potential impacts to rural communities from the CAP and the CREP plans.
- Staff has arranged for the Sept 13th workshop that the Chair requested be held in Boulevard due to disproportionate and cumulative impacts from major energy and transmission projects.

9. ROUGH ACRES RANCH ROAD - MAJOR GRADING PERMIT PENDING: PDS2011-2700-15622: APPLICANT GREGG HAMANN:

- Linda Shannon reported a bulldozer parked on the section of the Rough Acres Ranch Road near her gate. The driver had indicated that it was there for road work. Something was also mentioned about work to improve the gun range, just east of her place.
- The Chair reported contacting the County's project manager who reported the Road Grading Permit had not yet been approved. Staff is in the final engineering review stage.
- The Chair also reported asking staff how much water the new road construction required and what was the source.
- Staff reported back that they have requested the water information.

10. SOITEC'S SOLAR PROJECTS FOR SALE:

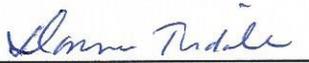
- Ryan reported that he does not work on Whalen's renewable energy projects so he has no updates for us.

11. CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION DOCKET # 15-RETI-02 INCLUDES POTENTIAL FOR PARTIAL SOUTHWEST POWERLINK CONVERSION FROM AC TO DC AT ESTIMATED COST OF \$700-900 MILLION:

- The Chair reported that SDG&E's plan to convert Southwest Powerlink to DC is moving through the planning process and seems to be gaining momentum.

G. MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 8:00. NEXT MEETING DATE WAS MOVED TO SECOND THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13 @ THE BOULEVARD FIRE TRAINING ROOM.

Minutes approved by Group on October 13, 2016

Donna Tisdale, Chair: 

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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