

*****SPECIAL NOTICE*****

To take part in the VIRTUAL meeting call in by phone at either 669-900-6833 Or 346-248-7799 starting at 7:15 pm.

When directed, enter the meeting ID: 869-0213-0606 and Meeting Password: 286896

You will be placed in a Queue until admitted by the Host. You will then be placed on hold until the Meeting begins. When it is your turn to speak, the host will say the last four digits of your phone number and you will be permitted to speak at that time. If you become disconnected, call back and enter the appropriate ID and PW numbers.

To join the meeting via the web use the following link:

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*****SPECIAL NOTICE*****

**JAMUL DULZURA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
FINAL MINUTES**

Approved June 22, 2021

Tuesday June 8, 2021

*****VIRTUAL MEETING*****

CALL IN BEGINS AT 7:15 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair, Dan Neirinckx, called the meeting to order at 7:22 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Dan Neirinckx, Janet Mulder, Michael Casinelli, Kevin May, Preston Brown, Summer Piper, Steve Wragg, Eve Nasby, Amber Recklau, Streeter Parker, Rachel Yedder, Ed Mollon.

Absent:

Excused:

Vacant: Seats 5, 7, 14

Guests: Kathleen Lippitt, Thomas Lamb, Jill Terp, Marc Schaefer (Sup. Joel Anderson), Kelly Mc Cormick, Paul Romero.

3. **APPROVAL** of the Agenda for June 8, 2021, and Final Minutes for the Meeting of June 1, 2021. Motion to approve made by Preston Brown. Motion passed unanimously

4. **OPEN FORUM:**

- a. **Janet Mulder** reminded us that the Cannabis Hearing will take place tomorrow, June 9 at Board of Supervisors Meeting and you need to call in by 9 in order to speak. We have had lots of input from our community and need to let the BOS know their concerns.
 - b. **Summer Piper** asked why the sub-committee meetings were not posted, and **Dan Neirinckx** said there are no members of the public that are on the committee, so it is not necessary to publish the announcement.
 - c. **Michael Casinelli** told us that the County is planning to put up guard rails on roads that need a guard rail, and repair any guardrail in need. He needs to know the exact location on the road that is in need of a guard rail, or a guardrail repair, and it must be on a County maintained road, so if anyone knows of a road that needs a guard rail, let him know and he will send in a list. **Amber Recklau** said that there is an area on Montiel Truck Trail that needs to have the guard rail removed. **Eve Nasby** suggested that the public could send their road requests to **Rachel Vedder** who will make a list for the County people.
 - d. **Eve Nasby** asked all of the new members who have not had their information published in our *Jamul Shopper* to please submit their brief bio to her and she will send it into be printed in the *Jamul Shopper* as she has already had bios printed of the current members.
 - e. **Kelly McCormick** shared that she was listening to the BOS meeting as they were discussing the problems with addiction and she was concerned that there was no discussion of prevention nor discussion of marijuana as a “gateway drug” in the information that they are going to present tomorrow. Their priorities seem to be off when they are talking about making marijuana available easier as experts tell us that it seems to be the “first drug” of choice and is the one that 90% who start before the age of 18, marijuana is the drug of choice. The head of Scripps Hospital stated that she has not treated anyone in the emergency room for an overdose that did not start their use of drugs with marijuana. The marketing and the advertising would create bigger clientele for it and could create many more drug problems in our community.
 - f. **Kathleen Lippitt** also wanted to point out that the information that **Kelly McCormick** just gave is so important. The website gives lots of information and points out that the resources will be over-whelmed if this is passed, and that scenario is not being addressed. She would encourage all of us to speak tomorrow at the BOS. She also wanted to thank Supervisor Anderson for recognizing that sexually arrested released people should not be placed in the back county and standing up for our East County communities at the Board meeting.
 - g. **Steve Wragg** asked when we will be able to get back to live meetings and **Dan Neirinckx** said that he will check into it with the County and let us know.
 - h. **Ed Mollon** reported that a person is interested in utilizing the Barrett House for a therapy horse program. She is now working with a group and plans to speak to the owners about the property, which she would plan to restore. He will keep us informed.
5. **County General Plan changes: Safety Element, Emergency Evacuation Routes:**
Preston Brown welcomed those community members who joined us in this virtual meeting and said he was expecting a great many more people to be a part of the conversation, as he was hoping to have more comments from the public as we did in 2011 when emergency evacuation routes originally came before our Group. He pointed out that the JDCPG wanted to get public input before we submit our recommendations for the Safety Element to the

BOS, and we want to start a process of dialogue between the JDCPG, and the residents of Jamul Dulzura. The Fire Safe Council for the Safety Element will become the Emergency Evacuation Fire Safe Council. Valley Center and Ramona both already have EE FSC's and are in regular contact with all parties involved, official agencies and volunteer and sponsor groups. We would like to achieve the same thing, a structure with which we can coordinate and constantly update ideas and evaluate the effectiveness of actions we take. He reminded us that this is only the beginning. It is a long-term process.

Preston Brown then reminded us that **Grants** for fire preparedness and for wildfire emergency evacuation and all matters of great safety will be available for many years to come as the threat of wildfire danger increases. He stated that our first and immediate goal is to apply for grants through the Fire Safe Councils. Unfortunately, at this time there is no longer a Dulzura Barrett FSC. Currently we have the Jamul, the Outer Jamul and the Campo Tecate FSCs. Tonight, he wanted to hear from the public, what is the most immediate concerns for evacuation safety. He thanked **Robert Hill**, resident of Mother Grundy Truck Trail who wrote a letter to the Planning Group as he could not be here tonight, and sent the following: "I live in the micro-community of Deerhorn Valley. More specifically Mother Grundy Truck Trail. As some of you are aware MGTT is a 5-mile loop connecting with Deerhorn Valley Road and Honey Springs with many side roads connecting with MGTT. It is 100 percent dirt roads in different stages of condition, from "fair to bad to horrible". Most homeowners do not have the means to maintain their designated road frontages. I would approximate that there are 100 homes total on parcels of 5-80 acres. I would like to suggest that MGTT be graded and maintained by the County." **Preston Brown** stated that, "This is probably the most difficult issue we face: to work out Funding and Agreement between landowners on what to do to make our roads usable." **Chair Dan Neirinckx** reminded us that Mother Grundy Truck Trail is a private road and therefore is not maintained by the County without a Road Maintenance Agreement accepted and paid for by the property owners on the road.

Preston Brown pointed out that there may not be obvious choices and agreements tonight but can we agree on a process to figure this out. His suggestion is that we apply as a Planning Group for a GRANT to consult with wildland fire evacuation experts. We could have a private independent group of consultants, former fire chiefs, fire scientists and traffic experts work with us on a micro-community level to help residents coordinate and develop strategies for their particular area.

Jill Terp asked if there is a map that shows the County Evacuation Routes of our area. **Preston Brown** will send the map and it is available online the under **Fehr** who have done an excellent job of mapping the evacuation routes of our area. **Summer Piper** reminded us that this report was never adopted by the County. **Jill Terp** said that she is concerned that the old report named roads that were not really prepared. **Preston Brown** shared his screen and presented the Jamul/Dulzura Existing Roadway Network map which showed possible solutions. The report also analyzed the access problems. Figure 3-1 shows in red, the areas who only have one access in and out. **Thomas Lamb**, who is part of the **Outer Valley Jamul Fire Safe Council**, told us that today there are two separate councils in Jamul. The Jamul Estates, Lawson Valley, & "Downtown" Jamul are all a part of the Jamul Fire Safe Council which is newly established. The **Outer Valley Jamul Fire Safe Council** is working on trying to map evacuation routes, but the problem is, that 95% of the time the fires come from the west and that means that most roads would be unusable. They are trying to clear the amount of the vegetation to 20-foot on both sides of the road. He understands that all of the private roads have to be cooperatively maintained or made a part of the County's Road Network which takes agreement from all of the landowners and then it costs the landowners. In a fire, some people will want to stay in place on their property and he pointed out there will be a four-hour workshop held at the Deerhorn Fire Station which will

be very informative. **Summer Piper** thanked the Fire Safe Council people for their time and pointed out that Alpine had worked on developing a fire safe area with evacuation routes marked. **Thomas Lamb** pointed out that it is difficult to map evacuation maps as many of the roads are impassable and should not be included in an evacuation plan. Education of the public as to how fire behaves may be the most worthwhile effort. **Summer Piper** said that the County made the evacuation signs for Alpine and they basically point a way out of an area. She saw some on Japatul Valley Road. **Preston Brown** said that communication is so important that we need to be sure that our whole area has cell coverage so we can all be alerted to the need. **Thomas Lamb** said that cell service availability has been discussed for the last five years because in the 2007 fire the only people who were able to communicate were people who had hand-held radios. **Preston Brown** suggested we could ask for grants to work on this. **Summer Piper** pointed out that ham radios are not able to be used officially and government info could not sent over them. **Eve Nasby** suggested that **Preston's** suggestion to apply for a grant to buy radios would be interesting. **Thomas Lamb** said that some people in the community have small hand held radios and might be able to communicate in an emergency, but not officially. They could be used to let people know where the fire is located and teach people what to look for in order to "shelter in place". **Summer Piper** recommended that we look at the fact that CTSS phones are not standardized, so people could be sharing a channel and not be able to hear each other. Communication should be a portable radio which would always work. **Amber Recklau** asked about infra-red fire detection. **Summer Piper** said that SDG&E has a service that notifies the public called SDG&E Alert Wild Fire and it will show where the fire is located. Most of the mountain peaks have these alert systems installed. **Jill Terp** pointed out that the Pulse Point system can be downloaded to your phone and one can select from it to have notifications from SDG&E and other agencies like San Diego County fire and for fire, flood, other emergencies. **Amber Recklau** suggested that SDG&E make a better satellite notification system. **Summer Piper** said that the Pulse Point system works, but **Preston and Amber** both suggested that SDG&E needs to improve its communication efforts. **Jill Terp** pointed out that Pulse Point can be made very selective and you choose what you wish to know. The notification would come to you at the same time that emergency responders are being notified through the drop-down menu. **Jill Terp** asked if any studies were done after the 2012 report. **Preston Brown** said that he was not aware of any changes, and it was available to set up. Only the numbers of the population have changed.

Preston Brown shared his screen which showed our original recommendations with his proposed changes as follows:

Recommendations:

1. Ensure that all backcountry communities have internet or cellular access in order to receive emergency notifications. The OES currently has a new app that is connected to all sources and agencies and is updating in real time and through the Sheriff Department can send emergency notifications immediately out to residents via texts or emails. This issue overlaps with the intent of the Environmental Justice Element.

2. There should be sources of funding dedicated to specific community needs. Training, education and logistics can be targeted for specific communities. In particular, funds for consulting with Emergency Evacuation Specialists and Planners. The Fehr & Peers Study of 2012 dealt only with physical improvement of roads for alternative evacuation routes. The Jamul Dulzura Sub Area Region is very complex and spread out over a number of valleys and mountain ranges that all share one lifeline highway SR94. The numerous clusters of communities based in country cul-de-sac's have unique challenges in responding to wildfire events.

3. S-3.5 Access Roads. We object to replacing the language “when necessary” with “when feasible”. The language when feasible considers more factors than that of a necessity. During wildfires people’s lives are at stake and the county should do everything in its power to protect that life; this is a necessity not a feasibility. Access roads should also take into account the current traffic conditions on each of the main roads that may be used for evacuations. In Jamul, the main access corridor is Highway SR 94 which has previously been graded an “F” when it comes to traffic and congestion. Such access roads cannot be considered efficient or effective in a wildfire evacuation strategy. Compounding already congested roadways with panicked residents trying to evacuate in smoky conditions is dangerous, unacceptable, and setting our community up for failure.

After reading the revised proposal Preston Brown moved that the above set of three recommendations be send to the Planning Commission, PDS, and Board of Supervisors as the Recommendations from JDCPG.

Kevin May suggested that the new information was redundant. **Summer Piper** suggested that you not tell them how to do a task but just that it needs to be done. **Preston Brown** pointed out that he has just modified the original proposal to include clarifying information and make sure they realize that it is our point of view. They will translate the information however they want and more information could not hurt. The four workshops that he attended seemed to request more depth of information given from our point of view.

Voice vote was taken on the above motion made by Preston Brown. The vote was: 10 yes; 1 No (Kevin May); 1 Abstained (Steve Wragg...his Firm is involved in discussions on this subject). Motion passed and Preston Brown will deliver it to the Planning Commission at their meeting on Friday, June 11, 2021.

6. **New member Application: Paul Romero was welcomed to the meeting by Chair Dan Neirinckx who** gave a brief summary of his background. **Eve Nasby** read his application which included his prior role in business and he now works for the City of El Cajon. He is a civil engineer who has worked on both private and public projects. He joined us at this point on the phone and thanked us for our patience with his computer problems. He had some technical issues and did not know about the meeting on June 8, 2021. He is a resident of Dulzura who lives there with his wife and four kids. He attended Steele Canyon High School and went to Cuyamaca College and transferred to SDSU to go into civil engineering and received his bachelor’s degree in 2013. He worked with small cells, micro cells through ATT and Verizon in project management. He travelled with his job a lot and realized that living in the back country was better. He works in the Capital Improvement projects for the City of El Cajon, and is ready to be more involved with the community and to be a voice for his community of Dulzura. He wants to be part of the conversation, and to advise the Planning Commission in the right way so the future will be great for our kids. **Janet Mulder** told him she was glad that he would represent Dulzura. **Paul Romero** said that he wants to be a representative of his area and looks forward to it. **Preston Brown** asked him after listening to our discussion if he had any ideas he would like to share dealing with Dulzura. **Paul Romero** suggested that the micro cells are really made for city areas and if we are interested in better cell service, we need to make sure that the existing cell service companies put out better service for our area. **Preston Brown** asked if he was familiar with roads and **Paul Romero** told us that he has worked with Caltrans and now El Cajon, and we should be able to apply for more grants that would be of help to us in the future. His work on cell sites would help us to know how to work with them, including how to approach them. Caltrans is working on SR94 at 188. **Streeter Parker** echoed the comment that it was great

to have a representative from Dulzura. **Summer Piper and Amber Recklau** both added thanks to **Paul Romero**, and **Ed Mollon** told that we appreciate having someone in Dulzura. **Michael Casinelli** asked him about his stand with developments like Village 13 and 14. **Paul Romero** said it was very important to make sure we could proactively look at the traffic and other concerns. **Michael Casinelli** pointed out that many of these projects come with the County having “checked all of the boxes” for approval and would this be a problem for him. **Paul Romero** said that his perception would be to represent our community and know what they think on a project. **Dan Neirinckx** asked if he would be willing to take Seat 5 which has 3 ½ years left on its term. **Paul Romero** said he would be glad to do it! **Dan Neirinckx** told him that we would assign projects to him **Michael Casinelli moved we approve Paul Romero to take Seat #5 on the JDCPG. Paul Romero left the meeting at this point and a vote was taken. Vote was unanimous to support Paul as the new member. Janet Mulder suggested that we ask Marc Schaefer to take Paul Romero’s name to Supervisor Joel Anderson with the hope that he would be appointed expeditiously.**

7. JDCPG OFFICER’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:

a. Next meeting June 22 we will discuss the Ivanhoe Ranch Project which is not in our planning area, but has definite impacts.

b. Amber Reclau wants us to invite **Sweetwater Authority and US Forest Service** to discuss the plans they have to draw from the Loveland Reservoir which is where helicopters get water for fires and in addition, there is a deed that says the water needs to be a certain depth to allow for fishing.

c. Dan Neirinckx will be attending the Meeting of the Chairs and ask about the possibility of holding hybrid meetings using Zoom in addition to the regular in person meeting attendees, in order to allow more members to attend as well as give more members of the public an opportunity to testify on a topic. **Preston Brown** pointed out that this might decrease the number of meetings in which a group might not have a quorum present.

8. Adjournment: Chair Dan Neirinckx adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Janet Mulder, Secretary

NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

7:30 P.M. TUESDAY JUNE 22, 2021

SITE: Virtual Meeting format until public/in-person meetings permitted.

Meeting minutes and agendas can be accessed at

<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/pds/CommunityGroups.html>

PUBLIC NOTICE

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JAMUL/DULZURA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group is to represent the best interests of the communities of Jamul and Dulzura while adhering to County of San Diego, California Board of Supervisors Policy I-1.

PURPOSE STATEMENT:

The purpose of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group is:

To provide a public forum where local citizens can learn about issues of importance to them and their community and provide input.

To carefully consider all input when advising the county on such issues as planning, land use, discretionary projects, and community and sub-regional plans.

APPROVED 5/12/2020