

Jamul-Dulzura

Community Planning Group Unincorporated County of San Diego

FINAL MINUTES

March 7, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:30 pm

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Kevin May, Dan Neirinckx, Preston Brown, Michael Casinelli, Thomas Gray, Lisa Hodgson, Eve Nasby, Ed Mollen, Steve Wragg, Paul Dombkowski, Darla Kasmedo, Corbin Sabol, Janet Mulder, Courtney Etnyre

Guests:

Excused:

Vacant Seats: 13

3. APPROVAL: Minutes for February 6, 2024. **Dan Neirinckx** moved that we approve.
Motion passed unanimously

4. OPEN FORUM

- **Michael Casinelli** said during the latest inspection from code enforcement the Jamul Highland property was given an approval for the storage container and the junk present. They also found no code violation for the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) but still needed to check on the septic system. **Ed Mollen** asked about the old buried cars in the yard and noted that there is a stream bed through the property and wouldn't this be in the jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Health. **Steve Wragg** said it is up to code enforcement to bring it to the attention of the right department. **Michael** said there is no limit to the number of cars that can be stored on a property, only that they all have to be operational. Ed cautioned that under these conditions of the state of the yard, the fire department could choose not to fight a fire there. **Ed** added that with old vehicles there comes the pollutant of oil and rubber.

5. LOVELAND RESERVIOR: SDGE Easements: Presented by Russell Walsh

Introduction: Russell Walsh has presented 2 or 3 times on his efforts to gain access for the public to recreation, including fishing and hiking on and around the Loveland Reservoir. Gaining access by way of the SDGE easement is a new opportunity to make this happen.

Russel Walsh informed us that on November 22, 2023, Sweetwater Water Authority updated its water storage policy in terms of limiting the percentage of drainage. Now it is 80% full. Sweetwater has not reverted from threats to drain the lake if they want but it appears that would be problematic for the water district. It is true that Loveland is currently above 80% full.

He believes that fully draining the basin causes erosion and is destructive to the environment, fish life and wildlife and riparian habitat.

Senator Brian Jones has agreed to help with the SDGE easement and has come up with \$750,000 to support this goal. On March 14th, **Russell** will present proposals hosted by Sen. Jones's staff. **Russell** is requesting a "Letter of Support" from our CPG to SDGE to allow public access on this easement. The Sunrise Power Link section roads would give easy hiking access to the north side of the Loveland Reservoir. **Russell** shared a map of the easements on zoom.

Ed Mollen asked **Russell** to confirm that the reservoir is currently at 80% capacity. He said "Yes". **Ed** asked who owns the water rights. **Russell** said Sweetwater Water Authority. **Ed** asked how is it replenished?" **Russell** said from Cuyamaca by the Sweetwater River to Loveland. It is not for drinking water but for storage and flood control. It is also for recreational use and US Forest Service fishing use." **Ed** asked, so this is for use of the trails/roads of Powerlink from the parking lot off Japatul. Yes, the Alpine CPG has the goal of maximizing the use of recreation. **Steve Wragg** asked what the Alpine CPG has said about this proposal. **Russell** said he has not heard back from them but that Supervisor Anderson has written a letter of support and that Alpine residents have shown a lot of support for this in the past.

- The Water Board, AKA -Regional Water Quality Control Board, would be part of the permitting process.
- At one-point **Russell** had discussed the possibility of a bridge from the Jamul side of the reservoir.
- **Ed** asked if there would be any environmental impact to the access to the reservoir. **Russell** said one of the roads connect directly to the water and that the road really helps give a clear route of access through rough terrain.
- **Steve** asked if he has talked to SDGE and what did they say. **Russell** said the decision will be up to Sweetwater Authority (SWA) and that it is not easy to talk to SDGE which puts up many firewalls. **Steve** said the SWA gave SDGE the easement so in effect it has the liability, right. **Russell** said that actually this will reduce the liability because trails and roads will make it safer for the public. **Russell** said he has met with SWA committee and they are talking but this will not happen tomorrow.
- California riding and hiking trails will connect with this easement area through Mesa Bluff and Sloane Canyon.
- **Russell** said we can address this as a general letter of support. **Kevin May** suggested to c.c. Sen. Jones and SWA.
- **Carroll** (attended via zoom) suggested getting the horse people and riders involved and they could have access on the Jamul side. **Russell** said that Jamul only has access through the BLM lands. A user group would have to work on this.

Kevin May asked for volunteers to write a letter of support. **Paul Dombrowski**, **Kevin** and **Preston Brown** volunteered. **Michael** moved that we write a letter of support.

Motion pass unanimously.

6. AT&T APPLICATION TO CA. PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC):
To eliminate "Land Line" service to remote areas, including Jamul Dulzura.
Kevin May read from the AT&T Letter, "Notice of Pending Regulatory Application".

"AT&T California has submitted an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) that, if approved, would remove AT&T's obligation under California

law to provide traditional landline phone service in a large portion of our service territory in California. This message explains what's in AT&T's application and how to find out more information. **IMPORTANT:** This letter describes an application that has not yet been approved by the CPUC. No changes are being made to your service at this time. We will let you know when and if any changes will affect your service.

Summary of AT&T's Application for Relief from Carrier of Last Resort Obligation.

AT&T's role as the default landline phone service provider (also known as the Carrier of Last Resort or COLR) means that we must provide traditional landline phone service to any potential customer in our service territory. In our application, AT&T has asked the CPUC to remove them as the COLR in a large portion of AT&T's service territory in California.

If the CPUC approves AT&T's application as proposed, it would mean:

For Traditional Landline Phone Service Customers:

- AT&T would continue providing traditional landline phone service to existing customers until all federal and state regulatory processes are completed. AT&T has also committed to providing service to existing traditional landline phone customers for at least six months after the CPUC approves the application.
- AT&T would communicate with traditional landline phone customers about the process of changing your existing service to either a different voice service available from AT&T, or a voice service offered by another provider in your area.
- AT&T would remain the COLR in areas where no alternative voice services are yet available and continue to provide traditional landline phone service to our customers until proven alternatives become available.

For Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) Customers:

- Customers with VoIP service could be affected in the future since approval of this application will be a first step towards AT&T transitioning to IP-enabled wireless and fiber networks.”

IMPORTANT: This letter describes an application that has not yet been approved by the CPUC. No changes are being made to your service at this time. We will let you know when and if any changes will affect your service.

- AT&T would communicate with VoIP customers prior to changing your existing service, if a change is necessary.
- If you have questions about which type of VoIP service you have and whether you could be impacted in the future, please call customer service at 800.288.2020.”

Janet Mulder said that she is totally dependent on LAN lines. **Janet** raised the question of the alternatives to AT&T. Someone else could buy up the service and you would pay the new provider. **Dan Neirinckx** said that in Idaho a local company took over the local service and it is not as good. **Michael Casinelli** said the problem is the cost of maintenance. **Janet** said that sometimes it is out for 6 days. **Paul Dombrowski** said that the Descanso CPG wrote a letter to AT&T. **Kevin May** said we should write a letter. **Dan** said we need to state that service quality needs to be preserved. **Kevin** said AT&T will hold local meetings. A virtual only meeting will be held on March 19th at 2pm and 6pm. **Kevin** asked for volunteers to write a letter to AT&T. **Janet, Paul and Kevin** volunteered. [LINK for the ATT letter.](#)

Lisa Hodgson said she will try to set up a poll on the CPG Facebook page for people dependent on a LAN line. This change would affect people with medical needs. **Kevin** added that this will also impact customers dependent on voice services and security services. **Dan** moved that we write a letter to the CUPC with our concerns.

Motion passed unanimously

7. COUNTY “CLIMATE ACTION PLAN” (CAP): Presentation by Peter Andersen, Jamul resident and Sierra Club Member

Peter Andersen introduced himself as a 34-year resident of Jamul and a cofounder of the Jamul Action Committee (JAC). He mentioned the Proctor Valley legal settlement and its being acquired by the Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve (RJER). The Sierra Club led the legal team along with the support of many conservation groups and prevailed on all issues in court resulting in preserving the land in perpetuity.

To review the history of the CAP, **Peter** said the County submitted its first version of the CAP in 2010 and that it was a terrible plan. The Sierra Club (SC) sued them and won. The County appealed and the Sierra Club prevailed. In 2018 the County submitted another CAP and still another bad plan that allowed the offset of Green House Gases (GHG) in foreign lands. This strategy does not help us here in the County and might not happen in Peru and it would be unverifiable. Again, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) appealed and the SC won again including lots of legal fees. Now in 2024 we have a 3rd CAP and it is better, but not great. It is over 1,000 pages.

What we like about it. It admits that we are in a climate emergency. That is good. My goal is to protect our children and their future. One of our top priorities is to end the use of gas and diesel landscaping equipment. These can be traded in for electric equipment like leaf blowers. The State has allocated 35 million to subsidize trade ins.

What are the problems. It is too aspirational. It does not reduce GHG to 1990 levels, it never mentions it and uses 2019 as a baseline. It still permits carbon offset outside the County. It also allows a developer approved in a General Plan Amendment (GPA) to appeal an adverse ruling on carbon offsets.

Our former Supervisor Dianne Jacob, had been a real champion on this. The BOS had previously been very pro-growth. There is no plan to achieve the County’s goal for total electric renewable energy for 2035. It lacks a plan for low Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT) and a fire safe plan to prevent development in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ). The GPA needs to include this exclusion in land use. The County argues that “Land Use” should not be part of GHG planning. For instance, we need chaparral as a carbon sink. It needs to be preserved. We propose free parking for County employees. We could give them a stipend and they could use it for whatever they want. This is not in the plan. We have worked and will continue to work with the community of Jamul.

Kevin May asked about planning for bicycles lanes in the country as alternative transportation. He said it makes sense in urban areas but not out here. You cannot take private transit out here. **Peter** said they argued that it should exist out here but the County says there is not enough population to justify it.

Ed Mollen said we have become a thoroughfare for commuters from Tecate. They plug up the roads and spew a lot of GHG. We need to widen SR-94 so we can evacuate. This is important for the environment. This should go into the CAP. **Steve Wragg** asked what their position on Asia that contributes the most GHG. How do we deal with that. **Peter** said the USA produces about 20% of GHG. China produces about 75% of solar panels and 50% of electric cars. The National SC lobbied at the United Nations Climate Accord and many nations joined us. If we lose in California it will not happen. We want to be the leader in the world. The Pentagon believes we will lose our bases around the world due to climate change and in 40 years we will have 40 million refugees. **Corbin Sobol** asked where does nuclear energy fit in. **Peter** said he was on the waste committee for nuclear energy and said the

canisters holding nuclear waste were stored 30 feet from the ocean. There is risk of erosion of storage containers. There are 90 sites for nuclear storage in the Country. **Ed Mollen** asked how electricity should be generated for clean energy. **Peter** said this is a huge controversy. We all need all solar or geothermal energy, but this will cost more.

8. JAMUL CASINO EXPANSION PROJECT

Kevin May reported on the Batch Plant for concrete mixing across the highway from the Jamul Casino. He has paid attention to the trucks pulling in and out. The County is considering a grading permit but cannot order any restriction until that happens. For Caltrans, it is about warning signs for the trucks entering the road. We should be able to get this.

9. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Preston Brown said he dropped off a letter to Captain Mike Vargas at the El Cajon CHP office stating our wish to meet with him soon concerning the future of traffic along SR-94.

10. FACEBOOK PAGE

Lisa Hodgson said we have 94 members on the new page and 570 members from the old page. She said it is difficult to post with privacy walls in place and there are still scammers trying to advertise for carpet cleaning. The rules prevent banning a member if they are a member of the community or say they are a member. She feels she can handle the annoyance and screen out bad posts manually.

11. Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Park

Lisa Hodgson said that the 2nd virtual meeting on January 30 is posted on their website. For more information: Contact Emmet Aquino at EmmetAquino@sdcounty.ca.gov or call 619-318-6929. The OHV County website is below:
<https://www.sdparcs.org/content/sdparcs/en/park-pages/OffHighwayVehicles.html>

12. JDCPG OFFICER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:

Kevin May reported that the BOS will share the Equity Cannabis Program update on their website for the Unincorporated areas and how we can participate.

Kevin May said that on March 13, 2024, The Board of Supervisors will consider approval of the Pedestrian Crossing Enhancements - Jamul Dr./Steele Canyon Road with audible and tactile pushbuttons, pedestrian signal with a countdown screen.

13. ADJOURNMENT 9:35 pm

NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 @ 7:30 pm.

Jamul-Dulzura Union School District - Jamul Education Center
14581 Lyons Valley Road, Jamul, CA 91935

Hybrid Meeting: Both In-Person and Zoom Attendance

Meeting Minutes and Agendas can be accessed at

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

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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.*