

**PALA - PAUMA COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP**  
**P.O. Box 1273**  
**Pauma Valley, CA 92061**  
**Phone: 760-742-0426**

**REGULAR MEETING, MAY 6, 2014,**  
**APPROVED MINUTES**

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Date: May 6, 2014

Scheduled start time: 7:00 PM

Place: Pauma Valley Community Center  
16650 Hwy. 76  
Pauma Valley, Ca. 92061

**1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:08 PM.**

- a. Roll Call and quorum established: All 7 members were present. Andy Mathews, Chairman; Brad Smith, Vice Chairman; Fritz Stumpges, Secretary; Ron Barbanell; Ben Brooks; Stephanie Spencer and Robert Smith.

**2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

- a. The secretary had not been able to complete the minutes in time to distribute and correct before the meeting so we postponed review and approval until next meeting.

**3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION, OPEN FORUM:**

- a. The SDG&E official, Todd ?, who was to be present to talk about the new power poles project through our district in the Palomar Mountain / Lake Henshaw area was unable to find our remote place and was therefore not present. Ian Stewart SDG&E's public affairs manager had spoken to Todd, and had some of his information and volunteered to make a summary presentation and try to answer any questions. He stated that the project was solely a wood to steel pole conversion and did not increase the capacity as has been rumored. To increase the capacity they would need to upgrade the substations and that is not being done. Brad said that there are probably many pieces of equipment that need updating in order to upgrade the capacity of the system, so he asked if this increased the potential power for the future in any way? A lady from the Sierra Club mentioned that in adjacent areas to Pala they have greatly increased the wire size and capacity. She had heard that the wire size was increasing from roughly ½ inch to 1 inch diameter or 4 times the amount of wire and capacity. Without the SDG&E technical expert present we decided to have Jerry and the lady pass their questions on to SDG&E through contacts provided by Ian. If the issues are not answered to their satisfaction they can contact us again and have it placed on the agenda so that we can take any appropriate action.
- b. Nikki Symington with the Rincon Tribe spoke to us about the unresolved 7 issues we had with the EA statement for the BIA, reviewed at the last meeting. She began by stating that the EA we reviewed was not the same as the EE or EIS that we had the 5 (7) remaining issues with. This EA is not part of the county or state compacting, rather a separate Federal BIA review of the 7 year management compact needing approval to have Harrah's run Rincon's casino. She also emphasized that the document was not a work product of the Rincon Tribe nor was it prepared under the direction of the Rincon Tribe. Rather, it is a federal BIA document prepared by a consultant working for the BIA. The EA is one small part of running the Casino and unlike the EE and EIS is evaluated under NEPA guidelines. Nikki addressed each of our 7 issues giving information as to how Harrah's and Rincon are attempting to assuage each of the problem areas. It was apparent that they took each seriously and were attempting to resolve each to our

satisfaction. We will wait until the final, official report is released by the NIGC on their website. We thanked Nikki and the Tribe for their efforts. We also renewed Ron's commitment as our Tribal Liaison Committee Chairman to further expand his sub-committee and work towards closer relations between us and all of the local tribes. Ron wants to also clarify and formalize our communications network so that we are clear as to what we can ask the Tribes and when they feel that they do not need to interface with us. Ron made a motion for us to create such a process document (SOP) that would allow us to diffuse some of the bad energies which can appear when we are attempting to communicate. It was seconded by Stephanie and carried 7-0.

#### 4. ACTION ITEMS:28:39

- a. Next on the agenda we heard from the SDG&E about their proposed solar electric farm next to the PEEKER plant currently in operation just west of Pala on Hwy 76. Ian Stewart, SDG&E's public affairs manager explained that they had completed their Discretionary Permit Application and wanted to update us on the previous issues we had. He said that Jay Miller with IES would address our landscape concerns which were our primary concerns last time. He reviewed again the background reasoning for the project and its proposed placement here. It will be about 2 Mega Watts on 9 acres. We reviewed pictures of how the area appears now and what is planned to be done regarding landscaping. We were assured that the new contract would not be complete until the landscape is installed and complete. The PUC, not the County, was responsible for the failure to install the shielding landscape that was previously promised at the PEEKER plant and they are to help finance this next promise. Ron wanted assurance that this project would not be just the first installation in greater expansions. He wants other communities to bear some of this burden. We then questioned their plans and the pictures as to whether or not the representation was as installed or when full grown. They stated that the pictures were for how it will look when installed, not years from now. There was some question as to the specifications and the minimum height. They proposed that this was the as planted height but it just doesn't add up and looks like we will be getting small plants initially. Brad proposed that we require planting of fairly mature plants that will give a good measure of shielding from the beginning. Andy made a motion that was massaged to state that we approve of the solar farm provided that there is adequate screening from view on Hwy 76 with well established plants, that to the extent practical, eliminates the view of the solar array and generating plant excepting the exhaust towers. Ron requested and got it amended to add a requirement that SDG&E guarantee that there would never be further expansion of solar panels in the general area around the plant. Brad questioned the demand to never expand this plant or anything else, but we left the motion as stated. Brad gave the second and it was approved 4-3 with Stephanie stating that she didn't feel it was restrictive enough.
- b. Next we considered the request of the Department of Planning and Development Services to make application for grants for the State Active Transportation Program. The grant money would come from the State of California and be a multiyear open ended grant application. Ben felt that citizen's money should be spent elsewhere, rather than telling us how to get around: by walking, bicycling, car pooling or whatever. Andy made a motion that we support the grant application. Stephanie gave the second. It was approved 4 yes -2 no -1 abstention.
- c. We next considered our road improvements recommendations to the County Department of Public Works (DPW). Andy stated that there is a consensus that we should wait to improve Cole Grade road near Hwy 76 until the highway intersection issues are resolved. Andy then made a motion that we propose the stretch of Valley Center Road between Hwy 76 and Harrah's Casino as being our first priority; followed by sealing of Palomar's South Grade Rd. Valley Center Road carries the most traffic and looks and rides poorly. Brad gave the second and it was approved 7-0.

**5. ADMINISTRATION:**

- a. There were no communications.
- b. Andy requested approval of \$80 reimbursement for his expenses for another year's rental of our post office box. Brad seconded the operating expenses and it was approved 7-0.
- c. Andy reviewed the DPDS request to update our records for required and completed Form 700's, DPDS training, and Ethics training for each board member. Everyone was current on all three except for Stephanie and her form 700 and DPDS online training.
- d. Andy reminded us that the next meeting was for June 3<sup>rd</sup> and asked if there were any known conflicts for any of us. None commented.

**6. ADJOURNMENT:**

- a. Stephanie moved to adjourn, Andy gave a second and with no further discussion we voted 7-0 to adjourn at 8:30.

Fritz Stumpges, Secretary PPCSG

Notes:

Included Addendum 1 is the county's request to us for Item 4b, "ATP Community Support Letter".

Included Addendum 2 is Andy's formal response to the County with our approval concerns to Item 4a, SDGE solar project.

These minutes were approved at the Tuesday, July 1 meeting. Ben moved, Brad 2<sup>nd</sup> and approved 6-0.