AGENDA Borrego SGMA Advisory Committee Meeting #4

Thursday, June 29, 2017 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

<u>Location:</u> Borrego Water District, Board Room 806 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, CA 92004

Remote Access: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/238778501 Call-In: 1-866-899-4679 Access Code: 238-778-501

NOTE: Public comment periods will be accommodated at the end of each agenda item (excluding items 1 and 11). The duration of each comment period will be at the discretion of the meeting Facilitator.

Meeting Objectives:

- Discuss and possibly approve the Draft A/C By-Laws
- Receive updates from AC members
- Receive and discuss information regarding content, timing, and deliverables related to Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development

#	TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
1	10:00 am	Welcome, Introductions and Opening Remarks Review Agenda and Meeting Objectives Approval of May 15, 2017 A/C Meeting Minutes Review status of Action Items from May 15 th Meeting Receive updates on AC membership changes	Beth Hart – Borrego WD (BWD) Meagan Wylie – Facilitator: Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP) Geoff Poole, BWD
2	10:20 am	Review, Discussion and Possible Adoption of A/C By-Laws	Meagan
3	10:35 pm	Discussion: Proposition 1 Grant Funding Opportunity Flow Metering	Trey Driscoll, Dudek Inc. Jim Bennett, County of San Diego All
4	11:30 am	Lunch	
5	12:00 pm	Groundwater Sustainability Plan: Discuss Proposed Management Areas	Trey Driscoll All
6	12:45 pm	Receive AC Input on Roger Mann Study	Trey Driscoll All
7	1:45 pm	2018 Statewide Water Bond Update	Geoff Poole
8	2:00 pm	Receive Updates from AC Members on Constituent Group Discussions	All
9	2:30 pm	General Comment from A/C Members and Receive AC Suggestions for Future Meeting Topics	All
10	2:40 pm	General Public Comment	All
11	2:50 pm	Next Steps, AC Meeting Date(s) and Closing Remarks	Meagan/All
	3:00 pm	Adjourn	

Please be advised that times associated with agenda are approximations only.

Borrego SGMA Website: http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/SGMA/borrego-valley.html

Borrego Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Advisory Committee June 29,2017

TO: Borrego Basin Advisory Committee Members

FROM: Geoff Poole, BWD

SUBJECT: Agenda Items summary for June 29th meeting

<u>ITEM 1: Membership Updates:</u> Two openings have been created on this Advisory Committee, one for the California State Parks (Parks) and one for the Borrego Water District (BWD). The opening for the Parks position is created by the retirement of Kathy Dice (effective July 1st), and the other is BWD Ratepayer Representative, Richard Dopp who resigned due to a family medical situation. Both Constituent Groups have nominated replacements who have been confirmed by both BWD and the County. For State Park, the replacement is Environmental Specialist - Gina Moran and for BWD it is local resident and business owner Dave Duncan.

<u>ITEM 2: A/C By Laws:</u> At the May Advisory Committee (AC) meeting, the previous version of the AC By-Laws was discussed and more changes were made. The AC members requested a clean copy be produced that incorporates all of the comments/changes and that document be brought back to the June meeting. ATTACHED

<u>ITEM 3: Proposition One Grant Funding Opportunity:</u> The State of California will soon be opening the application period for the next round of Proposition One grants. The purpose of the next round of funding it to help with the development and implementation of GSPs. Special consideration/priority is given to Severely Disadvantages Communities in Critically Over drafted basins, of which Borrego qualifies in both categories. The intent of this item is to discuss the Prop One grant application process as well as the possibility of including flow metering rebates as one of the potential projects that is part of the next Prop One Grant Application.

<u>ITEM 5: GSP Proposed Basin Management Areas:</u> At the May AC meeting, Trey Driscoll provided an overview on the wide array of issues that will be part of the GSP process. One fundamental component of the GSP is the concept of looking at the Borrego Basin as a series of sub-basins, which he referred to as North, Central and South Management Areas. Trey is going to provide more details on this important concept including the logic behind the location of the boundaries of the proposed Areas.

<u>ITEM 6: Receive input on Roger Mann Study:</u> Another topic briefly covered at the May AC meeting was the economic work done by Roger Mann on various measures that could be taken in an effort to achieve basin sustainability. The Study link can be found here:

http://www.borregowd.org/uploads/BWC Roger Mann - Aquifer Econ 05-23-2014.pdf

The purpose of this Agenda item is to discuss the Roger Mann list as well as possible new ideas that should be considered during the GSP process.

<u>ITEM 7: Statewide Water Bond Update:</u> A short poll was recently funded by BWD and members of the Borrego Water Coalition. The results will be available in time to share them with the AC at the June 29th meeting. The Preliminary Results look promising and if the Final results remain positive, Bond Writer, Jerry Meral feels the financial support is there to fund these efforts in time for the November 2018 ballot. Borrego WD maintains a \$25 million line item in the Bond language for GSP compliance.

ITEM 8, 9 and 10: Various comment sections are on the agenda for information sharing.

ITEM #1: MAY 15, 2017 DRAFT AC MINTUES and ACTION ITEMS

Borrego SGMA Advisory Committee Meeting #3

Monday, May 15, 2017 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: Borrego Water District

806 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, CA 92004

Attendance: Committee members: Present: Jim Seley, Jim Wilson, Suzanne Lawrence, Rebecca Falk, Jack McGrory

(via teleconference, participating as a member of the public), Bill Berkley, Ryan

Hall, Kathy Dice, Rebecca Falk

Core Team members: Beth Hart, BWD Jim Bennett, County of San Diego

Geoff Poole, BWD Leanne Crow, County of San Diego

Staff: Meagan Wylie, Center Wendy Quinn, BWD

for Collaborative Policy

Public: Ray Schindler Dave Duncan

Michael Sadler, Borrego Sun Susan Percival, Club Circle East

James Swartz
Mike Seley, Seley Ranches
Dennis Jensen
Betsy Knaak, ABDNHA
Gina Moran, State Parks
Chris Ruiz, State Parks
Caroline Manilow
Judy Haldeman

Mike McIlhatten

Item #1: Welcome, Introductions and Opening Remarks

A. <u>Review Agenda and Meeting Objectives:</u> Meagan Wylie welcomed the attendees and reviewed the meeting ground rules, agenda and Brown Act provisions. Those present introduced themselves.

B. <u>Approval of April 10, 2017 A/C Meeting Minutes:</u> Upon motion by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Falk and carried, the Minutes of the April 10, 2017 A/C Meeting were approved as corrected (change the first sentence of the third paragraph on page 3 to read, "Member Lawrence expressed concern that the A/C not limit their discussions related to potential projects and management actions to current budgetary constraints").

Item #2: Review, Discussion and Possible Adoption of A/C By-Laws

Ms. Wylie reviewed the proposed changes to the draft A/C By-Laws presented at the last meeting. Article 1, Section D, will state that "The GSP shall include, but not be limited to, groundwater use enforcement measures" In Article 2, Section B, the acronym PDS is spelled out (Planning & Development Services). Section C was modified to provide that "The AC shall notify the Core Team if a position is deemed vacant <u>pursuant to items 1-4 above</u>, or if the AC recommends the removal of a member as related to items 5-7 above." Discussion followed regarding the discussion covenants listed in Article 5, Section D, and the fact that regular failure to abide by them could be grounds for deeming an AC member's position vacant.

Ms. Wylie explained that she was not comfortable with the references in Article 4 to the facilitator serving as chair, or chairing the meeting. After discussing this with the Core Team, she had prepared and presented an alternate Article 4, providing that the meetings would be facilitated, rather than chaired. If the facilitator is unable to act, a Core Team member would assume the duties. After discussion, the A/C concurred in the proposed amendments. As discussed at the last A/C meeting, the levels of consensus set forth in Article 5, Section C were rearranged to switch numbers 5 and 6 and modify the wording of new number 5 (old 6).

Mike McIlhatten expressed his opinion that there should be more than one ratepayer representative on the A/C, based on the number of residents, number of homes and dollar value of the property. Member Seley pointed out that there

are Core Team members that represent the ratepayers, the Borrego Water District (BWD) participants. The A/C serves in an advisory capacity. Member Dice added that although each A/C member represents a specific constituent group, many are also ratepayers. Jim Bennett assured the group that the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) would include economic considerations, and the Core Team has discussed this at length. It is hoped that the A/C will avoid fractious decision-making and focus on a consensus-based approach and collaboration.

After discussion, the A/C agreed to keep the By-Laws separate from the A/C Agenda Development Schedule and Interaction with Constituent Group document. Upon motion by Member Dice, seconded by Member Berkley and carried, staff was requested to prepare the By-Laws in final form and place on the next Agenda for action.

Item #3: Review and Discussion of Draft A/C Agenda Development Schedule and Interaction with Constituent Group (CG)

BWD President Hart invited the A/C's attention to the Organizational Questions to be Considered by A/C Members ("Interaction with CG"), presented at the last meeting and included in today's Agenda for the members' guidance. Geoff Poole reiterated his offer to facilitate CG meetings upon request. Ms. Wylie reviewed the Basic Principles of Operation for A/C Engagement with Core Team and Constituent Groups, including an Agenda Development Schedule. The document had been reviewed by the Core Team.

Item #4: Borrego Valley Stewardship Council (BVSC)

Member Lawrence displayed the BVSC website on the screen and invited the A/C's attention to the memo from the BVSC to the Core Team, included in the Agenda. She explained that the Council was developed in response to the water crisis. The website includes the BVSC's charter, mission and activities. They have sponsored three community workshops, addressing topics such as water availability, clean air, habitat preservation and human health. In addition to individual members, the BVSC includes representatives of the State Park, the Anza Borrego Foundation (ABF) and the Anza Borrego Desert Natural History Association (ABDNHA). Member Falk took exception to the portrayal of BVSC as a "neutral convener" in the last sentence of the memo.

Item #5: Receive Updates from A/C Members on CG Engagement

Upon motion by Member Falk, seconded by Member Dice and carried, the updates in Item #5 were combined with the General Comments from A/C Members and the Public (Item #7).

The Committee broke for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

Item #6: Presentation on the Borrego Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Trey Driscoll of Dudek, Inc., prime GSP consultant, presented slides outlining four topics: water budget, water credits, water quality, and projects and management actions. The slides will be posted on the County of San Diego (County) website. Mr. Driscoll explained the water budget fundamentals, storage and movement of water among the atmosphere, land surface and subsurface. Most of the recharge in the Borrego Valley comes from Coyote Creek. Over the 66-year United States Geological Survey (USGS) study period (1945 through 2010), on average, the natural recharge that reaches to the saturated groundwater system is approximately 5,700 acre-feet per year, but natural recharge fluctuates in the arid climate from less than 1,000 to more than 25,000 acre-feet per year. Under SGMA, current and projected recharge must also be addressed. Member Lawrence asked whether climate change would be included in the projections, and Mr. Driscoll replied that it would, as required by SGMA. Member Berkley inquired about absorption of rainfall into the aguifer, and Mr. Driscoll explained that most if it evaporates.

Mr. Driscoll went on to summarize the water credit program, which was created by BWD and the County to address the overdraft. The current policy requires one credit to satisfy the County's Groundwater Ordinance and four for BWD. Approximately 1,423 water credits have been issued to date for fallowed agriculture and turf replacement. An important question is, should water credits be counted as part of the baseline water use under SGMA and production rights assigned to water credits? Mr. Driscoll explained the different types of water credits, "AG-1" being the only one that satisfies the County (agricultural irrigation from 2008 to present followed by complete removal of crops). BWD

accepts several other types, including less stringent prior farming requirements, turf removal and tamarisk removal. Ms. Wylie suggested the A/C members review the water credit program, which is available on the BWD website. Member Berkley pointed out that a farmer might continue irrigating nonproductive crops to preserve his ability to obtain water credits, since there is little development now and therefore little demand. BWD President Hart explained that production credits may be offered, and one of the tasks for the A/C will be to suggest an economic incentive for fallowing beyond the current credit program.

Water quality was the next topic, and Mr. Driscoll summarized data for the Borrego Springs Sub-basin obtained from BWD. There are upper, middle and lower aquifers. The basin is proposed to be divided into north, central and south management areas, and Mr. Driscoll showed the location of monitoring wells in each. Most wells are screened in the middle and lower aquifers. Data were presented for total dissolved solids (TDS), sulfates, nitrates and arsenic. While the tests in the north and central management areas are within safe drinking water standards, most in the north exceed standards for arsenic. In the GSP, 15 wells will be sampled annually in all management areas. There is a concern that water quality will decline as groundwater levels drop. Member Lawrence requested a couple of concise sentences explaining the potential decline in water quality and why it is integral to SGMA. BWD President Hart assured her that water quality is a high priority for BWD. Ms. Wylie suggested that Mr. Driscoll add some bullet points to his slide presentation. Mr. Driscoll recommended that the A/C address each of the management areas and develop groundwater storage, groundwater level and water quality goals for each. Member Falk expressed concern regarding nitrate levels in the north management area due to agriculture, and Mr. Driscoll explained that additional study of the upper aquifer is needed. Chris Ruiz inquired about data on seismic events, and Mr. Bennett replied that more data are needed, including some on seismic events.

Lastly, Mr. Driscoll presented a list of potential projects and management actions suggested by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in 2014 for the Borrego Valley Basin. Each was ranked by cost, net overdraft reduction, cost per acrefeet per year (AFY) over 20 years and AFY cost. He asked the A/C to review the list and determine if the options are still viable and whether additional projects and actions should be included. Member Berkley requested totals for each of the parameters in the chart.

Item #7: General Comment from A/C Members and Public

Member Falk reported that at the last Community Sponsor Group meeting there was discussion about a new farming enterprise in Borrego Springs. She wondered what the County regulations were on new agriculture.

Member Berkley reported that Rams Hill had done some research on creating a second golf course. Under the General Plan they are entitled to it. It would be irrigated with non-potable water, as is the current course, and it would not be over seeded. Although the other golf courses in Borrego Springs are losing money, Rams Hill is profitable. Another course would benefit tourism and the community as a whole.

Mr. Poole reported that Richard Dopp, the BWD ratepayer representative on the A/C, had resigned due to his wife's health. The BWD Board will meet tomorrow and discuss the procedure for appointing a replacement. He hoped to fill the position as soon as possible. Dave Duncan expressed support for Mr. McIlhatten's suggestion for additional representation of ratepayers on the A/C.

Betsy Knaak asked what the significance is of an increase of sulfides in the north and middle management areas. Mr. Driscoll replied that 10 or 12 new drilling locations are being investigated for water quality testing.

Jim Swartz inquired about well metering. Mr. Driscoll explained that all municipal and recreational wells are metered and reported to the County or BWD. As for private wells, they may be metered, but the data are not reported. BWD President Hart predicted that metering and reporting from all wells will eventually be mandatory.

Ms. Wylie announced that she would share her list of action items with the A/C and Core Team. It is attached and incorporated by this reference.

Next Steps and Closing Remarks

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 29. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

	Responsible	Action Item	Status
	Party		
1.	All AC Members	Review Water Credit Program Policy, document found on BWD	In Progress
		website here: http://borregowd.org/POLICIES_AND_STUDIES.php (scroll 3/4	_
		down the page, under header Water Credit Policy). Review Section	
		67.720 Borrego Valley of the San Diego County Ordinance found on the	
		County website here:	
		http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/dplu/docs/GROUNDWATER-ORD.pdf	
2.	All AC Members	Recommended Action: Review the Borrego Springs Community Plan as	In Progress
		an important piece of background information: Community Plan	
		Update: http://www.borregovillageassociation.org/documents/BorregoSprings_Com	
		munity%20Plan_2009-07-01%20(1).pdf County of San Diego site:	
		http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/borrego.html	
3.	All AC Members	Prepare and bring any proposed language revisions/edits to Meeting	In Progress
		Minutes (or any future formal document) into subsequent meeting for	
		efficiency of group discussion	
4.	County Team	Post May 15 th PowerPoint presentation slides re: GSP Overview by Trey	Complete
	Trey Driscoll	Driscoll, Dudek, Inc. to the Project Webpage. As needed, work with	
		Trey to ensure notes/annotations accompany the various slides for	
		further explanation of detail	
5.	Geoff Poole	Confirm June 29 th meeting date with all AC and CT members, and	Complete
		confirm recurring meeting date of Fourth Thursday of the month (i.e.	
		July 27 th)	
6.	Geoff Poole	Update AC Contact List and re-circulate to AC, Core Team, and staff	In Progress
		support	
7.	Geoff Poole	Provide AC with link to Roger Mann 2014 economic study on potential	Complete
		water use reduction projects/management actions	
8.	Meagan Wylie	Revise By-laws with "tracked changes" agreed to real-time during 5/15	Complete
		meeting for circulation to AC members. Work with Mr. Poole to	
		circulate revised By-laws to AC members for review.	
9.	Meagan Wylie	Work with Mr. Poole to share list of AC Discussion Point related to	Complete
		Agenda Item #4 from 4/10 Meeting with all AC Members	•
10.	Meagan Wylie	To revise and finalize 4/10 AC Meeting Meetings per revisions agreed-	Complete
		to during 5/15 meeting. Work with Mr. Poole to circulate to AC	•

Ongoing Action Items

- 1. **All AC Members** to prepare and bring any proposed language revisions/edits to Meeting Minutes (or any future formal document) into subsequent meeting for efficiency of group discussion.
- 2. **All AC Members** to contact Geoff Poole if they would like a unique email address set up specifically for Advisory Committee correspondences
- 3. **All AC Members** to contact Geoff Poole if they would like to request his attendance/participation at constituent group meetings
- 4. **Geoff Poole** to collect all written public comment, compile, and include in "Meeting Packets" that are posted 72 hours in advance of meeting dates
- 5. Wendy Quinn to incorporate Action Items list into Meeting Minutes

ITEM 2: CONSIDERATION OF BY LAWS



BORREGO VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

ADVISORY COMMITTEE



BY-LAWS

Adopted and approved at the	ر 2017Borrego Valley GSP Advisory Committee Meetin
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Article 1 PURPOSE AND FORMATION of the ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Section A – On September 20, 2016, the Board of Directors of the Borrego Water District (District) approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County of San Diego (County) and the District, which memorialized each agency's role and responsibilities for developing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin (Borrego Basin). On October 19, 2016, the Board of Supervisors of the County also approved the MOU, thereby establishing a multiple-agency Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) responsible for developing and implementing a GSP for the Borrego Basin. The MOU establishes a Core Team comprised of County and District staff tasked with coordinating the activities of the Borrego Basin GSP Advisory Committee (AC).

Section B – In consideration of the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater in the basin, stakeholder engagement and education of both stakeholders and the general public will be conducted in part via the deliberations of the AC pursuant to California Water Code Section 10723.2. The purpose of the AC is to provide input to aid in the development of the planning and policy recommendations contained in the GSP. As information supporting the GSP is prepared by the GSA, these items will be brought before the AC for discussion, analysis, and recommendations.

Section C – The AC is a non-partisan, non-sectarian, non-profit advisory organization. The AC is not empowered by ordinance, establishing authority, or policy to render a binding decision of any kind.

Section D – The AC is advisory to the Core Team. The Core Team will develop a GSP that meets the requirements of SGMA and is acceptable to the District and to the County. The GSP shall include, but not be limited to, groundwater use enforcement measures, a detailed breakdown of each GSA Party's responsibilities for Plan implementation, anticipated costs of implementing the Plan, and cost recovery mechanisms, if necessary.

Article 2 MEMBERSHIP AND TERM OF OFFICE

Section A – The AC shall consist of individuals with backgrounds in developing, deliberating, planning, and/or advocating for sustainable use of groundwater in the Borrego Basin, under the requirements of SGMA.

Section B – The AC is limited to nine (9) members as established in the MOU. Potential representatives shall be nominated by the following six (6) Stakeholder Organizations and shall be apportioned as follows:

- (1) Four members nominated by the Borrego Water Coalition and filling the following representative roles- 1 agricultural member; 1 recreation member; 1 independent pumper; 1 at large member,
- (2) One member nominated by the Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group,
- (3) One member nominated by the Borrego Valley Stewardship Council,
- (4) One member nominated by the Borrego Water District Board of Directors who is not an employee or elected official –to represent ratepayers/property owners,
- (5) One member nominated by the County of San Diego who is not an employee or elected official —to represent the Farm Bureau, and
- (6) One member nominated by the California State Parks, Colorado Desert Region to represent the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

Each person nominated to the AC by the above Stakeholder Organizations must be endorsed by the Board of Directors of the District and the Director of Planning & Development Services (PDS) of the County before serving on the AC. Substitution of an alternate for an endorsed AC Member is not permitted. Only endorsed Members may serve on the AC.

Section C – Each AC Member shall serve a term, which shall run concurrently with the development and completion of the GSP.

Section D - A vacancy shall be recognized for any AC Member who: (1) dies; (2) resigns; (3) has unexcused absences from more than three of the scheduled AC meetings within a single calendar year; (4) misses three meetings in a row; (5) regularly fails to abide by the discussion covenants of the AC; (6) violates the Ralph M. Brown Act; or (7) fails to exercise the purpose and authority of the AC as described in Article 1 above. The AC shall notify the Core Team if a position is deemed vacant pursuant to items 1-4 above, or if the AC recommends the removal of a member as related to items 5–7 above. If a vacancy occurs, the Stakeholder Organization may nominate another AC member appointee for that position that must then be endorsed by the District Board and

County Director of PDS. The new appointee member shall serve through the development and completion of the GSP.

Article 3 DUTIES

The AC shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) Serve as a resource to the Core Team on GSP development issues for the Borrego Basin;
- (2) Advise in the formation of the planning and policy recommendations to be included in the GSP. This may include reviewing technical materials and providing comment, data, and relevant local information to the GSA related to Plan development; assisting in communicating concepts and requirements to the stakeholder constituents that they represent; providing comments on materials and reports prepared; assisting the Core Team to anticipate short- and long-term future events that may impact groundwater sustainability, trends and conditions that will impact groundwater management;
- (3) Participate in AC and Core Team public decision-making meetings, expected to occur on an approximately quarterly basis or as needed during GSP development.

Article 4 STRUCTURE

Section A – AC meetings will be facilitated by a facilitator from the California State University, Sacramento, Center for Collaborative Policy ("CCP") or other such facilitator acceptable to the Core Team. The Facilitator shall convene the meeting, establish the existence of a quorum and oversee the meeting to insure the timely completion of the published agenda. If for any reason, the Facilitator cannot facilitate at a particular meeting, a Core Team member shall assume the facilitation responsibilities assigned above to the facilitator.

Section B – The Facilitator, in consultation with the AC, shall assign coordinating duties and/or specific tasks to subcommittees of the AC as necessary. The Facilitator will work with the Core Team to determine a meeting schedule, develop meeting materials, coordinate communications to the AC in advance of meetings, and other similar organizational responsibilities.

Section C – The District shall assign staff to record the minutes of all AC meetings, maintain a list of all active representatives, handle committee correspondence, and keep records of actions as they occur at each meeting.

It is the responsibility of the Core Team staff assigned to the AC to assure that posting of meeting notices in a publicly accessible place for 72 hours prior to an AC meeting, to keep a record of such posting, and to reproduce and distribute the AC notices and minutes of all meetings.

Article 5 ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURES

Section A – Robert's Rules of Order govern the operation of the AC in all cases not covered by these by-laws, the AC may formulate specific procedural rules of order to govern the conduct of its meetings.

Section B – Any voting is on the basis of one vote per AC member. No proxy or absentee voting is permitted.

Section C – All AC recommendations regarding the GSP shall be made by consensus. Consensus is achieved when AC participants indicate that they are at Levels 1-4 (not Levels 5 or 6) as described below. If after multiple attempts, the AC deems consensus improbable among the AC members on a particular matter, the issue will be returned to the Core Team without a recommendation.

Levels of consensus are as follows:

- 1. I can say an **unqualified 'yes'** to the decision. I am satisfied that the decision is an expression of the wisdom of the group.
- 2. I find the decision acceptable. It is the best of the real options we have available to us.
- 3. I can live with the decision. However, I'm not enthusiastic about it.
- 4. I do not fully agree with the decision and need to register my view about it. However, I do not choose to block the decision and will **stand aside**. I am willing to support the decision because I trust the wisdom of the group.
- 5. We need to **do more work** before consensus can be achieved.
- 6. I do not agree with the decision and feel the need to **block** the decision being accepted as consensus.

Section D – AC meetings shall be held under the following discussion covenants:

- Focus on the future as much as possible.
- All perspectives are valued. You are not required to defend your perspective, but you are asked to share it and to provide supporting rationale.
- All ideas have value. If you believe another approach is better, offer it as a constructive alternative.

- Everyone will have an equal opportunity to participate.
- Everyone will be encouraged to talk.
- One person speaks at a time.
- No side conversations.
- View disagreements as problems to be solved rather than battles to be won.
- Avoid ascribing motives to or judging the actions of others. Please speak about your experiences, concerns, and suggestions. Treat each other with respect.
- Avoid right-wrong paradigms.
- When communicating outside of the AC, Members are asked to speak only for themselves when asked about AC progress unless there has been adoption of concepts or recommendations by the full body.

Section E – A majority of the AC members currently appointed shall constitute a quorum. A quorum is required for an Official Meeting to occur. No consensus vote of the AC shall be considered as reflecting an official recommendation by the AC unless a vote was taken at an Official Meeting.

Section F – All meetings of the AC and its subcommittees are open to the public to the extent required by the Ralph M. Brown Act. Meetings are to be held in accessible, public places in Borrego Springs, California. Notice of all AC meetings shall be posted in a publicly accessible place for a period of 72 hours prior to the meeting. A majority of the AC members shall not use a series of communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any AC-related business outside of a public meeting in violation of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Section G –All members of the AC must abide by these by-laws. The County and District reserve the right to remove members that do not abide by the by-laws.

Article 6 COMPENSATION

Members of the AC shall serve without compensation.