

San Luis Rey Watershed CouncilMeeting Minutes: 6/26/2006

- **Call to Order:** 1pm by Jack Griffiths.
- **List of Attendees present on 6/26/06:**

Heidi Brow	Pala Band of Mission Indians, EPA
Paul Campo	Vista Irrigation District
Jesse Hutchings	Upper San Luis Rey Resource Conservation District
Jack Griffiths	Rainbow Municipal Water District
Mo Lahsaie	City of Oceanside
Cynthia Mallett	Bonsall Community Sponsor Group [Planning]
Judy Mitchell	Mission Resource Conservation District
Vic Pankey	San Luis Rey Municipal Water District
Rob Roy	La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians
Oggie Watson	Pauma Valley Community Services Board
George Wilkins	Pacific Rems
- **Approval of Minutes:**
 - The minutes of May 22, 2006 were approved with 2 corrections: Cecilia Padres' name should be stricken from the attendee list as she was not actually there, and Rob Roy's name should be added to that list as he was present at the meeting.
- **Attendee's News:**

George Wilkins:

USGS Stream Gages: is looking to install up to 8 stream gages (flow station) in San Diego County this summer/fall (maybe 1-2 of those in the SLR). George will check if there are any left to install in the SLR, although we could also contact Gary Bowers with the USGS for a more direct contact. Any data measured with these stream gages would become public record. Good Sites along the SLR include: the eastern edge of Pala, western edge of Pala/Monserate Narrows/Pankey. The USGS would prefer to put a gage in where water is flowing, or somewhere that could have a secondary function of flood warning/control.

NOAA Grant Open: (National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration) there is a grant we could apply to before it closes in October. The funds could be used to purchase & install automated rain/flood warning gages (note: not flow gage) on surface water only (ie: SLR river). We can apply for between \$40,000 - \$50,000 (although the grant funding is for up to \$100K), and there are no matching funds needed. Only a City or Government organization is allowed to apply for the grant. The proposal should fall under either Water Pollution –OR– Water Quality; a proposal with a watershed-wide approach will score highly. Oceanside would be a great group to spearhead the proposal.

Paul Campo: recently attended a storm water meeting & reports that there are many possible funding sources for water quality issues through storm water control & NPS issues on a watershed-wide level [sidenote: Mo Lahsaie/Oceanside just received \$2.3 million to treat the water that Loma Alta stream dumps into the SLR/Ocean].

Judy Mitchell:

Recently there was a 1.7 million grant awarded to Northern San Diego County (by Wildlife Group) for restoration & monitoring between I-15 and Oceanside boarder.

Additionally, MRCD will be having a TAC Meeting about applying to the Regional Water Board for SEP Funds (these funds are more regular than grant funding & are sustainable). SEP Funds & CWA 319 Funds are our 2 major funding sources now.

Oggie Watson:

Pauma Valley Community Services Board just got a permit to build/expand a wastewater treatment facility (secondary treatment). Their current treatment facility handles around 115,000 gal/day, and their new one will be able to handle 150,000 gal/day.

Jesse Hutchings:

Resource Conservation District recently took a tour of Palomar Mountain to view the trees killed by the drought/beetles. Many of these trees are being cleared off of Forest Service Land & private land on Palomar.

Heidi Brow:

Pala is building a new fire station along Highway 76, just east of the Casino. Construction was started a month ago, and new station will be much larger than the old site. Additionally, Pala has proposed an extension to the Pala Casino, which was put into the papers recently for comment.

Rob Roy:

--La Jolla Tribe & MRCD have removed some of their non-native invasives (Tamarisk/Salt Cedar), and will be re-vegetating the area with 300 plants provided by the MRCD.
--they are working on a Multi-Tribal Septic Pumping Enterprise—trying to find funding to put this program together & offer the services to others for a reduced fee.
--on August 15th, La Jolla will be hosting a training (to train the trainer) on how to inspect & maintain a residential septic system (the training will be hosted by La Jolla, and put on by EPA & RCAC)
--they just got some funding to construct a new wastewater treatment facility, with 2 lined pond systems.

Vic Panky:

The SLR Municipal Water District has some funding available to start a monitoring project, in order to establish some baseline data—they're worried about possible changes to the water quality due to the potential Pala Casino Expansion & the Gregory Canyon Landfill. He asked George Wilkins for some help on what to monitor for. The SLR Municipal Water District is going through the service review board (LAFCO—Local Agency Formation Commission) to obtain permission to have their district come on line. The LAFCO will be finished by August & then it will be distributed to the SLR water district for public comment--the next meeting will be in September, which is where you can comment on the LAFCO. Right now their district extends from I-15 to Pala's western border. They are finishing up their MSR (Municipal Service Review) document, which will be completed before they start any monitoring.

Cynthia Mallett:

She represents the Bonsall Community Sponsor Group, & works with the County/Planning Board to help improve water quality. She was the previous Watershed Coordinator for the San Luis Rey Watershed Council (until funding ran out) & is also on the San Diego Stream Team.
San Diego Stream Team [both Cynthia & Rob Roy are part of this non-profit group] since 1998 this group have been doing bio-assessments/sampling the streams of San Diego County (they usually sample for benthic macro invertebrates & some chemicals). They have some data available, but it's still pretty raw; they are working on compiling/analyzing the data and making it available to the public online.

Mo Lahsaie:

--Oceanside is applying for more funding in order to do more source identification for bacteria in the SLR/mouth of the river. They need to do source ID of all upriver sources, through DNA analysis/fingerprinting (to discover if bacteria source is mammal/bird/human). [coliform needs surface water & nutrients to sustain it....like in Little Gopher Canyon Creek, Live Oak Creek or Fallbrook Creek]

--(proposed) **New Storm Water Permit (for San Diego Co.)**—This is a proposed revision to the 2001 storm water permit regulations. If passed, the permit would result in higher costs/more work (both before & after a proposed project/construction). This would result in: pre- & post-project development ‘stream flow analysis’, increased monitoring, hydro-modification, detention basins, and a mandatory study on how your project would affect the stream hydrology downstream from your project site (basically, how would the run-off/irrigation from your project/construction site affect any waterways downstream from the site). Any new project would not be allowed to increase the peak storm flow. If this permit is passed, it will affect 18 cities in San Diego Co. (not just Oceanside), and would be an *unfunded federal mandate* (therefore it would be left up to each organization to find the necessary funds to cover the cost increases). There will be one more public hearing in October on whether to pass this or not (ie: legal aspects, technical aspects, will go over all of the new aspects), which would be a good time for government/city/environmental groups and offices to voice any concerns.

Jack Griffiths:

Rainbow Municipal Water District is covering up their open reservoirs, for the water they provide to the Rainbow Community.

- **Watershed divisions & Steering Committee Issue:**
 - It was agreed that the ‘Attendee’s News’ section of our meeting replaced any need to divide into Steering Committees or Sub-Committees, which would report back to the Council. Therefore this issue has been shelved for the time being.
- **Other Business:**
 - ❖ There was a call to keep the meeting dates on the 4th Monday of each month, for the time being. Therefore the next meeting date is 7/24/06.
Vote: passed unanimously.
 - ❖ Cynthia Mallett, the previous Watershed Coordinator for the SLR Watershed Council, offered to be the acting facilitator for the council, for as long as she is able to/until funding comes in & a watershed coordinator can be hired.
Vote: passed unanimously.
 - ❖ Heidi Brow will take the meeting minutes, for the time being.
 - ❖ Discussion about Orange County water treatment [possible field trip option]. Orange County is doing some unique water treatment methods including: inflatable dams to control water levels & recharge into the basin; wetlands designed to take out sediment/TDS/nutrient loading from the Santa Ana River; the use of UV/reverse osmosis to treat some water.
- **Meeting adjourned at 3pm**
- **NEXT MEETING---JULY 24, 2006 at 1pm**