

San Luis Rey Watershed Council

Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2003

Fallbrook Public Utility District Conference Room
990 East Mission Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:12 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting attendees introduced themselves and the organization they represent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Copies of the May 19, 2003 and June 23, 2003 meeting minutes were distributed via email, post mail and available in hard copy at the meeting. A motion was made by Margarett Morgan and seconded by Ken Peterson to approve the May 19 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously. A motion as made by Ken Peterson and seconded by Paul Christensen to approve the June 23 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

GUEST SPEAKER

Juana Majel Dixon, Tribal Legislative Council for the Pauma Indian Tribe, Gap, and Forestry Director gave a presentation about the traditional and cultural Indian ties to the land and water. She first showed a Sovereignty video that illustrated the challenges that Indian Tribes have historically faced especially in recent court decisions. She then provided a power point presentation titled "Traditional Ties - San Luis Rey Watershed". She discussed that the Luiseño people have been a part of the San Luis Rey Watershed for approximately 5,000 – 6,000 years and are distant relatives of the Western Shoshone. The Luiseño tribe has 4,000 plus members located in 3 counties: San Diego, Riverside and San Bernardino. The tribe is divided into six separate sovereign bands: La Jolla, Pala, Pauma Yuima, Rincon, Pechanga (Riverside) and Soboba (San Bernardino). The name Pauma can be interpreted as "People of the Water".

She gave an overview of the traditional ties to the water in the San Luis Rey Watershed, which is embedded in the language, stories, and songs. The Luiseño were hunter-gatherers for 4,000 years and were a riverine people who gathered foods from the rivers edge. They fished the river and harvested all types of foods from flora, fauna and animals. There are still families in the watershed harvesting foods from native plants. They are world famous for the basketry made from jungus, deer grass and reeds and made their own version of the modern Birkenstock sandals using reeds. The river mud was used for utilitarian purposes such as for jugs, drifting gourds, clay figurines, and temporary cooking areas.

The waters, mud and sands also served as healing elements. Minerals from the water from the sacred sites could heal people. The sands in the San Luis Rey River have the highest concentrated levels of healing power. Sand baths were used to cure and alleviate symptoms from rheumatism, arthritis and womanly conditions. There are four mountains in the watershed that have sacred sites. Currently there is no construction on these historical sites. In 1994 the San Diego County Water Authority mapped the cultural sites in the County. Juana distributed copies of mineral resource maps and geologic maps of the local Rincon, Pauma, Yuima and La Jolla Indian reservations. Juana recommended a book titled "Keepers of the Earth" to learn more about the cultural ties to the land of local Indian tribes.

WATERSHED COUNCIL SUPPORT LETTER POLICY

At a previous Watershed Council meeting, it was decided that a Support Letter Policy be drafted, reviewed, and adopted. This support letter policy would provide guidelines to organizations requesting a support letter from the San Luis Rey Watershed Council. Cynthia Mallett, Watershed Coordinator, distributed a draft

support letter policy for review by the Watershed Council. Changes to the text of the policy were recommended and these revisions will be presented at the next Watershed Council meeting for approval.

SUBWATERSHEDS OF THE SAN LUIS REY

The Department of Conservation recently announced an upcoming grant opportunity to fund watershed coordinator positions for a three-year period. The funding of these grants will be on a competitive basis from organizations throughout the state. It was suggested and recommended that the Watershed Coordinator submit a proposal to this funding source. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will meet to brainstorm projects for the proposal. A map showing the subwatersheds of the San Luis Rey River Valley was distributed at the meeting and could be used by the TAC to develop projects specific to each of the subwatersheds. It was also suggested that the TAC group be expanded to take on a broader base of subwatershed projects that could help in the development of a more comprehensive watershed management plan.

UPDATES, REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

General Plan 2020 – Public hearings on General Plan 2020 will continue on September 24, 2003 at 9:00 am at the County Administration Building, 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego.

The Santa Margarita Watershed Cleanup event is scheduled for September 20, 2003. If a cleanup site is located in the San Luis Rey, this site will be listed in all notifications. Please inform Cynthia Mallett of any dump sites you see and would recommend for cleanup at the event.

GRANTS

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

California Integrated Waste Management Board, Farm and Ranch Cleanup and Trash Abatement Program – This proposal is almost complete and waiting for support letters. The Upper San Luis Rey Resource Conservation District will submit this grant.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 25 from 1:00 – 3:00 at the Fallbrook Public Utility District Board Room.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Christine Brochard.....County of San Diego, Multiple Habitat Conservation Plan
Paul Campo.....Vista Irrigation District
Paul Christensen.....Rainbow Municipal Water District
Ruth Harber.....North County Coalition
Miguel Hernandez.....Pauma Yuima Indian Tribe
Sam KolbRincon Luiseño Indian Nation
Carolyn Major.....Fallbrook Planning Group
Cynthia MallettMission Resource Conservation District, San Luis Rey Watershed Coordinator
Margarette MorganBonsall Conservancy
Ken PetersonBonsall Sponsor Group
Earl RutzPauma Valley Water Company
Miriam Rutz.....Pauma Valley Community Association
Don Smith.....Vista Irrigation District
Sandra Stoneburner.....Los Coyotes Band of Indians
Robert Truesdale.....Pala Band of Mission Indians
Joyce Ward.....RiverWatch