

**SAN LUIS REY WATERSHED COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES: 8/28/2006**

- **Call to Order:** 1:15pm by Cynthia Mallett.
- **List of Attendees present on 8/28/06:**

Heidi Brow	Pala Band of Mission Indians, EPA
Anne Burdick	Mission Resource Conservation District
Jack Griffiths	Rainbow Municipal Water District
Ruth Harber	Riverwatch
Cynthia Mallett	Bonsall Community Sponsor Group [Planning]
Vic Pankey	San Luis Rey Municipal Water District
Tom Rogers	District Director for Senator Hollingsworth
Lynn Schwaebe	City of Oceanside
Sandra Stoneburner	Los Coyotes Band of Indians
Karen Tucker	Fallbrook Land Conservancy
Wallace Tucker	Fallbrook Land Conservancy
George Wilkins	Pacific REMS

- **Approval of Minutes:**
 - The minutes of July 24, 2006 were approved with one correction: Ruth Harber's name was misspelled. The motion was put forward by Jack Griffiths, seconded by George Wilkins.

- **Guest Speaker: George Wilkins, Pacific REMS ---**

Background: He worked for the County of San Diego until 2001, in the Public Works/Hydrology & Flood Warning office, where he built, implemented, & maintained the flood warning system in SD. He worked as the San Luis Rey Watershed Coordinator for a while, and has a background in watershed science/water resources.

Presentations on Flood Warning Systems (FWS) & Watershed Mgmt. Programs

PRESENTATION #1: FLOOD WARNING SYSTEMS & APPLICATION—Tijuana Rv. Watershed:

--*Developing a Bi-National Flood Warning System:* This was the 1st Bi-National Flood Warning Program, between the US & Mexico (Tijuana River Watershed). This area was a good candidate to install a FWS, as both countries each have reservoirs that can and do flood the other nation, following any moderate to heavy rainfall. This project was started by both countries in June 2000, with the field investigation & program design done by both sides on a local to local basis. Together, they installed 18 new stations (9 rain gages, 7 stream gages) in the watershed. Data from these gages is uploaded on many different web sites (i.e.: National Weather Service=weather/hydrology; USGS=stream flow data; San Diego= wrh.noaa.gov/), although much of the data is not yet accessible on the internet. It might be a good idea to have local TV stations put pressure on the County to get their water system/flood warning system on line, so that everyone has access to it.(a good example of what this could look like is: www://sacflood.org)

--*To implement a Flood Warning Program,* it is helpful to have: automated weather info., rainfall/storm flow/air temp./barometric data, real time data of changes in the weather, base stations that can receive weather data, flood forecast models (for advance notice). The ALERT [Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time] system is an automated program that gathers & then relays information/data to appropriate organizations/emergency response teams. The ALERT system has real-time telemetry, is not dependent on commercial power, and maintains its data at a base station.

--*Floods In the San Luis Rey Watershed:* the largest flood was in 1916 (100 yr. flood) (trees from Mt. Palomar ended up on Oceanside beaches---this flood wiped out EVERYTHING in the valley) (flow rate of 96,000 ft³); the 2nd largest flood was in 1980; the 3rd largest flood was in 1993 (15-20 yr flood) (40" rain fell) (would've washed away the bottom of Gregory Canyon). The Tijuana River Watershed has many political & geographic similarities to the San Luis Rey Watershed: neither watershed has chronic flooding problems; however when they do have flooding issues, they're HUGE and they develop very quickly.

--**OTHER:** National Weather Service will hold workshops this fall on flooding for this year
--prop 84: Flood Control & Water Management (Wetlands)
--Automated FWS = NOAA Grants (\$40-100 K) available to put in new/update FWS; you must apply through the county; must have a local agency who can maintain the system as the lead; must be supported by the local NWS (ours would support us); data goes to the NWS.....application due 10/2006....SD has 6 groups already applying, but none in our area.
--USGS & County of SD is putting a Stream Gage on the SLR river.....the chosen site is a little upstream from Cole Grade Road, between the heart of Pauma Valley & Rincon.
--costs: Rain Gage = \$3500-4000; Stream Gage = \$4500-6000; Weather Station = \$6000-8000
--San Elijo Lagoon has new gages that measure 10 Water Quality Parameters in real time

- **Attendee's News:**

Jack Griffith:

--The Rainbow Municipal Water District Board is in the process of changing some members.

Vic Panky:

--There will be a September 11th meeting for the LAFCO decision—to activate the SLR Municipal Water District's latent powers & enlarge their boundaries.

Anne Burdick: (Mission Resource Conservation District)

--Keep Fallbrook Clean & Green is hosting a community to collect E-waste (electronic waste like computer monitors, etc.) collection day on September 16th; they will also be doing a tire-shredding & paper shredding clean-up elsewhere in Fallbrook. This clean-up will be open to anyone living in North County.

Ruth Harber:

--Highlighted a newspaper article (North County Times, 8/27/06) by Pam Slater on the Gregory Canyon issue.
--SB 1835—Flores Bill/Initiative would require Proposed Landfills to obtain all permits/etc. *before* submitting their proposal to the public for approval. This bill, which was previously vetoed by Gray Davis, has just passed the Assembly. Appropriation Committee and the Senate (33:3); it will be going to Gov. Schwarzenegger late in August for approval/disapproval by the end of September.
--San Diego County received so many comment letters about the Gregory Canyon RPDEIR (submitted by 8/24), that they haven't even counted them yet. The Regional Water Quality Control Board sent comments—their comments are posted on their website.

George Wilkins:

--A Judge recently ruled to temporarily stop the concrete lining of the American canal (San Diego is supposed to get 200,000 acre feed of water diverted from this river because of water savings from channelization; this concrete lining would stop much of the water in the canal from leaking into the ground.

Wallace Tucker: (Fallbrook Conservancy)

--They received a Fish & Wildlife Services grant to remove invasive species in Bonsall, and re-plant about 1000 trees/plants between Mission Road & Highway 76; they will start after nesting season.

Tom Rogers: (represents Senator Dennis Hollingsworth)

-- Senator Hollingsworth received no calls about the Bill: SB 1835; he was one of the few that voted against the Bill [Tom will get a response from Sen. Hollingsworth as to why he voted 'no']. The Senate gets about 3000 bills every year to vote on, and it becomes very chaotic because of the amount & the fact that many of the bills can be changed at any time (ie: before they're looked at, after they've been voted on). All bills will be vetoed or passed by September 30th.
--The original Gregory Canyon initiative (which passed) zoned the area as a 'solid waste land use.' Therefore, we will need another initiative to convert the land back to agricultural use/other.

--Tom stated that it would help to email or mail a comment letter to Senator Hollingsworth (either to the Temecula office or the Sacramento office) for an important issue to our area; a constituent would get into see the Senator easier than a lobbyist. You can contact Tom to set up an appointment with the Senator: Tom Rogers (phone: 951-676-1020)(email: THOMAS.ROGERS@SEN.CA.GOV). He can also help us contact the appropriate legislature and/or track/notify us about pertinent bills.

Cynthia Mallett:

--Some of the Gregory Canyon Landfill Proponents asked to speak to the watershed council and/or have a meeting about the landfill. When she asked the council if they wanted to do this, the majority of those present said no.

Heidi Brow:

--Pala is doing a tamarisk removal project & re-planting of native vegetation/trees.

- **Grant Opportunities**

- Targeted Watershed Grants—EPA [capacity building]: due October 15th

- --this would help us fund a watershed coordinator, get training, and find sustainable funding/funding on a regular basis

- --recommendation: ask your congressional office or the Chief of Staff in Washington DC, what is the #1 priority that the EPA is looking to fund—then cater your grant to that.

- Project-Implementation Grant: due November 15th

- National Oceanic Atmospheric Association Grant: due October

- **Meetings/Events—update**

- Gregory Canyon Landfill:

- ○ (past) public meeting held 8/14/06

- ○ (past) Gregory Canyon Landfill RPDEIR Comments due by 8/24/06.

- Integrated Regional Water Management:

- ○ stakeholder input meetings to be held on 8/28/06 & 8/30/06(6pm–8pm)

- ○ this plan needs to be commented on by September 15th

- ○ for more info.: <http://projectcleanwater.org/html/sdirwm.html>

- **Discussion of Meeting Dates**

- It was informally decided that we would keep the meeting dates on the 4th Monday of every month (from 1pm to 3pm), for the time being.

- **Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm**

- **NEXT MEETING---September 25, 2006 at 1pm**