

# San Luis Rey Watershed Council

## *Meeting Minutes*

**May 24, 2004**

La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians

22000 Highway 76

Pauma Valley, CA 92061

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m.

### **INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Meeting attendees introduced themselves and the organization they represent.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the April 26 meeting minutes was tables until the June 2004 meeting.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

John Beresford, Clean Water Director, and George Wilkins, Wetlands Program Director, La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians: *Overview of Environmental programs and Paradise Fire 2003*

Tracy Lee Nelson, Tribal Chair, welcomed the group to the Tribal Land and Tribal Hall. John Beresford provided some statistics about the La Jolla Indian Reservation. It was formed on September 13, 1892 and has a general council, which includes all tribal members, and a Tribal Council that is elected every two years. The reservation lands encompass approximately 8,600 acres and are located in a mountainous region of the watershed, which receives 30-45 inches of rain each year. All water used on the reservation comes from local sources and the tribe regularly tests these sources for drinking water purposes. John stated that the tribe was awarded monies from several grants to implement environmental related projects on tribal lands. He introduced George Wilkins who gave an overview of the programs currently being managed by the Tribe.

- EPA 106 Clean Water Act – This program coordinates surface water sampling for waters entering and leaving reservation lands
- EPA 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution program – This project identifies and mitigates nonpoint source pollution sources on reservation land. Currently there are five acres of erosion control projects.
- EPA 104 Wetlands Assessment Program – This project assesses and monitors wetlands on reservation land and include a community outreach and education component.
- Bureau of Indian Affairs Water Improvement Project – This project coordinates the construction of water tanks and provides monies for other water storage improvement projects
- Solid Waste Transfer Station – This transfer station will be constructed initially for tribal use only. There is consideration of opening it to others outside the reservation in the future.

The Paradise Fire in October 2003 burned parts of the reservation land. Pictures were shown of the landscapes prior to and after the fire. There were also pictures shown of the recovery of the plants that were in the burn areas and showed shoots growing from the original rootstocks of plants. The tribe will continue to monitor these burned areas to assess the recovery of the natural environment and its effects on water quality within the tribal lands.

### **GREGORY CANYON LANDFILL**

#### *Position letter*

The Technical Advisory Committee met to develop a position letter in regards to the Gregory Canyon landfill. This letter was addressed to Supervisor Horn and stated that the San Luis Rey Watershed Council

takes the position that the landfill proponents follow all permitting processes. The draft letter was presented to the Watershed Council for review, comment and approval at the April 2004 Watershed Council meeting. No changes were made to the letter at that meeting and it was approved as written.

Cynthia Mallett expressed her disappointment in the letter because of two reasons: The letter was not grammatically correct because it was a one-sentence paragraph; and it didn't express specific concerns about how the landfill may affect the watershed.

It was stated that the letter was not emailed to the regular distribution list but only presented in hard copy at the Watershed Council meeting. It was suggested that in the future, draft position letters and correspondence be emailed to the distribution list prior to the meeting so that others who are not able to attend the meeting have an opportunity to comment on these documents.

There were comments made from Watershed Council members that suggested they were satisfied with the letter and others who would have preferred to see more detail. Cynthia Mallett suggested that the Technical Advisory Committee consider revisiting this topic.

#### *Petition signing update*

John McPhee from The Pala Band of Mission Indians EPA Department stated that the tribe has started a petition drive to gather enough signatures to put on the ballot a repeal of Proposition C, which authorized the land use change for the Gregory Canyon landfill. 65,000 signatures need to be gathered by June 1, 2004 to get the initiative on the ballot. Petitions were available for signing in the back of the room as well as paperwork to register to vote.

#### **QUESTIONNAIRE**

A questionnaire was sent to Watershed Council Members that included six questions. Some people receiving this questionnaire wanted to know the goal and reason for the questionnaire. Cynthia stated she would revise the questionnaire to include the goal as well as rewrite some of the questions to be more specific in order to gather more detailed information.

It was stated that some of the stakeholders did not receive the electronic copy of this questionnaire. Cynthia will send to the usual email distribution list and post mail lists once the questions have been revised.

#### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING/AGREEMENT FOR WATERSHED COUNCIL MEMBERS**

A draft Memorandum of Agreement was previously distributed to Watershed Council members. This MOU is to be used as a guideline in the development of an MOU for San Luis Rey Watershed stakeholders. Cynthia will research MOUs produced by other watershed groups in the United States and will provide another draft of the MOU for the Watershed Council to review.

#### **UPDATES, REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Christine Brochard, County of San Diego, announced that a public meeting for the Multiple Species Conservation Program would be held on Wednesday, May 26, 2004 from 6:30 – 8:30 at the San Diego Zoo Otto Center.

Mo Lahsaie, City of Oceanside stated that the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for San Diego County that is authorized by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWCQB) is one permit that encompasses 18 municipalities and jurisdictions in San Diego County. In the future, the RWQCB would like to issue these permits on a watershed basis, but because of a lack of staff to manage each of those permits, it was not feasible at this time. But eventually this type of format will be used and he encouraged the stakeholders of the San Luis Rey Watershed to begin working more closely together and sharing vital data, which could be mutually beneficial in the future.

Also, the City of Oceanside is partnering with the County of San Diego on the submittal of a proposal to develop a watershed-monitoring plan for the entire watershed. It would be ideal to have the Indian Tribes as partners on this grant since they are stakeholders within the watershed. Mo Lahsaie will consider contacting the Tribes to discuss possible collaboration on the grant.

Charlene Orszag, Tierra Miguel Foundation, announced that the closing of Escrow on the 80 acres of agricultural land would be completed by the end of May. Over time they will have to pay back the \$1.4 million loan awarded to cover the costs of purchasing the land.

The Watershed council expressed their appreciation to the La Jolla band of Luiseño Indians for hosting this Watershed council meeting.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 14, 2004 from 1:00 – 3:00 at the City of Oceanside Council Chambers, 300 N. coast Highway, Oceanside, CA 92054. Please note the change of date and meeting and location.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

### **MEETING ATTENDEES**

Doug Anderson..... Yuima Water District  
John Beresford..... La Jolla Band of Mission Indians  
Christine Brochard..... County of San Diego, Multiple Species Conservation Program  
Paul Campo ..... Vista Irrigation District  
Jesse Hutchings ..... Upper San Luis Rey Resource Conservation District  
Mo Lahasaie ..... City of Oceanside  
John Ljunbenkov ..... American Heritage River Commission  
Julie Ljubenkov ..... Watershed Citizen  
Cynthia Mallett..... Mission Resource Conservation District, San Luis Rey Watershed  
Coordinator  
Jon McPhee ..... Pala Band of Mission Indians – EPA  
Paul O’Neal ..... Senator Bill Morrow’s Office  
Charlene Orszag ..... Tierra Miguel Foundation  
Chris ..... La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians  
John Parada..... La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians  
Sam Powvall..... La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians  
Benjamin Rodriguez..... La Jolla Band of Mission Indians  
Hungla Rodriquez..... La Jolla Band of Mission Indians  
Don Smith..... Vista Irrigation District  
Sandra Stoneburner ..... Los Coyotes Band of Indians  
Anne Riley-Katz..... North County Times  
George Wilkins..... La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians