SAWA MEETING MINUTES

August 23rd, 2018
Meeting Location:
1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C
Riverside, CA 92507
9:00 A.M.

BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chairperson Neugebauer called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

II. INTRODUCTIONS
Dick Zembal – OCWD; Michelle Mariscal – SAWA; Mandy Parkes – IERCD; Rick Neugebauer – TEAMRCD; James Law – SAWA; Chris Jones – SBVMWD; Brian Brady – SAWA; Jennette El Morsy – SAWA; Greg Powers – Jackson Tidus (via conference call);

III. PUBLIC INPUT – Oral communication from the public audience on any subject matter within SAWA’s subject matter jurisdiction.
Mr. Chris Jones reported that SBVMWD is interested in getting more information on services SAWA can provide for long term monitoring efforts. Mr. Jones also reported that SBVMWD would be interested in being part of the SAWA Board. After brief discussion and direction from SAWA counsel, the Board request to add discussion of expanding the SAWA Board on the next Meeting Agenda.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR
a. Approve Minutes for July 26, 2018
b. Approve Financial Statement for July 2018
c. Receive and File Letter from IERCD Designating the Board Member Representative and Alternate for its District
d. Receive and File Letter from TEAMRCD Designating the Board Member Representative and Alternate for its District
Director Zembal moved to approve the Consent Calendar items a, b, c and d as presented. Director Parkes seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 3-0

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V. DISCUSSION ITEMS
a. Board Workshop: Member Agency Briefing and Strategy for Working with SAWA
For a copy of the presentation presented by Ms. Parkes for IERCD, Mr. Zembal for OCWD and/or Mr. Neugebauer for TEAMRCD, please contact Administrative Services Manager Jennette El Morsy at jennette@sawatershed.org or 951-780-1012 ext. 101.

b. ILF & Conservation Easement Report – Brian Brady
Mr. Brady reported on the agreement for access to OCWD property upstream River Road for unassigned mitigation placement.

c. Treasurer’s Report – Mandy Parkes
Ms. Parkes reported that there is nothing too significant that is aging and added that there is an invoice for pending funds from USFWS.

VI. ACTION ITEMS
a. Discussion and Possible Approval to revise Section XI, Property and Equipment, of the SAWA Accounting Policies Procedures Manual
Mr. Brady reported that discussions with the company’s auditors, Singer Lewak, over the past two years has have included a review of the company’s capitalization and depreciation accounting practices. Based upon that review, the auditors have recommended that the capitalization threshold be increased from $500 to $2,500, more in-line with industry practice. The recommended changes would be applied to SAWA’s 2018 financials, retroactive to the first of the year.
Director Zembal moved to approve the recommended action. Director Parkes seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 3-0

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GENERAL ITEMS

VII. SAWA PROJECT REPORTS
a. Brian Brady, Executive Director – SAWA
Mr. Brady did not have any updates at this time.

b. Kerwin Russell – RCRCD
Absent

c. Dick Zembal – OCWD
Mr. Zembal suggested having Quarterly Meetings at other agencies facilities in which they showcase the project area.

Mr. Neugebauer did not have any updates at this time.

e. Mandy Parkes – Inland Empire RCD
Ms. Parkes did not have any updates at this time.

f. Brett Mills – San Jacinto Basin RCD
Absent

g. Bonnie Johnson – OCWD
Absent

h. Jennette El Morsy, Administrative Services Manager – SAWA
Ms. El Morsy reported finance and administration including that SAWA is at the end of the financial audit, completing the workers’ comp audit, and the Corps money that should be coming through soon.
i. James Law, Habitat Restoration Services Manager – SAWA
Mr. Law reported on new job proposals including TEAMRCD/Riverside Flood Control Channels, RLC Alessandro Arroyo 1.52, Riverside Flood Control work for Fall 2018, Prop 84, Carbon Canyon Fire Safe Council, ACOE proposal and OCCC grant opportunity. Mr. Law reported on SAWPA mapping for invasives in the upper watershed, landowner outreach and non-native species in the upper watershed. Mr. Law also updated on work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Riverside-Corona RCD: HRS Dept. conducted treatments at Temescal Canyon, Temescal Wash 3M 2.86 Acre Mitigation, HH, and Mockingbird MCB.
- Inland Empire RCD: HRS Dept. conducted treatment at Goose Creek, City of Chino Hills – Hickory Creek, and San Timoteo Reach 3B.
- San Jacinto Basin RCD: HRS Dept. conducted treatment at Wolfskill 1.47.
- Orange County Water District: HRS Dept. conducted treatment at Prado, Mill Creek Prado, CCIP 1 and Santiago Phase II.

VIII. SAWA / MSHCP BIOLOGIST REPORT
a. Michelle Mariscal – SAWA Interim MSHCP Administrator
Ms. Mariscal reported on administrative items including submitting two additional survey reports to RCA.
Ms. Mariscal also updated on other work including:

- Loggerhead Shrike: Surveys concluded. Four of eight monitored Core Areas (50%) fledged young: Lake Matthews/Estelle Mountain, Wilson Valley, Lake Perris/Mystic Lake/SJWA, and the Badlands. Temecula creek was the only Core Area were shrikes have not been observed.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Passive monitoring via autonomous recording unit (ARU) ongoing in Prado. Field biologist is currently building a rough recognizer to analyze the recordings.
- Arroyo Chub: Surveys began on July 30 and are ongoing. No chub observed in Santa Gertrudis Creek in Murrieta, or Sandia creek. Chub observed in Temecula creek and San Jacinto river.
- Rare plants: California beardtongue found at all four surveyed locations. Smooth tarplant surveys concluded. Surveys for graceful tarplant, and lemon lily ongoing. Beautiful hulsea and chickweed oxytheca surveys planned.
- Delhi Sands flower-loving fly: Surveys ongoing. Anecdotally, Delhi fly observations are lower compared to last year. Several surveys were limited/cancelled due to excessive high temperatures.
- Coordination continuing with CA Department of Fish and Wildlife staff at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA) regarding management of the Tricolored Blackbird breeding and foraging habitat, sometimes extending to Burrowing Owl.
- Collaboration continuing with the state-wide Tricolored Blackbird Working Group.
- Planned collaboration with SAWA biologists to electroshock Sunnyslope on August 22-23.
- Taxa Leads developing protocols and methods for planned Grasshopper sparrow, terrestrial herpetofauna (with a focus on snakes) and long-tailed weasel survey efforts.
- Training: Arroyo chub survey training provided by the Survey Lead on July 20.
b. Melody Aimar – SAWA Wildlife Habitat Management Services Manager
Absent

IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
No Board Member comments at this time.

X. NEXT MEETING – September 27, 2018 will be held at the SAWA Headquarters, 1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C, Riverside, CA 92507.

XI. ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 A.M.

Notice: All open session agenda materials will be available for inspection by members of the public at the SAWA office located at 1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C, Riverside, CA 92507. Please contact Maria Arellano at (951) 780-1012 x106 for this information (Government Code Section 54957.5). In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in a Board meeting, please contact the Administrative Services Manager at (951) 780-1012 x101. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting.

Please post 72 hours before meeting

Inland Empire RCD ● Orange County Water District ● Riverside-Corona RCD ●
San Jacinto Basin RCD ● Temecula-Elsinore-Anza -Murrieta RCD