



SAWA MEETING MINUTES

September 27th, 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

Jennette El Morsy – SAWA; Dick Zembal – OCWD; Rick Neugebauer – TEAMRCD; Brett Mills – SJBRCD; Greg Powers – Jackson Tidus; Wes Speak – Wood Environmental Infrastructure Solutions; Scott Crawford – Wood Environmental Infrastructure Solutions; Chris Jones – SBVMWD; Melody Aimar – SAWA; Brian Brandy – SAWA; Michelle Mariscal – SAWA; James Law – SAWA; Kerwin Russell – RCRC (via conference call); Mandy Parkes – IERCD; Bonnie Johnson – OCWD;

Director Mills moved to change Action Item C and D to A and B. Director Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

III. PUBLIC INPUT – Oral communication from the public audience on any subject matter within SAWA’s subject matter jurisdiction. There was no public input at this time.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. Approve Minutes for August 23, 2018
- b. Approve Financial Statement for August 2018
- c. Receive and File Letter from RCRC Designating the Board Member Representative and Alternate for its District
- d. Receive and File Auditor’s Report for the 2017 Financial Statement

Director Parkes moved to approve the Consent Calendar items a, b, c and d as presented.

Director Zembal seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Board Workshop: Member Agency Briefing and Strategy for Working with SAWA (Continued)

For a copy of the presentation presented by Mr. Mills for SJBRCD, 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 that there are no ILF & Conservation Easement updates at this time.
- c. Treasurer’s Report – Mandy Parkes
Ms. Parkes reported that there was nothing receivable over 30 days.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Discussion and Possible Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between SAWA and TEAMRCD Regarding Project and Vegetation Management, Monitoring and Regulatory Reporting for Vegetation Removal and Restoration and Maintenance Services in Riverside County Flood Control Channels in the Santa Margarita Watershed

Mr. Brady reported that TEAMRCD, Riverside Flood Control District (RFCD) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) have identified a need to improve wildlife habitat in flood control channels within TEAMRCD district. A number of flood control channel areas have become overgrown with non-native invasive plants, accumulated trash and homeless encampments. RFCD working with TEAMRCD, CDFW and SAWA have identified a protocol for improving habitat through some vegetation and trash removal maintenance and native plant restoration in these flood control channels. Five sites have been initially identified as in need of these services. SAWA will perform these services over the next couple of months and perform monitoring and reporting to TEAMRCD and RFCD of homeless activities in these areas for the next 26 weeks. SAWA will be paid fully for its services at the rates approved by the SAWA Board of Directors. The term of the MOU is 5 years, expiring in 2023, and initially covers the first Project to be performed at 5 sites for a cost of \$102,174.11. Subsequent Project Work Orders under this MOU would be subject to Board approval.

Director Zembal moved to approve the MOU between SAWA and TEAMRCD with the caveat that there are no substantive changes to the agreement as drafted so far. Director Parkes seconded and the motion passed, 4-0-1

Neugebauer	<i>Abstained</i>	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

- b. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Expansion of the SAWA Board Membership
Mr. Brady reported that several directors have expressed an interest in exploring the merits of expanding the current five-member board. Based upon that interest, the Chair has requested that the Executive Director and the General Counsel develop an informational presentation to the board. For a copy of the presentation presented by Mr. Brady and General Counsel Greg Powers, please contact Administrative Services Manager Jennette El Morsy at jennette@sawatershed.org or 951-780-1012 ext. 101.

Director Zembal added that upper Santa Ana River HCP is a huge opportunity for partnership. Mr. Powers reported that according to SAWA’s bylaws there can be up to 7 members on the Board and the various combinations of Category A and Category B members that can serve on the SAWA Board. Mr. Powers also reported that Category A members can vote & Category B members may participate in discussion input, but do not have a vote. Mr. Powers added there would need to be a 4/5ths vote of the current SAWA Board and a 3/5ths vote of SAWA Board members Agencies Boards to add a prospective agency to serve on the SAWA Board. Mr. Brady reported that RLC and SBVMWD have express interest in being Category A members.

Director Neugebauer recommended that staff create the documents that the SAWA Board need and bring at least one or two new member agencies to the next board meeting and vote accordingly.

c. Election of SAWA Corporate Officers

Section 305 of SAWA By-laws call for the election of SAWA Board Officers at the annual meeting to be held on the fourth Thursday in September. Section 400 identifies the Officers of the Corporation as the Chairperson, the vice Chairperson, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

Chairperson Neugebauer opened up nominations for office of Chairperson. Director Mills moved to nominate Director Zembal for office of Chairperson. Director Zembal nominated Director Neugebauer as the second nominee for office of Chairperson. Director Zembal moved to close nominations for Chairperson. Director Parkes seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

The motion for Director Zembal, first nominee for office of Chairperson failed, 2-3

Neugebauer	<i>Nay</i>	Russell	Aye	Parkes	<i>Nay</i>
Zembal	<i>Nay</i>	Mills	Aye		

The motion for Director Neugebauer, second nominee for office of Chairperson passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Chairperson Neugebauer opened up nominations for office of Vice Chairperson. Director Zembal moved to nominate Director Russell for office of Vice Chairperson. Director Russell nominated Director Zembal as the second nominee for office of Vice Chairperson. Director Neugebauer moved to close nominations for Vice Chairperson. Director Zembal seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

The motion for Director Russell, first nominee for office of Vice Chairperson failed, 2-3

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	<i>Nay</i>	Parkes	<i>Nay</i>
Zembal	<i>Nay</i>	Mills	Aye		

The motion for Director Zembal, second nominee for office of Vice Chairperson passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Chairperson Neugebauer opened up nominations for office of Treasurer. Director Zembal moved to nominate Director Parkes for office of Treasurer. Director Zembal moved to close nominations for Treasurer. Director Parkes seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

The motion for Director Parkes, first nominee for office of Treasurer passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zembal	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Chairperson Neugebauer opened up nominations for office of Secretary. Director Zembal moved to nominate Director Mills for office of Secretary. Director Parkes moved to close nominations for Secretary. Director Zembal seconded and the motion passed, 4-1

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
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Zemba	Aye	Mills	Nay		
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The motion for Director Mills, first nominee for office of Secretary passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zemba	Aye	Mills	Aye		

d. Designation of SAWA Board Committees and Assignment of Committee Members
 Chairperson Neugebauer opened up nominations for the Administration Committee. Director Russell nominated himself for the Administration Committee. Other previously serving Directors on the Admin Committee have also chosen to continue serving on the Administration Committee. Director Parkes moved to approve Director Russell and Director Mills as members and Director Neugebauer as an alternate for the Administration Committee. Director Zemba seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zemba	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Chairperson Neugebauer opened up nominations for the Audit & Finance Committee. Previously serving Director Alternate Johnson and Director Parkes volunteered to continue serving on the Audit & Finance Committee. Director Zemba volunteered to be an alternate member for the Audit & Finance Committee. Director Parkes moved to approve Director Alternate Johnson and Director Parkes as members and Director Zemba as an alternate for the Audit & Finance Committee. Director Zemba seconded and the motion passed unanimously, 5-0

Neugebauer	Aye	Russell	Aye	Parkes	Aye
Zemba	Aye	Mills	Aye		

Director Russell and Director Parkes left the meeting at this time.

GENERAL ITEMS

VII. SAWA PROJECT REPORTS

a. Brian Brady, Executive Director – SAWA

Mr. Brady reported that SAWA is investigating credit card vs. debit card use. Mr. Brady and Managers will be attending the RLC Gala on October 11, 2018. Mr. Brady will be contacting the member agencies to get on the monthly mailing lists for Board Agenda or Board Packets. Mr. Brady reported on various meetings with RCA, Jackson Tidus, Audit & Finance Committee, RLC Executive Director (Eastom), SBVMWD (Dryer, Jones). Mr. Brady also updated on the finalized 2017 draft Financial Statements and TEAMRCD draft MOU.

b. Kerwin Russell – RCRC
 Absent

c. Dick Zemba – OCWD

Mr. Zemba requested information in regards to what the burden of proof or level of which you can unequivocally demonstrate that something is or is not in SAWA's best interest from General Counsel. Mr. Powers reported that a few examples would be if a Board member is doing something that is in direct competition with SAWA, if a Board member were bad mouthing SAWA, anything that could subject SAWA to losing its tax exempt status (ex. a Board member pocketing money or some individual benefit to a Board member), or anything else that is clearly not in SAWA's best interest. Mr. Powers added that it is something that would have to

be evaluated on a case-by-case basis depending on the facts. Mr. Zembal updated on Prop 84 arundo work done with Mr. James Law and SAWA's HRS Dept.

d. Rick Neugebauer – Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
Mr. Neugebauer reported that TEAMRCD's meeting went dark last month.

e. Mandy Parkes – Inland Empire RCD
Absent

f. Brett Mills – San Jacinto Basin RCD
Mr. Mills did not have any updated at this time.

g. Bonnie Johnson – OCWD
Mr. Johnson reported that the River Walk is on October 18, 2018.

h. Jennette El Morsy, Administrative Services Manager – SAWA
Ms. El Morsy reported on finance and administration including that the Financial Audit completed, MSHCP new server & software, still recruiting for MSHCP Dept. Administrator, renewed SAM Entity Registration for USFWS funding, companywide Sexual Harassment Prevention Training, and Open Enrollment for health benefits.

i. James Law, Habitat Restoration Services Manager – SAWA
Mr. Law reported on new job proposals and administrative tasks including TEAMRCD – Riverside Flood Control Channels, SAWPA 0.3 acres of restoration adjacent to the Santa Ana River, RLC Alessandro Arroyo 1.52, Riverside Flood Control work for fall 2018, Prop 84, Carbon Canyon Fire Safe Council, Annual Report and OCCC Arundo Removal Project. Mr. Law also updated on work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD: The HRS Dept. treated Ingui and finalized the new TEAMRCD – Riverside Flood Facility's Project.
- Riverside-Corona RCD: The HRS Dept. conducted treatments at the following: Temescal Canyon, Temescal Wash 3M 2.86 Acre Mitigation, HH, And Mockingbird MCB.
- Inland Empire RCD: The HRS Dept. conducted treatments at: City of Chino Hills – Hickory Creek, Sunnyslope; City of Chino Hills – Carbon Canyon, Fire Safe Council & SAR – Hwy 210 Interchange.
- San Jacinto Basin RCD: The HRS Dept. conducted treatments at Wolfskill 1.47.
- Orange County Water District: The HRS Dept. conducted treatments at: Irvine Park and Santiago Phase 1.

VIII. SAWA / MSHCP BIOLOGIST REPORT

a. Michelle Mariscal – SAWA Interim MSHCP Administrator
Ms. Mariscal reported on administrative items including submitting terrestrial reptile survey report to RCA (11 of 12 reports submitted). Ms. Mariscal also updated on other work including.

- Arroyo Chub: Surveys began on 30 July and are ongoing. No chub observed in Santa Gertrudis Creek in Murrieta, Murrieta creek, Mill Creek or Sandia creek tributary. Chub observed in Temecula creek and San Jacinto river near Cranston station.
- Rare plants: Graceful tarplant surveys ongoing. Surveys being planned for Engelmann oak in the Bautista area.
- Delhi Sands flower-loving fly: Surveys concluded on 20 August.

- 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.
- Collaboration continuing with the state-wide Tricolored Blackbird Working Group.
- Participated in native fish survey and non-native aquatic species removal efforts at Sunnyslope in the Santa Ana River on 22 August with OCWD and SAWA biologists.
- Coordinated with SJWA to remove invasive turtles from a pond on a property adjacent to the Wildlife Area.
- Participated in native fish survey and non-native aquatic species removal efforts near Van Buren drain in the Santa Ana River on 14 September, coordinated by San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District.
- Collaborated with MSHCP Management Program to remove aquatic invasive wildlife at two RCA-owned properties on 19-20 September.
- Collaborated with UC Cooperative Extension regarding sharing stinknet occurrence records.
- Coordinating with CNLM to plan Stephens' kangaroo rat monitoring efforts in Wilson Valley.
- Taxa Leads developing protocols and methods for planned Grasshopper sparrow, riparian bird, terrestrial reptiles (with a focus on snakes) and long-tailed weasel survey efforts.
- All Hands Meeting occurred on 12 September: cleaned and checked vehicles, discussed survey and report status.
- Long-tailed weasel survey training provided by the Taxa Lead on 12 September.
- Loggerhead Shrike post-survey meeting provided by the Taxa Lead on 13 September to share monitoring results with staff.
- California Gnatcatcher post-survey meeting provided by the Project Lead 13 September to share monitoring results with staff.
- Five biologists attending the Western Field Ornithologist conference and associated workshops 26-29 September in Ventura, California.

b. Melody Aimar – SAWA Wildlife Habitat Management Services Manager

Ms. Aimar reported that Winter dairy trapping began (4 traps open in Prado). Biologists removed all BHCO habitat traps for winter storage. Biologist assistant is maintaining and organizing BHCO gear. Biologists analyzing Vireo data for 13 managed sites and all other sampled areas in the watershed (Preliminary numbers = higher, Annual Report – in progress). Biologists completing 45-day reports/maps for all CAGN incidentally observed and via protocol surveys. Biologists preparing CNDDDB submission to CDFW. Biologists analyzing data from 8 BBS at Chino Creek Park for IUEA. Biologists finalized and proofed bioassessment and photo point data for SAWA mitigation areas. Ms. Housel is preparing the CDFW 4-year Mitigation Report and the SAWA Annual Mitigation Report. PSHB traps are maintained throughout the mainstem. Biologists to attend the Western Field Ornithologist Conference in Ventura, Employee appreciation committee preparing for outing and Preparing 2019 Work Plan. Ms. Aimar also updated on work within individual member agencies jurisdictions:

- Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD: Biologists to conduct Greer Ranch easement survey.
- Riverside-Corona RCD: No work this month.
- Inland Empire RCD: Devil's Canyon Project - check wildlife cameras, coverboards, herp night drive, owl survey and herp area search surveys. Monthly monitoring of the burrowing owl boxes installed at the Bella Strada mitigation site. PSHB traps are maintained throughout the mainstem.
- San Jacinto Basin RCD: No work this month.

- Orange County Water District: Biologists have completed and submitted CDFW Least Tern colony data-700+ nests (WSPL – 2 nests), Annual report in progress. Sunnyslope surveys continue. OCWD is funding SAWA's shot hole borer trapping in SAC, Norco, and SAR. CAGN surveys at Hwy71-west and near the dam - 45-day reports and maps being prepared. Bat/Swallow diet study- DNA sampling complete – analysis pending.

IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

No Board member comments at this time.

X. NEXT MEETING – October 25, 2018 will be held at the SAWA Headquarters, 1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C, Riverside, CA 92507.

XI. ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 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