# SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

MINUTES OF July 18, 2017 1:30 P.M.

President Corneille called the Workshop of the Board of Directors to order at 1:40 p.m.

## **ROLL CALL:**

## **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Richard Corneille, President Melody McDonald, Vice President David E. Raley, Director John Longville, Director T. Milford Harrison, Director

## **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

## **GENERAL COUNSEL PRESENT:**

David Cosgrove, Rutan & Tucker

## STAFF PRESENT:

Daniel Cozad, General Manager Jeff Beehler, Land Resource Manager Athena Monge, Administrative Services Specialist

## **GUESTS PRESENT:**

Deniene Rivenburg, SDR Consulting

#### 1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President Corneille announced this as the time for any persons present, who so desire, to make an oral presentation to the Board of Directors. Hearing none, the meeting continued with published agenda items.

# 2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There were none.

## 3. STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

Mr. Cozad reviewed the strategic planning process and the ranking of issues using a PowerPoint presentation. The first issue being discussed was Item G - Mining Pit Reuse

Planning. Mr. Cozad reviewed existing mining pit constraints via PowerPoint. Mr. Cosgrove discussed mining pit's compaction and the problems it causes for percolation. Mr. Cozad noted that 120 feet is the depth the mining is allowed. The District has not received an updated mining plan but CEMEX and Robertson's are in the process of developing one. Mr. Cozad reviewed the map showing existing mining operations and future quarries with the current percentages mined out. Staff's analysis is that the earliest quarries' mining completion dates are 2026. Mr. Beehler stated that a requirement of the miners is to put a two-to-one slope in and revegetate in accordance with the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act requirements and District leases. Mr. Cozad asked the Board for feedback. President Corneille suggested that the Board needs to be reactive to any reuse proposals. He said the District needs to review the mining plan first.. Reuse of the quarries does not seem to be a feasible use in near future. Director Longville asked for staff to identify methods to improve recharge where compaction is a problem. Direct Raley asked if there is a possibility to install injection wells. Mr. Cozad stated that it is possible, but much more expensive to install and operate in order to get the same amount of recharge. Director Harrison said that any potential planning for mining pit reuse is premature at this point at least until the Wash Plan is implemented and the District has a mining plan from the miners.

The second issue being discussed was Item F – Outreach and Public Relations. Mr. Cozad introduced Deniene Rivenburg a consultant the District uses for press and outreach assistance. He reviewed current outreach involvement; primarily IERCD education programs and information provided to our groundwater partners. Targeted outreach and field tours are provided as requested and related to project or operations milestones. Director Longville said that he believes that outreach would be most effective by directing our attention to higher levels of elected officials. President Corneille expressed concern over the lack of awareness of the District's efforts in the community. He said that such things as trails, habitat management experience and Wash Plan implementation are opportunities for more exposure. President Corneille also supports Director Longville's suggestion related to elected and appointed officials. President Corneille noted that the District has a template presentation that can be used for service club presentations. Director Longville indicated that legislators and community leaders attend chamber and service club meetings as well.

Director Raley stated that the District's focus should primarily be on its function rather than outreach. He said that storm water capture is an item that is not being addressed enough from his perspective. Vice President McDonald indicated her support of stormwater capture. Staff noted that stormwater capture is included in the Additional Recharge element of the strategic planning issues. The Board concurred that outreach is a lower level priority and is more of an opportunistic effort.

Mr. Cozad summarized the Strategic Workshop Planning Process and next steps. He reviewed proposed goals for each issue discussed in previous Workshops. Based on this discussion, the District's first priority is Additional Recharge, second is Boundary Expansion (where it serves the mission or partners), third is Trail Recreation, fourth is Expanded Habitat Management, fifth is Outreach PR, sixth is Mining Pit Reuse and last is Treatment Wetlands. Additional recharge would include the development of Mendoza Property, the Mill Creek Diversion and Plunge Creek as well as partnerships and potential stormwater capture. This may include recycled water as well. Boundary Expansion supports the District's primary mission of spreading water within the District's sphere and approved services. The preliminary goal is by 2020 to potentially change the district's boundary or to provide external services through contract. For Trails Recreation, the District will continue to work with the cities Redlands and Highland and

other partners on governance and implementation with a preliminary goal of having the first wild lands trail opened in 3 years.. Expanded Habitat Management goals are to implement the Wash Plan needs and coordinate with the Conservation Trust when there are requests from others for mitigation in the Wash Plan area; consideration of efforts will be done on a case-by-case basis. Opportunities to purchase buffer lands and partnering with others in mitigation management would also be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. For Treatment Wetlands, the Board sees this as a response item: If a need should arise or an entity was to request support, staff should evaluate the opportunity. Mining Pit Reuse goals are to obtain a Mining Plan from mining partners and identify what if any other needs exist to enhance the quarries for the ultimate use of recharge. Outreach and PR goals are to partner with others for their expertise, present developed ideas, and respond to opportunities such as presentations to service clubs and other public agencies. President Corneille said the District needs to get the message out in terms of a press release, when it reaches a milestone or important event.

Mr. Cozad reviewed existing program, funding and staffing needs. The bullet list/initial review of the Strategic Plan will be brought to the August 9 Board of Directors meeting for review. A Draft Strategic Plan will be brought to the September 13 Board of Directors meeting.

#### 4. ADJOURN MEETING

It was moved by Vice President McDonald and seconded by Director Harrison to adjourn. The motion carried 5-0 with all Directors present voting in the affirmative.

**President Corneille: Yes** 

**Vice President McDonald: Yes** 

Director Longville: Yes Director Raley: Yes Director Harrison: Yes

At 3:44 p.m. the meeting adjourned to the Regular Board Meeting scheduled for August 9, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. at District Headquarters, 1630 W. Redlands Blvd., Redlands, CA.

General Manager