

**MINUTES FOR MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF  
SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY CONSERVATION TRUST,  
a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation**

**Friday, June 9, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.**

CALL TO ORDER – 9:18 a.m.

ROLL CALL

David E. Raley, SBV Water Conservation District  
Paul Williams, Inland Empire Resource Conservation District  
John Longville, SBV Water Conservation District  
Daniel Cozad, SBV Water Conservation District  
Angie Quiroga, SBV Water Conservation District  
Jeff Beehler, SBV Water Conservation District

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -None
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 10, 2017

**Action:** Motion was made by Vice President Williams and seconded by President Raley to approve the meeting minutes from February 10, 2017. The motion carried 3-0 with all directors present voting in the affirmative.

Ayes: Raley, Williams, Longville

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

3. WASH PLAN STATUS

Jeff Beehler presented this item. He provided a handout listing the requirements needed to proceed with planned projects and discussed the three Task Force members to date who have completed some or all of these requirements. Discussion ensued. President Raley inquired as to when the Trust will have to start funding mitigation work. Mr. Beehler responded that it will begin the day the Incidental Take Permit (ITP) is signed. Before any projects can begin, however, the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) must be signed, a Record of Decision by the Federal Government recorded and the ITP will be written and issued. Mr. Beehler then provided a flow chart handout describing the project review process for a Certificate of Inclusion (COI). Upon verification that a proposed project is consistent with the HCP, all previously mentioned requirements have been met, and the ITP has been issued, Task Force members will receive their COI to proceed with their projects. If there are project inconsistencies, additional steps will have to be taken. This item was received and filed by the Board.

#### 4. FINANCIAL STATUS

Daniel Cozad presented this item. He provided a handout listing the Wash Plan participant's endowment fees, those who have paid their fees to date, and the Trust's account balance. The Trust does not currently have enough in the account to offset investment management costs. It is anticipated San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District will pay their fees upon request for their COI. Receipt of this payment will be enough to trigger the investments in accordance with the policy the Board previously approved. This item was received and filed by the Board.

#### 5. COMMUNITY MITIGATION SUPPORT

Jeff Beehler presented this item. He stated the Trust has had three inquiries regarding our willingness to mitigate land for other projects outside of the Wash Plan HCP. Usually, the US Fish & Wildlife Service will ask that land be set aside and managed for 5 years. After those 5 years, this land would not be a part of the Wash Plan but managed as part of it. One developer needs two acres of San Bernardino kangaroo rat (SBKR) and requested a formal estimate. A mitigation cost per acre estimate handout was provided and discussed. In order for mitigation to be approved, the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District (Conservation District) Board would have to agree to allow a conservation easement on District-owned land; the Trust would have to agree to take the easement, verify they are adequately funded for it and hold the endowment related to it. Further discussion ensued. The second request is for 30 acres of SBKR along Greenspot Road. It is likely more of these same requests along Greenspot Road will happen over the next 5 years. The Conservation District has great interest in this land because it is adjacent to the Wash Plan. District staff believes managing this land and creating a buffer around the Conservation District's groundwater recharge basins is a benefit to water quality. Paul Williams stated any land that will be conserved is in the Trust's interest. Mr. Beehler explained no definitive requests have been made. Preliminary costs have been provided to the Board to consider for future decisions regarding accepting endowments and conservation easements. The Board supported the concept but took no action.

#### 6. POTENTIAL LAND ACQUISITION OPPORTUNITIES WITH SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Mr. Cozad stated feedback from the Conservation District's Strategic Planning process indicated it is unlikely the Conservation District would actively pursue acquiring more land. This could be an opportunity for the Conservation Trust. Mr. Williams noted there is a large tax benefit to donating land to the Trust. The Board took no action.

#### 7. CONSERVATION EASMENTS

Mr. Beehler reiterated Staff has been working with IERCD to develop a conservation easement template. It will be customized and brought back to the Board for approval at a later date.

8. ADJOURN MEETING – 10:25 A.M.


**Action:** Motion was made by Director Raley and seconded by Vice President Williams to adjourn meeting. The next regular scheduled Board of Directors Meeting will tentatively be September 15, 2017 at 10:30 am at 1630 W. Redlands Blvd., Redlands, CA. The motion carried 3-0 with all Directors present voting in the affirmative.

Ayes: Raley, Williams, Longville

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:



Daniel B. Cozad  
Secretary/CFO