

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
SAN GABRIEL RIVER DISCOVERY CENTER AUTHORITY
HELD AT THE**

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
602 E. Huntington Drive, Suite B
Monrovia, CA

January 19, 2016 – 9:30 A.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority Meeting was held at Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, Monrovia, CA on January 19, 2016 and was called to order at 9:31 am by Hayden Sohm.

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Dan Arrighi, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
Hayden Sohm, LA County Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Anthony Fellow, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
Sam Pedroza, Stakeholder Committee

Members Absent:

Robert Apodaca, President, Central Basin Municipal Water District

Staff Present:

Mark Stanley, Interim Executive Officer
Dena Williams, Board Secretary
Salian Garcia, Fiscal Manager
Roxana Marashi, Project Manager
Richard Padilla, Counsel

OTHERS PRESENT:

Hugo Garcia, SGRDCA Consultant
Dr. Richard Shope, World Space

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item 4 was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Fellow, seconded by Board member Arrighi.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SAN GABRIEL RIVER DISCOVERY CENTER AUTHORITY BOARD MEETINGS HELD SEPTEMBER 16, 2015.

There were no corrections noted.

Item 5 was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Arrighi, seconded by Board Member Fellow.

6. ENTERTAINMENT OF NOMINATIONS AND MOTIONS TO SELECT OFFICERS

A. Board member Arrighi nominated Anthony Fellow as Chair. Board Member Sohm seconded the motion.

B. Board member Arrighi nominated John Wicker as Vice Chair. Board Member Fellow seconded the motion.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

8. ECOVOICES QUARTERLY PROGRAM UPDATE

Dr. Richard Shope handed out a copy of activities that occurred over the weekend with the EcoVoices program and mentioned that the program has not been active at the Discovery Center site, but has continued at the Monte Vista school site. Ms. Annie Lui explained to the board members what they have been teaching the students and how they have the students learning by doing hands-on activities. Dr. Shope also mentioned that the program would be seeking grant funding so that the program could be expanded for the 2016 year.

REGULAR CALENDAR

9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE

The Interim Executive Officer stated that Mr. Hugo Garcia would give a brief presentation of what his roles with the EcoVoices program have consisted of. Mr. Garcia stated that he would have a twenty-six page update for the board at the next meeting. Mr. Garcia also mentioned that there were a total of 3,223 students who have participated in the Eco Voices program and that the outreach activities have also expanded and will continue to grow in the years to come. Mr. Stanley introduced the new employees of WCA and SGRDCA. He also stated that the board meetings would be held every other month on the third Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and alternating between

Central Basin and Upper District. Mr. Stanley explained that staff still needs some permits from the Army Corp, have a discussion with the fire department and Regional Planning Department before we can proceed with the discovery center construction stage. Board member Sohm asked where we were with the discussions with the Sheriff's department because it was his understanding that they occupy a building on the discovery site now. Mr. Stanley answered with there has been a discussion with the Sheriff's department that they might relocate and also a discussion about having a smaller presence on site but there has not been a decision yet.

10. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE WATER QUALITY, SUPPLY AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2014 RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE SAN GABRIEL RIVER WETLAND RESTORATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.

The Interim Executive Officer stated that this is a Proposition 1 Water Bonds funding and will match the RMC funds for the wetland restoration development project. He also stated that staff is requesting grant funds in the amount of \$541,384 and will be put strictly towards the water quality and watershed management components of the project.

Item 10 was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Arrighi, seconded by Board Member Sohm.

11. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTACT EXTENSION WITH HUGO GARCIA FOR INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES FOR THE DISCOVERY CENTER CAPITAL PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.

The Interim Executive Officer stated that this contract will extend through the end of this fiscal year in an amount not to exceed \$22,500 for a total of 300 hours. Mr. Stanley mentioned that Mr. Garcia has used 238.50 hours of the 300 hours leaving a balance of 61.50 hours for a value \$4,612.50 remaining on the contract. Mr. Stanley mentioned that this will just extend until June 30, 2016 and then will decide how staff will continue with contracting of consultants once this contract expires.

Item 11 was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Sohm, seconded by Board Member Pedroza.

12. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH BOBBI MURRAY FOR INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITES FOR THE DISCOVERY CENTER CAPITAL PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.

The Interim Executive Officer stated that this contract is very similar to the contract the board just approved. He also stated that Ms. Murray has used 87 of the 330 hours, leaving a balance of 286 hours and \$18,225.00 remains on the contract.

Item 12 was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Arrighi, seconded by Board Member Pedroza.

13. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AMENDMENT FOR MANAGEMENT SERVICES WITH THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY.

The Interim Executive Officer stated that the Authority is seeking an amendment to the existing SGRDCA management services contract to extend through June 30, 2017 and also increasing the contract value to a not-to-exceed amount of \$136,850 which includes inflation costs during the next two years.

Item 13 was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Sohm, seconded by Board Member Pedroza.

14. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION RATIFYING AN AGREEMENT WITH WORLD SPACE FOR MANAGEMENT SERVICES OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING.

The Interim Executive Officer mentioned that World Space will partner with the Authority to engage and educate students, visitors and the community in water-based programs and also provides an innovation testbed haven for collaborative enterprises that develop, validate, apply effective science research, education, communications and youth workforce development. Mr. Stanly stated that Dr. Shope, formerly a consultant to Youth Science Center, will serve as the educational administrator, managing EcoVoices program activities onsite with the Whittier Narrows Natural Area, on campus at school sites and selected park locations throughout the Los Angeles region.

Item 14 was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Arrighi, seconded by Board Member Sohm.

15. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF DEMANDS TO THE SGRDC AUTHORITY ACCOUNT.

The Interim Executive Officer briefly talked about Exhibit A included in the packet which includes costs incurred for insurance, transportation, legal, strategic project implementation, project management services, permits and A/E support. Mr. Stanley stated that the total amount for the current demands for this period are \$66,224.86.

Item 15 was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Arrighi, seconded by Board Member Sohm.

16. RECEIVE AND FILE YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016.

The Interim Executive Officer briefly discussed the total revenue, total expenditures, administrative expenses subtotal, capital outlay expenses subtotal and grant expenses subtotal.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Statements, responses, questions or directions to staff pursuant to Section 54954.2(a) of the Government Code

There were no statements made.

B. Future agenda items

18. CLOSED SESSION

A. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(D)(2) AND 54856.9(E)(1) – CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL RE: POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION – ONE (1) MATTER.

Meeting went into closed session at 10:08 a.m. and ended at 10:27 a.m.

19. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be March 15, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.

20. ADJOURNMENT UPON COMPLETION OF BUSINESS

Chair Fellow adjourned the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

X Dena Williams

Dena Williams
Board Secretary

X Anthony Fellow

Anthony Fellow
Chair

