



**VENTURA COUNTY
SPECIAL DISTRICTS**

- Bell Community Services
- Calleguas Municipal Water
- Camarillo Health Care
- Camrosa Water
- Casitas Municipal Water
- Channel Islands Beach
 Community Services
- Conejo Recreation & Park
- County of Ventura
 Auditor—Controller *
- Hidden Valley Municipal
 Water
- Meiners Oaks County Water
- Montalvo Municipal
 Improvements
- Ojai Valley Sanitary
- Oxnard Harbor
- Pleasant Valley County Water
- Pleasant Valley Recreation &
 Parks
- Rancho Simi Recreation &
 Parks
- Saticoy Sanitary
- Triunfo Sanitation
- United Water Conservation
- Ventura County Resource
 Conservation
- Ventura Port
- Ventura Regional Sanitation *
- Ventura River County Water

VCSDA

MINUTES Tuesday, June 4 2013 Strathearn Park

*Unapproved
Minutes*

Approved: _____
Date: _____
Motion: _____
Second: _____

The meeting of the Ventura County Special District Association was held at Strathearn Historical Park and Museum, 137 Strathearn Place, Simi Valley, CA.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE: Elaine Freeman

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by President Elaine Freeman. Elaine Freeman led the flag salute.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL: Elaine Freeman

Elaine Freeman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Districts with representatives present included: Calleguas Municipal Water District: Jose Cobian, Bill Seaver, Shirley Seaver, Lynn Slosson, and Thom Slosson; Camarillo Health Care District: Rod Brown and Linda Brown; Camrosa Water District: Al Fox, and Cindy Fox; Channel Islands Beach Community Service District: Jim Estomo; Conejo Recreation and Park District: Joe Gibson, Ed Jones, George Lange, and Lori Olbrich; Montalvo Community Service District: Nancy Acosta; Ojai Valley Sanitation District: Stan Greene and Bill O'Brien; Oxnard Harbor District/Port of Hueneme: Will Berg; Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District: Elaine Magner, Mark Malloy and Mark Mishler; Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District: Elaine Freeman, Colleen Janssen, Lee Martin, and Kate O'Brien; Triunfo Sanitation District: Michael Paule; United Water Conservation District: Bruce Dandy; and Ventura River County Water District: Marvin Hanson and Bert Rapp. Guests included Pat Havens, historian for Strathearn Historical Park & Museum, Marc Bergeron (RSRPD volunteer), and Jack Freeman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 9, 2013: Elaine Freeman

Ojai Valley Sanitary District indicated their attendance at the April 9, 2013 meeting and asked to be added to the minutes. The minutes will be corrected.

MSA: Al Fox / Nancy Acosta

TREASURER'S REPORT: Michael Paule

\$10,856.07 Balance forward 01/01/13

\$ 9,899.93 Ending balance 05/31/13

See attached Treasurer's Report.

VCSDA member invoices for the next year are being mailed to all agencies.

Dues will continue to be \$150.

MSA: George Lange / Kate O'Brien

President—Elaine Freeman
Vice President—Mary Anne Rooney

Treasurer—Mike Paule
Secretary—Colleen Janssen

AGENDA CHANGE

Item 7 - speaker, was moved up

SPEAKER: Patricia Havens, historian for Strathearn Historical Park and Museum

Pat gave an overview of the history of Simi Valley. She reviewed the Village of Shimiji, Chumash, Spanish period, DeAnza expedition, Santiago Pico, El Rancho Simi, Tapo Ranch, California Mutual Benefit Company, pre-fab houses, water companies, the Women's Club, citrus orchards, crops, the Strathearn family, oil, the train depot, Rocketdyne, and her arrival to the community in 1943.

She invited everyone to attend History Days on June 15.

Reports and Announcements

A. Legislative Update: Elaine Freeman reviewed some legislative items. A report is attached with these minutes. The main items she covered were:

AB5

Prop 39

AB218

AB294

AB416

AB1149

New bills covering the same issues are expected next year.

B. CSDA Affiliation: Elaine Freeman announced that the affiliation of VCSDA with CSDA was approved by the majority of VCSDA members. We will now have strength in numbers when issues come up. Additionally, a change is needed to add the affiliation to the VCSDA bylaws need to be updated to reflect the affiliation. George Lange suggested that a review of the bylaws is due. He offered to serve on the committee since he has done it in the past. The committee will need one more volunteer.

D. Website Update: Lee Martin offered an update on the VCSDA website including the addition of a CSDA mapping tool link to the site. At the request of last meeting's speaker, a link to the Health Ventura County site was added. He is working with Michael Paule to add the ability of members to make VCSDA meeting reservations and pay online. Martin explained a little about becoming PCI compliant which is important for payment card processing and security.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elaine Freeman sent a letter and scarf to Christine Cohen on her retirement. She invited Cohen to attend a future VCSDA meeting.

Bruce Dandy reported on the recent LAFCo meeting. He said that \$30,000 from reserves had been approved to offset fees from special districts. This reduces the possible 9% increase in fees to 4.2%. Permit fees are expected to prevent future rate increases.

VCSDA

Minutes of June 4, 2013

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Al Fox reported that a single steelhead trout was found in Camrosa. There is concern that it may have been planted. This can have a serious negative impact since water will be lost for creation of steelhead habitat. All the way to Piru could become "natural habitat" trumps "proof."

Michael Paule discussed the EPA TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) which is scheduled to be adopted on July 2, 2013. This new TMDL includes the Malibu Creek Watershed which impacts the Joint Powers Authority of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Triunfo Sanitation District. The TMDL stems from a consent order from action taken by Heal the Bay and other environmental groups regarding excessive algae in Malibu Creek and low Benthic Macroinvertebrate counts.

There is considerable local opposition to this new TMDL which is not based on valid science in the watershed as to the cause of the algae issues and the new standards if adopted by the regional water quality control would create unobtainable new limits in the watershed and force the Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority to invest as much as \$300 million in a new treatment plant. The result would be the tripling of sewer rates for their customers.

The JPA has filed legal action to block the implementation of the new TMDL.

UPCOMING VCSDA MEETINGS:

August 6: McCrea Ranch, Thousand Oaks

October 1: Oak Park Community Center & Gardens, Oak Park

ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Colleen Janssen, Secretary to VCSDA

LEGISLATIVE REPORT from Elaine Freeman

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – June, 2013

Just as a brief update, the CSDA Legislative Days were very successful. Speakers included Calif. State Controller John Chiang, a panel that included Assembly Member Achadjian and Assembly Member Mark Levine both on the Assembly Local Government Committee and Senator Stephen Knight Chair of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee. Also and panel including CSDA Legislative staff and Ralph Heim on the status of bills.

Speaking of bills. There are still a few that are alive and well that are worth watching:

SB 1 (Steinberg) known as Sustainable Communities Investment Authorities – Provides a new mechanism for special districts and other local agencies to invest property tax increment and other available funding to improve infrastructure in a manner that promotes sustainability: clearly prohibits the shifting of revenue from local agencies without their consent. SUPPORT

AB 1080 (Alejo) offers a model approach for the next era in economic development by maximizing both accountability and collaboration between local agencies. This legislation offers flexibility for taxing agencies to adjust or terminate the amount of tax increment funding and allows special districts to create such a program through a joint powers authority. SUPPORT

AB 419 (Gordon) creates the Local Emission Reduction Program to allocate monies to local governments for grants and other financial assistance to develop and implement GHG emission reduction projects. The Air Resources Board would develop and oversee the program in consultation with the Strategic Growth Contingent on allocation of funds by the Legislature.
Still active and is in the Appropriations Committee.

Local Government Financing—55% Vote for Local Bonds There is ACA 8 from the Assembly and SCA 11 from the Senate. These items were left open by the Conference Committee, which means it will only be taken up if the Assembly attempts to insert it into the final budget later on the floor. The Senate Pro Tem made it very clear that he supports a 55% vote threshold for local revenues but that he believes the conversation on whether and how to do that should occur in 2014 since a Constitutional Amendment would be required in the November 2014 election.

Proposition 39 Implementation Plan – The legislature agreed to accept most of the Governor's plan which will invest these revenues exclusively in schools in order to offset Prop 98 funding requirements. CSDA and the coalition have been working to at least have part of these revenues available to local government.

Bills which are opposed: AB 1149 (Campos) Identity Theft – applies State breach notification requirements related to secure personal information to all local agencies, creating costly new requirements and redundancies with current federal law. AB 1333 (Hernandez) Prevailing Wage Contract Review – Creates unwarranted requirement for annually renewable contracts – or evergreen contracts – with private contractors valued at more than \$250,000. Specifically, it would require a local legislative body to open up the evergreen contract every three years to verify that the private contractor provides prevailing wage or a "livable wage" to its employees. SB 556 (Corbett) Contracting Liability – Expands potential liability for a contracting agency, such as a special district, for any damage or injury caused by an independent contractor or that contractor's employee for work under the independent contractor agreement, if uniform or vehicle logos causes a member of the public to believe that the contractor or his or her employee was an agent of the contracting agency. This overturns decades of standing case law to address a scenario that has yet to be reported as a problem. And, SB 617 (Evans) CEQA Expansion – Dramatically expands CEQA by placing additional requirements on local governments and requiring lead agencies to evaluate and propose mitigation to address the existing conditions of the environment for proposed projects. Specifically, it vastly increases the scope of environmental impact reports by requiring lead agencies to analyze "significant effects that may result from locating development near, or attracting people, to existing or reasonably foreseeable natural hazards or adverse environmental conditions." This would create further uncertainty in CEQA and would open the door to more litigation, spending scarce public resources that would otherwise fund essential services.

If anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. freemanelf@aol.com

VCSDA TREASURER'S REPORT

Ventura County Special Districts Association

Statement of Activity

January 1 - May 31, 2013

| | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance Rabobank, 1/1/2013 | | \$ 10,856.07 |
| | <u>Total</u> | |
| Receipts | | |
| Annual Awards Meeting Income | 5,665.00 | |
| Bi-Monthly Meeting Fees | 510.00 | |
| Total Income | <u>\$ 6,175.00</u> | |
| Disbursements | | |
| Feb 13 Awards Meeting Costs | 5,477.99 | |
| Adjustment for 10/26/12 Deposit for 2013 Awards Meeting | -1,500.00 | |
| Deposit (5/5/13) for 2014 Annual Awards Meeting - Las Posas CC | 1,500.00 | |
| Office Expenses | 137.95 | |
| Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting Costs | 235.91 | |
| Supplies | 249.09 | |
| Secretarial Services | 300.00 | |
| Website Hosting and Updates - Zest Net | 730.20 | |
| Total Disbursements | <u>\$ 7,131.14</u> | |
| Ending Balance Rabobank Account, 5/31/2013 | | \$ 9,899.93 |