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P.O. Box 232, Bonita, CA 91908 www.sweetwatervalleyca.org



**SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
August 1, 2018**

Directors present: Michael Seiler, Tony Tieber, Stephen Stonehouse, Judy Tieber, Sharon Coleman

Members present: Stephen Minton, Ron Mosher, Parisa Hill, Jake Hill, Alan Cornell, Fran Cornell, Sam Snyder, Steve Ford, Pat Campos, Lisa Martin Goodsell, Jim Groth, Glen Kopp, Barbara Guthrie, Rosemary Rodman, Donna Hodge, Prudence Prince

Guests present: Rich Rechif, Etta Morales, Jessica Mier (Congress woman Susan Davis' Office), Don Vance, Karen H. Vance, Arthur Michener, Tish Berge (SWA), Jim Jackson (SWA), Beverly Geerdes, Samantha Trickey (Chula Vista Councilman John McCann), Officer Pete Thepkulchon (CHP), Julio Garcia (SD County Sheriff's Office), Susana Villegas, Kaylyn Grayson

The August 1, 2018 meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. All present were welcomed and invited to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to our County and a moment of silence to honor our military, police and fire professionals.

President Seiler announced the rescheduled State of Bonita with Supervisor Cox will be held on August 14, 2018, starting at 6:30 p.m. right here in the Bonita-Sunnyside Library Community Room. Our plan going forward, is to start our regular monthly meetings at 6:30 p.m. The idea is to start a little earlier and finish a little earlier.

Approval of Minutes: Tony Tieber moved, Stephen Stonehouse seconded to approve minutes. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Accepted as presented.

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|-------------------------|------------|
| Checking Acct Balance: | \$1,647.30 |
| Certificate of Deposit: | \$3,453.39 |
| Ending Balance: | \$5,100.69 |

Law Enforcement: Officer Thepkulchon told us he has notified his fellow CHP officers that the Radar Enforced signs are up along San Miguel Rd. We will have more CHP coverage in Bonita due to implementation of 8 hr. shift times. The CHP has a new reporting system to update/populate traffic stop information. He reviewed citations for June and July. There were two DUI arrests.

Julio Garcia has been in training, but happy to attend our meeting. He reported that 7 cars were broken into, 4 of which had open windows or doors. Four cars had I-phones, medications, etc. in plain view. Additionally, 4 bikes were stolen. We were reminded that bikes need good locks. Be aware of who is coming into our homes, keep doors and windows locked. We received our monthly reminder that he is willing to visit our homes and businesses to discuss security enhancements and neighborhood watch programs. He told us domestic violence is increasing both locally and nationally. Our local area gets 7-10 cases/month. Domestic violence is often fueled by alcohol and drug abuse, and jealousy.

Elected Officials Reports:

Jessica Mier, Congress woman Susan Davis' office: Ms. Mier told us of an upcoming August 4th, 10:00 a.m. Town Hall meeting at SW College. Everyone is invited to come and share what is on your mind with the Congress woman. Current projects include introduction of the Apprentice Act trade-based training programs; Aim Higher Act which would allow students to be debt free by college graduation. She is also setting up a series of foreign relations topics to include China and Iran. We were all urged to prepare our homes and families for a continuing fire season.

Victor Avina, Supervisor Greg Cox's Office: Mr. Avina focused on two topics: SR 125 Toll Road, and safety enhancements for San Miguel Rd (SMR). He told us of high level discussions with Director of SANDAG where pros and cons of different scenarios were discussed. The County is still working on safety enhancements along San Miguel Road. These include completion of three-way stop signs installed at Proctor Valley and San Miguel Rds., continuing engineering work to install strobe lights at school crossings on San Miguel and Central. The trick is that sign strobe lights (up higher on crosswalk signs) need to work in conjunction with the existing cross walk lights embedded in roadway. These installations will be completed by the end of August. Several "Share the Road" signs will be installed along SMR. A new "7 Ton Max" sign will go up on SMR heading west. The wide part of SMR will be addressed with a hybrid of several discussions including a bike lane. All existing road signs were checked to make sure the reflective quality was up to standard, radar enforced signs are now installed. The Proctor Valley Rd. speed study is in process and will be presented to County Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) when completed. Mike Seiler reminded us that we will have the opportunity to agree/disagree with County speed recommendations.

Victor told us the Supervisor was looking forward to the State of Bonita. Due to vocal cord surgery, we had to delay the meeting until the 14th. The Supervisor plans to cover road issues, homeless, parks, and continued removal of brush for fire safety. A meeting attendee mentioned that the Bonita Woods neighborhood needs help with ingress and egress to Bonita Woods Dr. at the intersection with Sweetwater Rd. just east of Central Ave. Drivers do not leave intersection left hand turn lane clear. This precludes left hand turns by residents.

New Business:

Mike Seiler introduced Tish Berge and Jim Jackson here on behalf of the Sweetwater Authority (SWA) to give an update on what is going on with the Authority and answer any questions we may have. Tish started her presentation with an update on what SWA is doing to secure water for us. She reviewed the water sources to include 25 reservoirs, 2 dams, water purchases from San Diego County Water Authority, Groundwater Desalination Facility, and fresh water wells. By year 2020 projected water supply will be 33% surface water, 30% imported water, 28% from the desal plant, and 9% from wells. All income to SWA comes from rate payers. \$0.13 of every dollar goes to infrastructure improvements. \$.25 of every dollar income goes to purchase water, and \$0.17 of every dollar goes to infrastructure works such as pipes, meters, dams, etc. SWA is already planning the water supply inclusion of the Chula Vista Bayfront project. SWA has to clean pipelines to keep water quality high and satisfactory to our customers. Water supply costs are weather dependent. The last rate increase was done in 2015. Ron Mosher talked about the SWA strategic plans including the 36" transmission line, (finishing up the environmental documents and 3-mile pipeline design) updates and improvements to Loveland and Sweetwater dams. In all they have 65 projects that will cost \$70 million. Rich Stevens, Director of Finance, talked about water rates and that the public hearing re: rate increases will be Monday, August

20, 6 p.m., 505 Garrett Ave. Chula Vista 91910. The SWA budget includes 133 staff positions, is a very transparent organization, and has reduced staffing by 5% over the last year. Rates will increase based on CPI. One third of the SWA staff live in our local neighborhoods. Questions and comments related to budgets and costs of operation followed the presentation.

Community Forum:

Fire: Chief Isbell reported 137 calls in July. He notified us that 8 strike teams from SD County have been sent to 10 major fires in the State. We also sent resources to Alpine fire and the San Pasqual fire. The Alpine fire established a new norm for fire storm intensity. 37 homes were destroyed by wind whipped flames. Firefighters and residents got lucky when the wind died down by that evening. In general discussion, it is so very important to keep clearing out dead brush and palms from our properties and from riverbed open spaces. Next year the Regional County Fire Code will be revised/adopted. Fire prevention changes will be adopted by next July to include the need to trim dead palm fronds, and remove dead trees and brush. Mike Clowers asked about all the untrimmed/dead palms along the west side of Proctor Valley Rd. Chief Isbell told us he would reach out to his contact at SDG&E to address the trees because they are within the utility right-of-way. This is a process, however, and takes time. Jim Groth thanked the Chief for medical call to his home. The firefighters arrived quickly and handled the situation perfectly. The homeless issue relates to fires state-wide. Another homeowner expressed concern about the use of illegal fireworks. Chief Isbell told him those types of calls are really important and get a quick response.

Bonita Alliance: The most recent Bonita Alliance meeting (7/18) was specific to the Golf Course/Rohr Park topic. The main goal achieved was to establish that the majority of BA participants, as a representation of the community, are in favor of keeping the golf course part of the property moving forward. Confirmation of this inclination allows the group to finish up formulating ideas for the future use of the Golf Course/Rohr Park property with better, honed-in focus. The aim is to have some viable ideas in place within a few months for SVCA approval ultimately geared for submission to the City of CV.

BA participants donated enough money to cover the cost estimate quoted to add a Bonita Alliance link or tab onto the existing SVCA web site. Lisa will contact web designer to clarify the most efficient and cost-effective method to move forward. It was noted that Lisa does not have to seek approval from SVCA for BA addition to the web site. Next BA meeting is 8/15/18, 7 p.m. at Bonita Library Community Room. Topic: Golf Course/Rohr Park property. Lisa gave us her email address if anyone wants to contact her at Lisacoletteart@cox.net.

Traffic and Roads: Tony Tieber has been getting calls re San Miguel Road. Victor Avina already discussed major points and Tony asked Mike Clowers if he had additional items to discuss. Mike added that increased CHP presence would be greatly appreciated.

Planning Group: Steve Stonehouse told us our local Community Planning Group discussed and approved new signage for the incoming AutoZone store. On Sept. 4 the Group will address the proposed ACE Storage facility planned for the vacant lot east of the Fire Station along Bonita Road. Steve has the Library Community Room reserved for that meeting due to the planned increase in attendees. **Please note that the meeting will now be held at Bonita Middle School starting at 7:00p.m. on Tuesday, September 4th**

Membership: Sharon Coleman is still accepting membership renewals. We currently have:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------|
| 30 Individual | 7 organizations | 12 gold |
| 38 Family | 3 Silver | |

Members who renew get a free pen. Supervisor Cox will get a free one-year renewal. When his term ends, he and Cheryl will be awarded a lifetime membership.

Sr. Volunteer Patrol: Jim Woodford is out of town.

Activities are as follows:

| | June | July |
|---------------------------------|------|------|
| Hours on patrol | 216 | 228 |
| Number of patrols | 18 | 24 |
| Number of miles driven | 880 | 1140 |
| Vacation checks | 76 | 91 |
| YANA visits (You are not alone) | 0 | 1 |
| YANA calls | 18 | 25 |
| Citizen assists | 2 | 11 |
| Traffic control | 1 | 1 |
| Number of volunteers | 20 | 20 |

Trails: No report, Mark away

President Seiler adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Tieber

Secretary