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



SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING November 1, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: President Judy Tieber called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. at the Bonita Museum and Cultural Center. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. We began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Judy asked for a moment of silence to honor the people of our Armed Forces, Law Enforcement, Fire and Safety Professionals; and an appreciation of those currently serving to protect us, including Health Care workers and Teaching Professionals.

Directors Present: Judy Tieber, Sharmene Estolano, Tony Tieber, Stephen Stonehouse, and Sharon Clayton.

Members Present: Mike Clowers, Harriet and John Taylor, Josie Calderon Scott, Richard Scott, Daryl Hern, Shlomit Haim, Mike Sampsel, Donna Hodge, William Estrella, Nancy and Dana Cornell, Mark Kukuchek, Mike Parnell, Terri and Sam Seat, Susan Heavilin and Karen Henry.

Guests Present: Guests present were Roseato Yanu, Erick Del Bosque, Karen Gless, Lynn Prater, Carri Fernandez, Kathy Kohler, Ed Sandford.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Judy asked for a motion to approve the minutes; Stephen Stonehouse moved to approve; Sharon Clayton provided the second. Minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Stephen Stonehouse reported the November 2023 Treasurer's Report.

	<u>November 2023</u>
Checking	\$ 6,802.47
Dues Received	\$ 251.36
Grant Received to Update And Maintain Web Site	
Grant Received for Anti- Graffiti Coating Paint And Supplies	
KIG Oct Fees	\$ 349.00
J. Tieber for SVCA Banner	\$ 29.11
Grant Balance	\$11,739.89
Ending Balance	\$18,542.36

The previous Balance was \$18,669.11. The report was accepted as written.

Fire Safety: Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims: Chief Sims reported the following:

Central Zone Dispatch lost one of our IT staff unexpectedly at the age of twenty-nine. Every agency in Central Zone had an engine with multiple personnel in attendance at his memorial service. He is survived by his wife and their two-year-old daughter.

Halley Rivera will be taking her 3-year step test this week. Upon successful completion, this will allow her to fill the position of "Acting Engineer".

Brush maintenance is occurring along Bonita Road east of Central courtesy of the California Conservation Corps. First and second notices for weed abatement have been sent out and all but four have responded by clearing the cited areas. A final notice of impending forced abatement has been sent to the remaining four landowners as their last chance to bring the cited areas into compliance voluntarily.

The Gary Senise Foundation just completed construction on a house in Bonita that will be presented to a wounded veteran and his family this Saturday!!! (November 4, 2023). Pictures from the presentation will follow.

Signage to assist First Responders from outside Bonita in finding access to the dam's spillway is being investigated by the County. No recent updates on the progress of the Signs.

Two Firehouse Auction Dinners are scheduled for this month.

Law Enforcement Reports:

Sheriff's Department: Crime Specialist Julio Garcia was not in attendance this month.

Elected Representative Reports:

Andrew Harvey, Supervisor Nora Vargas Representative: Andrew Harvey reported that DPW thanks Mike Clowers for the information on signs that need replacement.

The SVCA grant issue needs resolution. The County issued the wrong text for the grant funds allowed expenditures, and thus the text needs to be corrected. Part of the grant is to fund the restoration of a damaged mural. Judy noted that she had contacted the artist but had not gotten a response.

An attendee needed help with curb repairs. Mike Clowers recommended that the person use the County app, "Tell Us Now."

Council Member John McCann's Office representative Amanda Angulo. Amanda Angulo was not in attendance.

U. S. House of Representatives (52nd District) Juan Vargas Office Representative Genevieve Fong: Genevieve Fong was not available.

California State Assembly Representative David Alvarez: David Alvarez represents California's district 80. His representative, Lisa Schmidt was not available..

State Senator (18th District) Stephen Padilla office representative Thomas Lawton.

Thomas Lawton was not available.

U. S. Senator Alex Padilla Office Representative Angel Marquez. Angel Marquez was not available.

New Business.

Sweetwater Authority (SWA) presentation. Sharmane Estolano introduced the SWA representatives Robert Yano, Assistant General Manager and Rich Stevenson, Director of Finance. Sharmane also introduced Josie Calderon Scott, our area SWA board representative.

The discussion which followed centered on water rate increases, capital projects new and old, and solar panel installation on the Sweetwater Reservoir.

A digital copy of the presentation is included with these minutes.

The discussion between the SWA presenters and SVCA meeting attendees was extensive. I have provided the “high lights” from my perspective.

The capital improvement projects are being addressed. These include projects such as Meter replacement, San Miguel Road Pipeline, Reservoir Pipe Modification, Flood analysis for the Dam, and Solar Panels on the Reservoir.

Solar Panel installation on the reservoir was discussed extensively by Mr. Yano, Mr. Stevenson and SVCA members Karen Henry, Dana Cornell, Mark Kukuchek, Sharmane Estolano, Susan Heavilin and other attendees.

The San Miguel Pipeline and accompanying water tank on the County Campground. Judy Tieber and Mike Clowers participated in this discussion.

Daryl Hern thought that the Dam safety should be priority number one.

There was an extensive discussion regarding water rates. All members in attendance were interested in this topic. The range of topics included rate cost studies, notifications to customers and opportunities for customers to object to the rate, to rate cost tiers, to fixed and variable charges. Judy Tieber and Mike Sampsel participated in this discussion, as well as Karen Henry, Mike Parrnell, and Mike Clowers.

Working Committee for San Miguel Road: The purpose of the committee would be to develop an action plan to alleviate chronic residential flooding on San Miguel Road and to improve the health/maintenance of the Central Creek watershed, this committee work would coordinate with Supervisor Vargas and County staff.

Judy, after discussions with Harriet Taylor of the Planning Group, volunteered to take the committee lead and work with the Sweetwater Community Planning group to secure the Committee’s objectives. Via a motion for Judy to take the lead, the motion carried. Harriet and John Taylor talked about the urgency of the County taking action of some kind on San Miguel Road and Central Creek.

Community Forum:

Traffic and Roads Mike Clowers: Mike Clowers reported about the traffic speed on Sweetwater Road and Radar enforcement of the speed limit, He also talked about the steel plates on Bonita Road at Central. The removal of those plated depends on other repairs which are on hold because of contractor problems and supply issues.

There was resolution to a loud moped screaming back and forth on San Miguel Road. The CHP finally saw this and not only cited the rider of the moped but seized the vehicle.

Mike also talked about the sidewalk on Bonita Road by Frisbie. In this same area Harriet Taylor talked about the closed down La Finca restaurant and plans to improve it; but for now, the parking lot will house a food truck.

There was a discussion about the need to replace signage on Loping Lane and Corral Canyon.

Sweetwater Community Planning Group Stephen Stonehouse & Harriet Taylor: Stephen reported that the Planning Group will meet next Tuesday. Consequently, he had no report.

Senior Volunteer Patrol Jim Woodford: Jim was not in attendance this month.

Membership Sharon Coleman: Sharon did not submit a report this month.

Sweetwater Authority Karen Henry. Karen participated extensively in the SWA presentation but did not submit an individual report.

Other Announcements. There were announcements about the new exhibit at the Museum and Chula Vista residents were voting for City Attorney.

Meeting adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Anthony P. Tieber, Secretary, SVCA

Mission Statement: The Sweetwater Valley Civic Association is the direct conduit to local County elected and appointed officials, law enforcement and emergency first responders to discuss and resolve issues related directly to our quality of life within the Sweetwater Valley communities.