

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ZONE 9 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zone 9 Advisory Committee will hold a Regular Meeting at **1:30 PM** on **Wednesday, February 10, 2021** using **GoToMeeting** by accessing doing the following:

- To join from computer, tablet or smartphone: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/406607261>
- To dial in: United States: +1 (786) 535-3211, Access Code: 406-607-261

AGENDA

1. Introductions and roll call
2. Approval of December 12, 2020 meeting minutes
3. Committee Membership
4. Officer Elections
5. Reports
 - a. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Updates
 - b. Mid-Higuera Bypass Project Updates
 - c. Creek Maintenance Updates
 - d. Arundo Removal Updates
 - e. East Fork Limited Study updates
6. Public comment
At this time, the public may address the Committee on any item not appearing on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee.
7. Future agenda items

Next Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 1:30 PM

GoToMeeting

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“The purpose of the Zone 9 Advisory Committee: SECTION 1: To advise the County Board of Supervisors concerning all policy decisions relating to Zone 9. The Committee shall determine the needs, desires, and financial capabilities of the property owners in Zone 9 and, upon deliberation, shall convey to the Board of Supervisors their recommendations with respect to the objectives of said zone. SECTION 2: To recommend to the Board of Supervisors specific programs to alleviate and control flood damage within Zone 9 with recognition of the ecological and aesthetic values of the programs. Further, to recommend to the Board of Supervisors other programs within Zone 9 concerning the objects and purposes of the Flood Control District Act. SECTION 3: To recommend methods of financing programs for Zone 9.” – Excerpts from the By-Laws adopted March 1, 2011

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ZONE 9 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes (DRAFT) – Wednesday, December 12, 2020

Members Present

Wayne Peterson, Chairperson, County At-Large
Matt Horn, Vice Chairperson, Member, City Staff
Brian Nelson, Alternate, City Staff (non-voting)
Carlyn Christianson, Member, City Council
Christine Mulholland, Member, City At-Large
Jon Hall, Member, County-At-Large
Steph Wald, Member, County- At-Large
Janet Andrews, Alternate, County-At-Large (non-voting)

1. Introductions and roll call

Wayne Peterson calls the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. Quorum established.
Introductions of attendees.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2020

Motion by: **Carlyn Christianson**
Second by: **Christine Mulholland**

The Committee approves the October 14, 2020 meeting minutes as amended (5-0-0).

3. Committee membership and re-affirmations.

Sarah Crable, County Public Works, requests that committee members with terms expiring on 12/31/2020 send an email re-affirming a desire to remain on the Committee.

4. Approval of 2021 Meeting Schedule

Motion by: **Carlyn Christianson**
Second by: **Christine Mulholland**

Meeting schedule approved as amended (5-0-0)

5. CDFW Grant Application Discussion

Freddy Otte, City Biologist, provides a background on the recent discussion between the City and the County on the possibility of developing a Watershed Management Plan for

San Luis Obispo Creek that includes flood protection and environmental enhancement projects. The development of the Watershed Management Plan would be funded by The Fisheries Restoration Grant Program from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The intent of the discussion is to seek support from the Committee and matching funds from Zone 9 to help write the CDFW grant application for the development of a Watershed Management Plan.

Steph Wald, member, says that CreekLands is working on the CDFW Prop 1 for the Murray weir and they have written many Watershed Management Plans for steelhead for the Central Coast region and is willing to collaborate. Freddy notes that there is a grant

Brendan Clark, Secretary, expresses that the County is interested in this opportunity and willing to provide matching funds or in kind contribution once we understand the scope of the project, roles and responsibilities of interested parties, and how this Watershed Management Plan will tie in with past and present efforts in the watershed.

Freddy will work with Jon, Steph, and County staff to hone in on the specifics of this grant application and the subsequent Watershed Management Plan document that the grant would help fund.

The committee is supportive of exploring this opportunity further.

6. Reports

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update

Sarah Crable, County Public Works, updates the Committee on the ongoing San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin, Groundwater Sustainability Plan development efforts.

- Mid-Higuera Bypass Project Updates

Brian Nelson, City Engineer, explains that the City and the County has completed the review of the 90% design plans, specifications, and estimates. The City has a review meeting with Wallace Group on Monday December 14, 2020 to discuss comments and the consultant will then work on the 95% design plans and specifications. The County is currently working on the permitting for CDFW, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the Army Corp of Engineers. The City began negotiations with the Madonna property on the west side of the creek to determine the access agreement options for the temporary bridge and the replacement of the Bianchi bridge. The City plans to work with City Community

Development Department to condition the demolition of Wally's Bike Shop for an upcoming new development in critical area of the Mid-Higuera Bypass project. The City recently completed a grant application for the Department of Water Resources Coast Watershed Flood Reduction Risk grant program. The total request was \$6.1 million. The City also applied for a California Natural Resources Association (CNRA) grant and will likely hear back in January 2021. Wayne Peterson prepared a letter of support for the CNRA grant application. Brian will provide an updated project cost estimate table in the February 2021 staff report update.

- Creek Maintenance Updates

Freddy Otte, City Biologist, updates the Committee that the City Flood Control Technicians have been active in assessing areas of the watershed with a focus on the main stem of the San Luis Obispo Creek, primarily around bridges and areas with downed trees. Bunyon Bros. Tree Service has been used to removed downed trees with the City providing oversight of all of their activities. There was also a 4-week effort in the lower reaches of the San Luis Obispo Creek along the Bob Jones Trail between Prado and Los Osos Valley Road to perform fuel reduction, flood control, and creek cleanup following the transient evictions from the area. The City will look into amending their maintenance agreement with CDFW to include herbivores as an approved maintenance strategy.

There were no known flood control or flood threat impacts to the creek from the transient encampment fire that started on Saturday 12/5/2020.

- Arundo Removal Updates

Jon Hall, The Land Conservancy, updates the committee that the Arundo treatments have concluded for the year with the last treatment in early November. Out of the 467 original Arundo populations, 409 or 88% have been eradicated. The majority of the remaining 58 live populations are in private yards and are a low priority. The remaining high priority populations have been treated and The Land Conservancy will work with Freddy to address the removal of these in the future.

Jon notes that castor bean does not present a high flood control threat and ranks lower on flood control priority efforts.

- East Fork of San Luis Obispo Creek RFP updates

Sarah Crable, County Public Works, reports the proposal review process has been completed and a consultant has been selected. The County will begin the contract execution process with the consultant.

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

8. Future Agenda Items

Continue updates.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:34 PM.

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee
FROM: Sarah Crable, Water Resources Engineer, County Public Works
DATE: February 10, 2021
SUBJECT: Agenda Item #3: Committee membership update

Discussion

Representing	Member	Alternate	Term Expires
City Council	Carlyn Christianson	Jan Marx	12/31/2024
City Staff	Matt Horn	Brian Nelson	12/31/2022
City At-Large	Christine Mulholland	Dave Romero	12/31/2022
County At-Large #1	Kaila Dettman	Jonathan Hall	12/31/2024
County At-Large #2	Wayne Peterson	Janet Andrews	12/31/2022
County At-Large #3	Stephnie Wald	<i>vacant</i>	12/31/2024

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee
FROM: Sarah Crable, Water Resources Engineer, County Public Works
DATE: February 10, 2021
SUBJECT: Agenda Item #4: Officer elections

Discussion

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 1: Officers of the Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary.

SECTION 2: The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee shall be selected from the members of the Committee by a vote of the members requiring a majority vote for election. The Secretary may be a non-member but shall be appointed by the Committee by a vote of the members requiring a majority vote for appointment.

~~SECTION 3: No elected officer of the Committee shall serve more than two (2) consecutive one-year terms in the same office.~~

SECTION 4: Vacated elected offices except Chairman shall be filled by election of the Committee. The Vice-Chairman shall assume the Chairmanship in the event of absence or resignation of the Chairman.

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee

FROM: Dick Tzou, Water Resources Engineer, County Public Works

DATE: February 10, 2021

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #5a: Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Updates

Update

The next GSC meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2021. The topics are as follow:

- Discuss the preliminary integrated model calibration and baseline results as related to the proposed sustainable management criteria.
- Present potential projects and management actions for further vetting and prioritization.
- Propose an updated 2021 GSC meeting schedule with additional meeting times for approval.

For additional information, please contact:

Dick Tzou
Water Resources Engineer, County Public Works
dtzou@co.slo.ca.us
(805) 781-4473

Visit the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin SGMA website for mailing list and updates:

<https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/slobasin>

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee

FROM: Brian Nelson, Acting City Engineer, City of San Luis Obispo
Blaize Uva, Environmental Specialist, County Public Works

DATE: February 10, 2021

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #5b: Mid-Higuera Bypass Project Updates

Update

As noted previously, the City has completed review of the 90% plans, specifications, and estimates, and the consultant is continuing to work on bringing the contract documents to a 95% completion level. City staff are working with consultants to prepare information regarding the adjacent properties and their anticipated project related impacts.

The County held a 401 Permit Pre-Filing Meeting with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, City of SLO, and Wallace Group to discuss the project. The City and County surveyed the project area to gain a better understanding of project impacts, and are currently coordinating a video of the project area to assist in future interagency meetings and virtual tours. A Request for Proposal for preparation of a Biological Assessment for Steelhead is undergoing final review and will be finalized by the end of the week. Draft permit applications are underway as County staff finalize the review of the Impact Area Calculations which will ultimately determine permit fees, and mitigation ratios.

The City received word that we are moving to Step 2 (a virtual site visit) regarding the California Natural Resources Agency Grant (CNRA). This virtual site visit is expected to occur in late February. The City's proposal to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the Coastal Watershed Flood Risk Reduction Grant Program is one of 14 received by the DWR. A draft list of funding recommendations is expected early this year.

The below table shows current cost estimates, providing clarification for estimates provided at the October 2020 and December 2020 meetings as requested.

Mid-Higuera Bypass Project Cost Estimate (90% Design)	Cost
Remaining Design Phase Services	
Final Design, Utility Coordination, Environmental Permits	\$63,150
Property and Temporary Construction Access Negotiations	\$40,000
Design Contingency	\$60,000
Design Phase Sub-Total	\$163,150
Construction Phase	
Construction Contract	\$6,830,000
Construction Contingency (10% Contingency)	\$683,000
¹Construction Contract Sub-Total	\$7,513,000
Construction Phase Engineering & Management Services	
Construction Management/Inspection Services (13% of Construction)	\$976,690
Environmental Services - Surface Water, Habitat, Fish Monitoring and Maintenance Plan	\$175,000
Construction Management Sub-Total	\$1,151,690
Grants Coordination and Management (if Grant awarded)	
Project Progress Reports, Completion Report	\$150,000
Grants Coordination and Management Sub-Total	\$150,000
² Total Estimated Project Cost	\$8,978,000
City and County In-Kind Matching Costs (For Grant Application)	
Environmental Permit Fees, Biological and Habitat Surveys	\$90,000
Direct City & County Project Administration & Staffing Costs	\$243,000
³ Total Estimated Project Cost	\$9,311,000
Notes:	
1) Total Cost of Construction Only, as presented at October 2020 Zone 9 Meeting. Construction cost has been revised from October Estimate of \$7.3 million to \$7.5 million	
2) Contract costs only	
3) Total Project Cost as presented at December 2020 meeting. This was the project cost submitted for the DWR Grant application, with estimates of non-reimbursed in-kind costs for grant matching purposes. This total estimate has been adjusted down from the \$9.5 million presented at the December meeting.	

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee
FROM: Freddy Otte, Biologist, City of San Luis Obispo
DATE: February 10, 2021
SUBJECT: Agenda Item #5c: Creek Maintenance Updates

Update

From the creek perspective, this storm event is what we have been waiting for! Our Flood Control Techs have been diligently working in main stem SLO Creek, Stenner and Prefumo Creeks to ensure the hot spots have been addressed as well as can be. The channels were really nice and open to accept the rain event. The wind has been interesting but no reports of trees going down in the creek which would hamper flood control efforts. We have focused our efforts on the Murray Street Bridge over Stenner Creek (Sierra Vista Hospital), around the Marsh Street Bridge and the lower section of Prefumo Creek as it enters Laguna Lake. Those three locations have experienced flooding in the past so we hone in on those areas as priority locations. I have worked with our tree contractor to have fallen trees removed (pre-storm event) in preparation for this time and if any other trees come down, they have been very responsive to our needs. One last location for maintenance needs is the concrete apron in Prefumo Creek near the Calle Joaquin and LOVR intersections. There are some small willows that have grown there and I am looking to have those removed in order to keep them from mobilizing downstream.

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee
FROM: Jon Hall, Land Conservancy
DATE: December 10, 2021
SUBJECT: Agenda Item #5d: Arundo Removal Updates

Update

Arundo Treatments are completed for the year. We are currently working on National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting annual reports.

TO: Zone 9 Advisory Committee
FROM: Sarah Crable, Water Resources Engineer, County Public Works
DATE: February 10, 2021
SUBJECT: Agenda Item #6e: East Fork Limited Study Updates

Update

Schaaf and Wheeler was selected to complete the East Fork Limited Study. The contract has been executed and the kickoff meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2021.

A project schedule will be provided in the next update.