

**LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION  
SPECIAL DISTRICTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JUNE 19, 2009 MEETING**

There being a quorum present, the meeting was convened at 9:00 a.m., by Acting Chairman Tom Pocklington (Bonita-Sunnyside FPD). Attending were: **Committee Members** – Gary Arant (Valley Center MWD), Gary Croucher (Otay Water District), Judy Hanson (Leucadia WD), Larry Jackman (San Miguel Consolidated FPD), Douglas Humphrey (Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County), John Pastore (Rancho Santa Fe CSD), Augie Scalzitti (Padre Dam MWD), Dennis Shepard (North County Cemetery District), Kimberly Thorner (Olivenhain MWD), and Diana Towne (Rincon del Diablo MWD). **Committee Members** – Absent: Ron Fuller (Alpine FPD) and Jim Poltl (Vallecitos Water District); Attending **LAFCO Staff** – Executive Officer Michael Ott; LAFCO Consultant Harry Ehrlich; and Local Governmental Analyst Claire Riley.

**Item 2**

**Approval of Minutes of December 19, 2008**

ON MOTION of Kimberly Thorner, and seconded by John Pastore, abstaining Gary Croucher, Diana Towne, Dennis Shepard, Larry Jackman, approval of minutes by the remaining committee members, the Committee dispensed with reading the December 19, 2008 minutes and approved said minutes.

**Item 3**

**Consultant's Recommended Agenda Revisions**

Harry Ehrlich mentioned as a result of Jo MacKenzie's appointment to LAFCO, Tom Pocklington is Acting Chair. Mr. Ehrlich requested adding a LAFCO presentation to Item 4. Mr. Pocklington noted that it would be added as a revision to the agenda.

**Item 4**

**Committee Member/Consultant's Announcements**

Harry Ehrlich announced that Tita Jacque Cayetano accepted a new position with Otay Water District and then introduced Tammy Luckett and Ruth Arellano, as the Committee's administrative staff support. In the audience, he introduced Claire Riley, Local Governmental Analyst; and Michael Ott, Executive Officer, LAFCO; Jo MacKenzie, LAFCO Alternate Special District Commissioner from Vista Irrigation District, who will receive a special honor from the Committee; and Paul Bushee from Leucadia Wastewater District.

**Item 5**  
**Public Comment**

Jo MacKenzie, Representative, California Special Districts Association (CSDA), announced that CSDA's annual conference will be held September 21<sup>st</sup> thru 24<sup>th</sup> in Indian Wells, CA. She provided a brief summary of the conference and scheduled speakers.

**Item 6**  
**Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2009 term**

Harry Ehrlich provided the Committee with a report on the election process. He recommended that the Committee open nominations for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, close the nominations, and appoint the 2009 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Augie Scalzitti placed a motion on the floor to elect Tom Pocklington as Chairman to the Advisory Committee.

Judy Hanson seconded the motion.

Larry Jackman placed a motion on the floor to elect Gary Croucher as Vice Chairman to the Advisory Committee.

ON MOTION of Larry Jackman, seconded by Diana Towne, and unanimously approved by the remaining committee members, the Committee took the following actions:

- 1) Elected Tom Pocklington as Chairman to the Advisory Committee.
- 2) Elected Gary Croucher as Vice Chairman to the Advisory Committee.

**Item 7**  
**Discuss Interviewing Candidates to Fill Vacant Positions on Committee**

Tom Pocklington provided a brief summary of the candidate selection process and the Committee's responsibilities. Six candidates were eligible. After review, three were recommended by the sub-committee: Margarett Morgan, Vista Fire Protection District; Richard Williamson, Borrego Water District; and Teresa Thomas, South Bay Irrigation District. Tom Pocklington asked for any suggestions to improve the selection process from committee members.

ON MOTION of Larry Jackman, seconded by Gary Arant, and unanimously approved by the remaining committee members, the Committee approved the recommendations to fill the vacant positions.

**Item 8**  
**Discussion of Pending Projects for 2009**

Tom Pocklington encouraged a roundtable discussion for current or upcoming projects and interests in committee member's districts.

Gary Croucher – Attended UDC (Unified Disaster Council) meeting. He wanted to give special thanks to Supervisor Dianne Jacob for representing and recognizing Special Districts on this council.

Judy Hanson – Leucadia Wastewater District will be celebrating 50 years of business in November 2009.

Diana Towne – Nothing to discuss at this time.

Augie Scalzitti – Nothing discuss at this time.

Gary Arant – Due to the ongoing drought, agriculture is declining rapidly in North County. A 1900-unit development is proposed on the west side of the District. There will be future water issues regarding this development project.

John Pastore – Rancho Santa Fe CSD will be celebrating 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.

Kimberly Thorner – The Olivenhain Metropolitan Water District is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The District is currently not allowing new meters or considering any new annexations due to a Level II drought situation beginning July 1, 2009 (demand offset fees are available for developers). Possible feasibility studies for potential test wells will be completed during the next fiscal year for the San Elijo area.

Dennis Shepard – No major activities. The North County Cemetery District is in the process of sinking a couple of water wells to possibly get away from depending on potable supply from other agencies.

Doug Humphrey – The Resource Conservation District is consolidating offices from three buildings to one in order to reduce overhead costs. There is an office location in Santee now.

Larry Jackman – Announced there is an upcoming article in the CSDA Newsletter (Local Chapter) for scholarship awards. This Chapter has awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships over their history. In July, the “kickoff” for membership begins for the Local Chapter. He encourages renewal membership or signing up as a new member. Other agencies are looking to support the state organization to support efforts in Sacramento.

**Item 8 (Cont.)**  
**Discussion of Pending Projects for 2009**

Tom Pocklington – Announced the Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk’s office is proactive about assessment reviews and appeals for property owners interested in reducing their assessed values. In some areas of the County they are automatically reducing values, without appeal or review requests from property owners, if the property was purchased after 2002. Once an application has been submitted, you don’t have to re-file. Reductions can also be more than what the property owner originally requested. Appeals can be filed if property owner’s opinion of reduction value is not comparable.

Jo MacKenzie was congratulated for her appointment as an Alternate, Special District Commissioner for LAFCO and was presented an award for 15 years of service and appreciation by the Committee. Several years of her service to the Advisory Committee were held as Chairwoman.

Harry Ehrlich discussed a water workshop presented at the last LAFCO meeting in June. He identified the speakers who presented the current issues related to water policy, demand and supply. Gary Arant gave a brief explanation of the impact these issues are having on agricultural areas in the County, especially in the North County. Alternative ideas were discussed at the meeting but most agreed that those ideas would not be able to support all of the agricultural needs. The Commission has asked for staff to come back in 120 days with updated recommendation on these issues. Upcoming projects include: annexation of the Rincon project; wastewater and recycled water alternatives; and policy development related to water offsets. Mr. Ehrlich indicated the Committee’s guidance will be needed during these processes to help clarify and strengthen the LAFCO policies. Fire Service Island issues and Property Tax Allocations will be additional upcoming projects in the next few months. He indicated that the July 17, 2009 meeting will need to be cancelled. The calendar and distribution list will be updated for the Committee.

Kimberly Thorner presented Harry Ehrlich an award from the YMCA, Youth Sponsor Award by the County of San Diego.

**Item 9**  
**Adjournment**

Tom Pocklington thanked the committee for his appointment as Chairman and requested any future agenda items to be submitted in a one page e-mail.

Unanimously approved by the committee members present, the Committee took the following action:

Approved the cancellation of the July 17, 2009 meeting for the Advisory Committee.

**Item 9 (Cont.)**  
**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Special Districts Advisory Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m. to the tentatively scheduled meeting on August 21, 2009, if it is to be held.

**Ruth Arellano**  
**Administrative Assistant**