



NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Responsible for matters of stewardship of the District's property including: Urban Water Management Plans; Water Conservation Programs; Classis Watershed Education Grants; Watershed Management; Resource Management and other environmental related matter.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the San Lorenzo Valley Water District has called a meeting of the Environmental Committee to be held on **Thursday, July 16, 2020 9:45am** via video/teleconference.

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AGENDA

1. Convene Meeting 9:47 a.m.
Roll Call: R. Moran, L. Farris, J. Supp, K. O'Connor, D. Herbst were present.
E. Fresco was unavailable.
Staff: C. Blanchard-Environmental Planner, R. Rogers-District Manager,
H. Hossack-District Secretary
2. Oral Communications: none
3. Old Business:
 - A. FIRE MANAGEMENT UPDATE
C. Blanchard updated the Committee on Fire Management projects with Panorama. They have put together a map with pictures and infrastructure, to be shared with other agencies. We're making progress and there is a very good chance

of getting 70-90% of cost share with CalFire with the CPIF application.

J. Supp questioned if we get the money will implementation be staffed to achieve the goals.

C. Blanchard responded that there is a potential for our staff to complete it but most likely we will be working with a consultant to do most of the work.

L. Farris questioned if there is a progress report on what else Panorama is doing for us.

C. Blanchard responded right now they are finding grants and it is eating up a big chunk of what has been allocated for them. Their goal is to find more grants so that they can start implementation.

L. Farris questioned the Chatterbox update in relation to Fire Prevention. He would like the update in July instead of August.

C. Blanchard said that is possible.

R. Moran questioned the dollar amount of the grant.

C. Blanchard said they will be determining that today. She and Rick have a call with Panorama.

R. Moran also questioned defensible space at the Lompico Tanks sites.

C. Blanchard vegetation will be cleared and between the pump houses and tanks there is a good amount of space, everything going in is either steel or non-flammable.

R. Rogers added that we are removing ladder fuels but trying to keep it to a minimum because there are environmental issues at the sites.

4. New Business:

A. OLYMPIA HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN & CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE - JODI MCGRAW

C. Blanchard introduced Jodi McGraw, Ecologist, to the Committee.

J. McGraw presented District Sandhills Habitat Conservation Plan and Olympia Conservation Area.

R. Moran explained his relationship with the Sandhills Habitat going back 20 years to when he was an educator.

D. Herbst questioned the distribution of endangered species throughout the rest of the Sandhills Habitat.

J. McGraw said that as part of the management planning for the Olympia Conservation Area they worked in concert with Land Trust of Santa Cruz County and were able to reduce the costs because the Land Trust had already instituted a similar process to look at 6 of their properties. So we are looking at how this fits into the broader picture including adjacent lands.

D. Herbst questioned if the Olympia Conservation Area was intended originally to compensate for prior and potential projects.

J. McGraw said that the data has been collected and the District's HCP will address that.

L. Farris questioned are any thoughts given to groundwater dependent ecosystems as part of the conservation plan.

J. McGraw said that she would be interested in exploring that.

L. Sanders questioned if the Zayante Banded Winged Grasshopper still on the federal endangered species list. He also mentioned the Kangaroo Rat.

J. McGraw said no, they will be taking a look at it again but it hasn't changed at this time. The Kangaroo Rat has not been seen in the area for quite a while.

L. Summers questioned timelines in relation to French broom removal and the endowment.

J. McGraw said that the removal is TBD but it looks like they are getting ahead of the spreading of broom and she referred the endowment question to Carly.

C. Blanchard said that part of the mitigation the District will set aside a certain amount of funds to put into the endowment to build interest creating funding for the future.

R. Rogers said that the endowment comes out of the Operations operating funds.

L. Ford questioned the 2 monitoring categories and effectiveness of flaming on the broom.

J. McGraw explained the planned management of the OCA.

L. Ford said that he is worried that the budget is too small for the monitoring.

J. McGraw that the budget is just for the interim period, looking forward to the HCP.

Discussion by the Committee, staff and Dr. McGraw regard funding.

R. Moran asked what is next? Is any action needed.

R. Rogers said this is just informational.

J. McGraw described the process as working on 2 phases at once. The Olympia Conservation Area draft plan which is now with the Fish and Wildlife Service and pending feedback and the Habitat Conservation Plan.

R. Moran thanked Dr. McGraw for her great presentation.

5. Written Communication: None

6. Informational Material: None.

7. Adjournment 11:08 a.m.