SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE
RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

August 11, 2010
11:30 a.m.

Chairperson Corneille called the Resources Committee Meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. All present stood for the pledge of allegiance, led by Chairperson Corneille.

RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Corneille, Chair
Clare Henry Day, Director
Manuel Aranda, Director

STAFF PRESENT:

Claud Seal, Assistant General Manager/ District Engineer
Lisa Pierce, GIS Coordinator
Randy Scott, Wash Plan Project Manager
Shanae Smith, Executive Assistant II

GUESTS PRESENT:

Samuel Martinez, Local Agency Formation Commission

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairperson Corneille announced this as the time for any persons present, who so desire, to make an oral petition to the Resources Committee. Chairman Corneille welcomed Samuel Martinez with the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) who introduced himself as a guest. The meeting proceeded with the published agenda items.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 22, 2010
APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 26, 2010

It was moved by Director Day and seconded by Director Corneille to approve the minutes from June 22, 2010 and July 26, 2010. The

motion carried 2-0, with Director Aranda abstaining due to his absence from the meeting.

4. <u>PRESENTATION ON WASH PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES</u>

Assistant General Manager/District Engineer Claud Seal stated the purpose of the presentation was to bring the Resources Committee (Committee) up to date on the Wash Plan and environmental issues associated with the plan that could be potentially impacted by the critical habitat designation for the Santa Ana Sucker (SAS).

Wash Plan Project Manager Randy Scott expanded on Mr. Seal's introduction. Mr. Scott gave a brief status report regarding the Wash Plan update relative to the critical habitat designation of the SAS at the July 28, 2010 regular Board meeting. Mr. Scott stated the SAS is not included in the Wash Plan as a recommendation for inclusion of the SAS. He believes the Center for Biological Diversity's pending litigation against the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding the designation of the SAS, is the driving force of the SAS issue. Legal counsel and Wash Plan Project Manager have been unable to engage the USFWS regarding the SAS and impacts relative to the Wash Plan. Mr. Scott went on to say that independently, AGM Seal and GIS Coordinator Lisa Pierce have had discussions with USFWS during District field tours to discover a possible alternative to the issues; some negative and some helpful to the Wash Plan. The USFWS has not met with the Wash Plan Project Manager or legal counsel regarding its views on the adequacy on what needs to be addressed.

Ms. Pierce gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Wash Plan and potential alternative solutions for the USFWS' issues with the plan, including species of concern. Ms. Pierce briefly summarized discussions with USFWS regarding the kangaroo rat, woolly-star preserve and the mining footprints listed as part of the exchange plan within the Wash Plan.

After the presentation, a discussion ensued regarding additional costs associated with supplemental modifications to the existing EIS, HCP and EIR for the plan should the federal agencies consider the proposed options presented by staff. After discussion, Director Corneille requested a copy of the slides to study. He suggested that staff continue fact finding and provide additional information to the Committee, including price and mining impacts that would close the resolution on the Wash Plan. Staff would also need to meet with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and USFWS and make a subsequent presentation to the miners and members of the Wash Plan Task Force relative to the proposed opportunities.

It was moved by Director Day and seconded by Director Aranda to perform an internal study to facilitate clarification for proposal and bring back to the Committee for review. The motion carried unanimously.

Activities update notes by Mr. Seal will be presented during the afternoon Board of Directors meeting scheduled at 1:30 p.m.

5. ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.