



Groundwater Quality Evaluation
Committee for the
Beaumont/Cherry Valley Area.

Minutes

Location: Beaumont/Cherry Valley Recreation & Park District
390 W. Oak Valley Parkway, Beaumont, CA 92223
Thursday, July 3, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Joe Aceto, Cindy Li, Sharon Hamilton (for Nancy Hall), Brian DeForge, Supervisor Marion Ashley, Jaime Hurtado, Lori Smith, John Watkins, Luwana Ryan, John Covington, Behrooz Mortazavi, Dr. Eric Frykman, Sarah Eberhardt, Mark Norton

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Introductions	John Watkins, Deputy Director for Environmental Health, ERM Division introduced himself as well as others; Riverside County Supervisor Marion Ashley who is the representative for this area; Jaime Hurtado, Legislative Assistant for Supervisor Ashley; Mike Shetler, Senior Management Analyst for Riverside County Executive Office, Lori Smith, OAll for Environmental Health, ERM Division, who will handle logistical information for these meetings. Round table introductions were then done. Mr. Watkins also introduced Sarah Eberhardt who is also on the committee, and Dr. Eric Frykman, Riverside County, Community Health Agency Director when they arrived.	
2. Message from Supervisor Ashley	Supervisor Ashley thanked everyone in attendance for coming out on this evening before the 4 th of July weekend. The main concern and the reason for this meeting is that we have a very important water basin here that is beginning to degrade. There are different views on the issue of ensuring that this area maintains clean water. Supervisor Ashley asked that all concerned listen to the different views with an open mind and see if we can come to a conclusion that will be appropriate for this particular situation. With the development of unincorporated areas, we have to use alternative systems, which are very good. Supervisor Ashley asked that everyone remain patient and listen to all	

	<p>the possible interventions that the people on the panel may suggest. The committee will contact appropriate agencies to solve the problem. Supervisor Ashley felt that the committee will solve the problem in the best and least expensive way possible.</p>	
3. Study Funding Options	<p>Mike Shetler from the Executive Office will look into community grants, etc. to fund the committee. There are potential funding mechanisms available; either through Prop 84 funding or community grants through the State Regional Water Quality Control Board. These grants are competitive, but we have been successful in the past with other projects throughout the county in receiving grant monies.</p>	<p>Mr. Shetler will enquire about the possibilities of grant funding for the committee and report his findings at the next meeting.</p>
4. Handout Materials	<p>Mr. Watkins explained items in the binders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Listing of Technical experts b. Listing of Community Residents c. Ordinance No. 864 "Prohibiting the Installation of Specified Septic Tank Systems in Cherry Valley" (Temporary prohibition) d. Ordinance No. 871 "Prohibiting the Installation of Specified Septic Tank Systems in Cherry Valley" (Permanent prohibition) e. Press Enterprise article "Drugs add to Concern for Community's Water" March 18, 2008 f. Letters to Supervisor Marion Ashley g. Letters from Supervisor Marion Ashley h. Abstract by Alan L. Flint and Kevin M. Ellett " The Role of the Unsaturated Zone in Artificial Recharge at San Gorgonio Pass, California" i. Wildermuth Brochure j. Final Report by Wildermuth Environmental, Inc. "Water Quality Impacts From On-Site waste Disposal Systems in the Cherry Valley Community of Interest k. County Board of Supervisors Policy No. A-21 "Advisory Boards, Commissions and Committees." One of the requirements of this policy is that Environmental Health provide support to the committee. My position will be as secretary and will be coordinating along with Lori's help, to coordinate the different meeting places and times, ensuring that you 	

	<p>receive handouts and materials. I have also been appointed to the technical portion of the committee. Because I am serving as secretary to the committee, I will be present at both meetings. The technical committee is a non-voting committee. Voting will be coming from the community meetings.</p>	
<p>5. Meeting Frequency & Locations</p>	<p>Mr. Watkins and Mrs. Smith, from the county will coordinate future meetings and locations. Mr. Watkins explained that the original plan was to have two committee meetings set up each month. The first will be a community meeting where residents will be able to discuss their concerns with community members on the Committee and the second will be a “technical” meeting where those in the technical committee will be able to answer the questions and concerns raised at the community meeting. Mr. Watkins announced that he will be attending both committee meetings.</p> <p>Mr. Watkins stated that one of the first functions at the meetings would be that a chair be appointed for each committee. The chairs would attend both committees and decide at which point the committees should combine.</p> <p>The plan is to have the technical committee meet in Riverside, probably at the County Administrative Center, during the lunch hour and the community meeting will take place at a convenient location for residents in the evening hours.</p> <p>Mr. Watkins will set-up a meeting for August. Those wishing to submit agenda items or handouts for future meetings should contact Mr. Watkins at (951) 955-8982.</p>	<p>The election of a chair person for each committee will be added to the agenda for the next meeting in August.</p> <p>Mr. Watkins and/or Mrs. Smith will schedule the next meeting in August.</p>
	<p>Mr. Watkins opened up the floor for Questions & Answers:</p> <p>Q. Luwana Ryan - wanted to know how information discussed at the technical committee will be given to those at the community meeting.</p> <p>A. Mr. Watkins explained that information from the technical meeting will be taken to the community meeting, where committee members will be informed of the outcome. Occasionally both committees will meet</p>	<p>Information from the Technical Committee will be included on the agenda for the Community meetings.</p>

	<p>together. This will be determined necessary by the committee chairpersons. One of the agenda items for the community meeting will be "Information from Technical Committee." Approved minutes from the meetings will be sent to all on our mailing list. It is preferable to send the minutes electronically rather than through USPS.</p>	
	<p>Q. Frances Flanders of Cherry Valley – When and where will the technical meetings be held? Will they meet in the community?</p> <p>A. Supervisor Ashley – The technical committee meetings will be held in Riverside during the noon hour so people can attend during their lunch hour.</p> <p>Q. Frances Flanders asked if the technical portion of the meetings could be held at a location closer to the Beaumont/Cherry Valley area.</p> <p>A. Jaime Hurtado of Supervisor Ashley’s office answered, that if possible, we can definitely do that. As Mr. Watkins mentioned, the meetings will be held during the day and we would not be able to meet at the recreation center without impeding their business, but if we could find a location that can accommodate a daytime meeting without us impeding their business, then by all means.</p> <p>Q. John Jeter, President of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, offered to have future meetings held at their facility.</p> <p>A. Susan Eberhardt – Will there be teleconferencing capabilities? John Watkins – We will look at that possibility.</p> <p>Q. Boyd Sutherland of Beaumont asked about the announcement of future meetings. He explained that information on the meeting was very difficult to find. There was only a 1-inch column in the local newspaper that mentioned the meeting. In the future where can information for meetings be found more easily?</p> <p>A. Supervisor Ashley suggested that it be placed on one of the websites.</p>	<p>John Watkins will contact Mr. Jeter to discuss the possibility of holding future meetings at the "SGPWA."</p> <p>Once meeting location is established, Lori Smith will look into teleconferencing possibilities.</p> <p>Look into the possibility of posting future agendas on one of the county websites.</p>

	<p>Q. John Covington Water Department Manager for the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, asked if the minutes of the meetings will be posted on a website as well.</p> <p>A. Mr. Watkins said, yes they will, but which website to post them on has yet to be determined.</p> <p>Q. Cindy Li, Engineering Geologist from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB), asked what the responsibility of the technical committee would be.</p> <p>A. Mr. Watkins explained that the Technical committee will discuss and answer questions that are raised in the Community meetings.</p> <p>Q. Patsy Reeley from Cherry Valley asked for verification. “The Technical committee will not be meeting with the community section of the committee?”</p> <p>A. Mr. Watkins informed her that the initial thought was that the two committees would not be meeting together on a regular basis, however, there are times when the two committees could come together to meet, if the committee chairpersons deem it as necessary.</p> <p>Q. Patsy Reeley asked if both committees “fall” under the Brown Act.</p> <p>A. Yes, All are welcome to attend either meeting.</p> <p>Q. Name unknown - Will information in the binders be available online?</p> <p>A. Mr. Watkins stated, Yes, we will try to make all information given at the meetings available online.</p>	<p>Mr. Watkins will discuss with Jaime Hurtado about which website to post minutes on?</p>
	<p>Miscellaneous Discussion:</p> <p>Mr. Watkins also explained that these committee meetings fall under the “Brown” Act, which allows members of the public to have the right to directly</p>	

	<p>address the committee. Therefore, anyone wishing to do so may attend the technical meetings as well as the community meeting.</p> <p>Bruce Cash requested input and possibly a presentation, from the 3 entities involved in this issue; 1) Wildermuth, 2) California State Department of Health, and 3) Cherry Valley Water District. It would be informative to hear how they feel about the issues.</p> <p>Mr. Watkins stated that it would be possible to have a presentation by both Wildermuth and the Cherry Valley Water District, and that perhaps both committees can meet in August for a combined meeting. It was that presentations should be kept brief (no longer than 45 minutes).</p> <p>Mr. Watkins asked if there were any suggestions for what day would be best to have the community meetings.</p> <p>It was noted that the Beaumont/Cherry Valley Water District meetings are held on Wednesday evenings, therefore Wednesday would not be a good day. It was also suggested that the Water Districts that serve the Beaumont and Cherry Valley area be invited to attend the meetings.</p>	<p>Mr. Watkins will check the availability of Wildermuth and the Cherry Valley Water District to give presentations at a future meeting.</p>
<p>6. Adjourn</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.</p>	