



## Board of Directors Meeting

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**Friday, March 11, 2011**

10am to 3pm

### **Robert J. Cabral Ag Center**

2101 E. Earhart Ave.

Stockton, CA 95206

209-953-6100

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **I. Convene Meeting and Introductory Remarks**

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The meeting was called to order at 10:11AM by Chair Ashley Swearengin who introduced herself and welcomed new board members and guests. Chair Swearengin thanked San Joaquin County and the Board of Supervisors for hosting the meeting at the Robert J. Cabral Ag Center.

Supervisor Leroy Ornellas welcomed the Board and thanked all for their participation. Referring to the facility, Supervisor Ornellas commented that San Joaquin County is very proud of the Robert J. Cabral Ag Center and hopes someday to develop the adjoining land for a more expanded facility. The Supervisor extended his appreciation to staff members of the Partnership Secretariat, to Frank Ferral and the Stockton Chamber of Commerce, legislative aide Scott Tyrrell, San Joaquin County Administrator Manuel Lopez, San Joaquin County Director of Facilities Management Gabriel Karam, Agricultural Commission and facility director, Scott Hudson and his staff Mary Jo and Hirome. Supervisor Ornellas also extended thanks to Kaiser-Permanente for providing luncheon for today's meeting.

Concluding his remarks, Supervisor Ornellas introduced the San Joaquin County panelists and thanked them for their participation in today's meeting.

Chair Swearengin acknowledged Partnership Board Co-chair Corwin Harper, thanking him and Kaiser-Permanente for providing a copy of the book, *Switch: How to Change Things When Change is Hard* by Chip Heath and Dan Heath.

On behalf of the Partnership and Board, Chair Swearengin extended thanks and special recognition to former Secretary of Labor, Workforce and Development, Vickie Bradshaw, for her commitment, dedication, thought leadership and energy and enthusiasm for the Partnership and the betterment of the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Weber recalled Ms. Bradshaw's ongoing support of the Partnership since its very beginning in 2004, commenting that Ms. Bradshaw never missed a planning meeting and has attended virtually every Partnership meeting as a member or as the chair. Mr. Weber concluded his remarks with the presentation to Ms. Bradshaw of a gift basket of edible treats.

## **II. Self-Introductions**

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Chair Swearingin acknowledged the number of new appointees to the Partnership Board, gave kudos to Governor Brown for the appointment of Diana Dooley as the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Secretary Dooley accepted the Chair's invitation to say a few remarks, commenting that early in her appointment Secretary Dooley was assured by the Administration that the Partnership would be continued. Noting that the San Joaquin Valley is her home, the Secretary affirmed that she cares very deeply about all of the issues we work so hard to improve in this important region of California; the very serious problems that exist statewide manifest most seriously in this Valley. Secretary Dooley also introduced Departments of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Secretary Matthew Cate who was also representing Secretary Morgenstern who had been called back to Sacramento. Secretary Dooley concluded her introductions with Peter Barth of her staff, Heather Fargo with the Strategic Growth Council, Josh Eddy, Executive Director representing Secretary Ross of the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Other Board members present included James Aleru, Lynne Ashbeck, Frank Bigelow, Vickie Bradshaw, Judy Case, Vito Chiesa, Mike Chrisman, DeeDee D'Adamo, Diana Dooley, Mike Dozier, Ben Duran, Carole Goldsmith, Pat Gordon, Fritz Grupe (Advisory Committee), Corwin Harper, Dave Long, Luisa Medina, Mike Navarro, Steve Nelsen, David Nelson, Joe Oliveira, Leroy Ornellas, Pete Parra, David Quackenbush, Ashley Swearingin, Ray Watson, Peter Weber

Mr. Quackenbush told the Board he has already met with Secretary Dooley who is a big friend of community health centers and he looks forward to working closely with the Secretary on the implementation of health care reform.

Members of the audience introduced themselves after which the Chair invited public comment.

## **III. Public and Board Comment**

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Ms. Fargo, Executive Policy Officer for the Strategic Growth Council, introduced herself and presented fliers for workshops for an urban greening grant program.<sup>1</sup> The grants are intended to support creation of more shade and open space in communities, a great need within the San Joaquin Valley. There will be a workshop in Stockton on March 17, 2011 and another later in Watsonville.

Mr. Watson announced that the Water Work Group has completed the framework for Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). This was a multi-year endeavor brought to a successful conclusion through a great deal of hard work. Mr. Watson extended appreciation to the Water Work Group and the many community and regional participants. There has been some interest from the Department of the Interior about adopting the measures outlined in the framework, then projecting those into the future to be more strategic in approaching water management plans. Mr. Watson concluded his comments by stating he is disappointed that the IRWMPs have been more project oriented than strategic in and the group is hoping to get the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to move to a strategic approach.

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<sup>1</sup> [Urban Greening Grants](#)

Mr. Tischer announced that last week the Water Work Group received a letter from the Department of the Interior (DOI) asking the Partnership to submit a project proposal for basin studies in the eight-county San Joaquin Valley area. Contacts at DWR agreed to join with the Partnership and the Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) (which is funding Phase II of the framework) to submit a proposal to the DoI. Mr. Tischer noted that it is significant that the Partnership was actively sought as the collaborating organization; the Partnership is seen as a strong collaborative entity that can provide bridging opportunities between DWR and other entities. Mr. Tischer extended thanks to the Partnership for its support of comprehensive water planning efforts in the Valley. In closing Mr. Tischer announced two water planning conferences next week at which Kamyar Guivetchi, Chief of Water Resources will join the discussions; sources and uses of water are critical to the development of the project proposal and plans. Mr. Tischer invited any inquiries to be addressed to him during breaks or after the meeting.

Mr. Dozier stated it would be prudent to get a sense of direction from the Board as to whether this project is something the Board wants to pursue and asked for a raise of hands in support. In the absence of dissent, Ms. D'Adamo encouraged close coordination with the Valley Congressional delegations who work with the drought crisis management team. Mr. Parra asked Mr. Watson for input on the request; Mr. Watson confirmed it would be very helpful to have Partnership Board support. Ms. Swearingin advised Secretariat staff to act according to positive input from the Board.

Mr. Ferral, Program and Public Policy Director for the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce thanked the Partnership for partnering with the Chamber on the Green Team REXPO. Noting that Mr. Dozier did a great job and Ms. D'Adamo was an outstanding panelist, Mr. Ferral thanked everyone for attending making the event a total success.

#### **IV. Review and Approval of Minutes**

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Ms. Bradshaw moved to approve the previous meeting minutes as provided and was seconded by Mr. Parra. The motion was passed and minutes approved.

#### **V. Board Appointment Status**

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Chair Swearingin acknowledged that there was a glitch of transition between the old and new state administrations with many, but not all, Board members being appointed. The Brown Administration is working closely with Secretariat staff to confirm the remaining nominees; Ms. Swearingin asked that nominees confirm that their online applications and supporting documentation has been submitted.

Mr. Weber announced the creation of a Partnership Advisory Council to be chaired by Fritz Grupe. A non-voting group, the Advisory Council will be comprised of private sector Board nominees who have not yet been confirmed and other subject matter experts to provide external expertise and perspective on Partnership programs and strategy. (Note, pending Pete's approval of wording)

## **VI. Strategic Assessment of the Partnership**

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### **Partnership Update**

Mr. Dozier thanked the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce, Valley CAN and the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors for hosting the Stakeholder dinner and Kaiser-Permanente for their support of the Board meeting. Mr. Dozier noted that moving the Board meeting from county to county afford the opportunity to connect with members and constituents in their own communities, but we rely on county and local contacts for sponsorship of dinner and lunch and facility. With thanks to Supervisor Ornellas, Mr. Dozier commended legislative aid Scott Tyrrell one of the most responsive partners to ever work with. In closing, Mr. Dozier extended thanks to Deputy Chair Corwin Harper and Kaiser-Permanente for providing the books<sup>2</sup> and for hosting the meeting luncheon.

Slide presentation and open discussion.<sup>3</sup>

In the interest of time Chair Swearingin deferred further discussion until after updates on the International Green Hall of Fame and the San Joaquin County panel presentations.

## **VII. International Green Industry Hall of Fame**

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Mr. Geil, founder and Chair of the Board of the International Green Industry Hall of Fame<sup>4</sup> (IGIHOF) introduced himself and provided a slide presentation on the development of the IGIHOF. The mission of the IGIHOF to recognize those pioneers, leaders, and visionaries who have contributed to the Green movement and to constructing a Green Hall of Fame to house the stories and share the old and the new technologies for future generations. Mr. Geil announced the Inaugural Induction Ceremony & Conference to be held March 25 at UC Merced from 9:00AM to 4:00PM. In a true green spirit, the event will also be streamed live on the internet for those who wish to participate without creating a carbon footprint.

## **VIII. San Joaquin County Roundtable**

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### **Panel 1 – Public Sector**

Chair Swearingin welcomed the public sector panelists, the Honorable Steve Moore Sheriff, San Joaquin County; Mr. Manuel Lopez, County Administrator, San Joaquin County; Mr. Ken Cohen, Director, Health Care Services, San Joaquin County. The panelists spoke of issues being faced by their communities and agencies, highlighting issues resulting from the proposed realignment of services and funds across State and local agencies.<sup>5</sup>

Chair Swearingin also welcomed Matthew Cate, Secretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation as an ad-hoc member of the panel. Chair Swearingin noted that this is Secretary Cate's first attendance at a Partnership Board meeting and asked the Secretary to provide an update on the realignment proposal.

Secretary Cate introduced himself and noted that his agency employs about 13,300 people in the San Joaquin Valley in the 9 prisons. Each prison constitutes a small city of about 6,000 people; 5,000 are permanent and 1,000 who travel in and out as correctional and

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<sup>2</sup> *Switch: How to Change Things When Change is Hard* by Chip Heath and Dan Heath

<sup>3</sup> [Secretariat Presentation Q1 2011](#)

<sup>4</sup> [International Green Industry Hall of Fame](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Governor's Budget Summary 2011-12 | Realignment](#)

support staff. The proposed realignment presents a major shift for law enforcement and is work that began back in December with then Governor-elect Brown's plan to extend vehicle license fee and 1% income tax for another five years to fund a portion of the local law enforcement. The plan proposes realigning lower level offenders and funding down to the local level where local law enforcement is more familiar with the individual offenders. Under the proposal the State would continue to house high level offenders but the non-serious, non-violent, non-sexual offenders to be eligible for housing by the Sheriff. Depending on space availability, local Sheriffs would also be able to contract with the State to house higher level offenders).

Secretary Dooley interjected that there are other aspects of the realignment. Then candidate Brown gave serious consideration to realignment both prior to and after the election due to his fundamental commitment to efficiency and local control (local law enforcement knows its criminals better). In California, health and human services are provided and funded by state, county, and federal programs. In many programs, services are provided by one level of government, while funding and program rules are determined by another level of government. In many cases, there is no single entity with ultimate responsibility and authority for providing services.

There are two stages of realignment, comment the Secretary; in addition to the corrections element, behavioral health issues need to be returned back to the local level in order to have a public safety concept that includes both corrections and the behavioral health piece.

Secretary Dooley continued, after this package goes to the voters in June, the second phase would initiate to realign the traditional social services with health care services. Social services such as CalWORKS would be at the local level; health care services coordinated more at the State level. Secretary Dooley noted there are efforts to start the conversation about how those services closest to the people and best administered by the local government be given the authority and funding to stay local and keep the larger, state level programs at the state level.

Realignment will have to seriously look at the concept of "state wideness" and understand that some counties will administer and deliver programs differently than what the state level expects to see. While working to unravel the "make all the counties do it this way", the State will still have to maintain the minimum required Federal level of engagement but move from a role of oversight to a role of partnership with communities and counties in the support and delivery of services with flexibility and funding.

By aligning programs with the most logical level of government, and by using savings generated from changes in eligibility processing, services can be enhanced for child welfare services and foster care. The status quo undermines accountability because the level of government with funding and authority often does not actually administer the programs. By placing authority and responsibility at the level of service delivery, true accountability will be achieved. This realignment will emphasize state level advocacy for better integration of programs and funding—especially federal funds, including those which may require waiver requests. The relationship between the state and the counties is intended to be a partnership—a sharing of the responsibilities inherent in the various health and human services programs.

Of particular note is California's In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program, a county-administered/state-supervised program. IHSS provides supportive services to eligible individuals to allow them to remain safely in their own homes as an alternative to more costly institutional care. It is California's third largest and fastest growing social services program, consisting of two components: the Personal Care Services Program (PCSP) and the Residual IHSS program. Counties have a financial stake in IHSS, but no financial interest in Medi-Cal nursing facility costs. The state is responsible for funding nursing facilities, but has no control over the in-home services that might allow patients to avoid institutional care. This configuration provides no incentives to control service costs and results in neither level of government being ultimately accountable for patient outcomes. Ms. Case expressed particular interest in Secretary Dooley's comment about the in-home services program, noting there is great concern at the local level about getting additional responsibility without the funding.

Mr. Ornellas thanked Secretaries Cate and Dooley for their comments and pointed out that San Joaquin County has a program it is very proud of. AgAdventure which introduces children to fresh food, allowing them to see, touch and taste good quality local produce. Mr. Ornellas quoted a colleague, "Good health begins with a good job".

Mr. Watson commented that it is good to bring public safety and health and wellness issues back to local level; the difficulty is in realigning the funding. Wealthy counties and cities historically got a lot more than rural communities as a result of the old formula; realignment will need to adjust funding levels based on things such as poverty level rather than on contribution of the county to the initiative.

Mr. Chiesa noted his agreement with Mr. Watson. When looking at the AB8 formulas, there is reason for concern because the San Joaquin Valley is always on the short end of the stick; it is important to be here and to continue the discussion.

Ms. Case averred that the goal of realignment is definitely not to decide how the dollars will be spent; the law enforcement side set up community corrections partnerships because not all one size fits all and want to fully fund law enforcement and corrections pieces which will.

Mr. Bigelow affirmed Ms. Case's comment, opining the number one issue on the table is how the counties are going to be saddled with certain responsibilities and have the funds to exist. Counties will be unable to provide those same levels of service; in some cases will not be able to provide the services at all without funding.

Sheriff Moore interjected that what is also important is the question of whether the individual being convicted and sentenced is going to actually serve that full sentence. If reentry is going to work at the local level the individuals need to be housed at the local level.

Ms. Bradshaw observed that several Board members have been through realignments in the past and expressed hope that we can keep an open mind and open heart to the fact that this is a unique opportunity to make meaningful changes. This administration is trying to make meaningful changes.

Mr. Weber asked if the County Superintendents and the Secretaries can allay some concerns about realignment which speaks to taxpayer concerns about efficiency and budgetary issues. Mr. Weber noted there is not much being heard about systemic reform, it is unclear what outcomes will be achieved through the process of shifting the

responsibilities. It is important to know how to measure, be accountable for and improve the results in outcomes of the programs.

Secretary Cates stated that the revolving door in state prisons is a horribly broken system; about 47,000 offenders go to prison for three months. All the 90 days does is allow them to go through multiple social service program assessments and treatments which takes about three months in a model of how can we waste the most money on the most people? The Governor believes state prison should be for long-term offenders and it is important to change this catch-and-release of lower level criminals to a local program of probation and treatment to avert recidivism. Under the provisions of SB 678<sup>6</sup>, four thousand fewer people went to prison for parole violations in the first year of the program. Concluding his remarks, Secretary Cate commented that prisons are overcrowded and the US Supreme Court will rule on the overcrowding in the next calendar quarter; 3-strikes prisoners will soon be eligible for release and overcrowding precludes the provision of any release preparation. It is important to prepare in a way that reduces criminality rather than resulting in release.

Ms. McPeak noted that since 1979 she has gone through realignment multiple times and the comments around the table are both sobering and encouraging. All of the past history suggests the traditional “shift and shaft” model which does not support positive outcomes (the ability to make life better). Are jobs going up, poverty going down, crime going down, health status going up, and kids going to school? In California we have too little success in Education and Health & Welfare and too great an increase in prison circles. Ms. McPeak concluded, the first plan coming out of the Partnership included a law enforcement element and recommended including law enforcement, including the Highway Patrol in the Partnership.

## **Panel 2 – Private Sector**

Chair Swearingin welcomed the private sector panelists, Mr. Gary Barton Barton Ranch, Inc., Chair, San Joaquin Ag Advisory Board; Mr. Andrew Chesley, Executive Director, San Joaquin Council of Governments; C. Mel Lytle, Ph.D., Water Resource Coordinator, San Joaquin County and Mr. Anthony Souza, CRE, FRICS

Mr. Souza noted that local builders and developers face great challenges with coordinating the permitting and entitlement processes, noting that many entitlements are done in no less than 20+ consultations with various agencies and entities. Mr. Souza thanked the Partnership for its efforts to streamline and simplify the process. Referring to the current economic downturn, Mr. Souza offered a ray of hope because the State of California has an opportunity to capitalize on the current job situation. Client after client has claimed that California claims too expensive to do business in but due to the current slow economy, depressed housing market and excess workforce, it is now not too costly. This is an opportunity to bring jobs back to California but we need to ask for the order. It is important that everyone at every level ask for the order; get business back here.

Gary Barton introduced himself as a local guy and farmer whose family has farmed locally for over 100 years. Declaring his love for California and the Valley, Mr. Barton pointed out another bright spot: Agriculture here is experiencing generally good times based on a world economy seeing rising commodity prices. This Valley has great soil, and a great and stable workforce. California seems to go out of its way to make our life more difficult, commenting that wealth is created in the private sector, government does not add to prosperity. California seems to insist that every turn becomes an opportunity to regulate and unlike

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<sup>6</sup> [California Courts - Community Corrections](#)

most other industries, agriculture doesn't have the option of leaving the state. Agriculture as an industry enjoys a friendly competition up and down the Valley but all are aggressively competitive with our international competitors. Mr. Barton encouraged the Board, in whatever way is possible, to promote ways to reduce the burden of government on the private sector.

Dr. Mel Lytle introduced himself as "...a native of California born in Oklahoma". Dr. Lytle extended his thanks to the Partnership and the Water Policy Work Group for their interest, energy and continued input into the process of trying to develop a sound water resolution across the eight Valley counties. The resolution passed in October of 2009 was a monumental step forward for the state as a whole. This year La Niña gave us extensive snow and rain leaving reservoirs up and down the state at or near capacity with even San Luis Reservoir at 99% capacity. California is not faced with a critical condition of drought this year which is attributable to several factors one of which is wind pattern changes creating a tug-of-war with La Niña. Dr. Lytle noted that San Joaquin County is a switching yard for water in the state but is inherently water short and dependent on pumping groundwater. This has resulted in serious overdraft of major groundwater reservoirs for which they are now seeking additional supplies. The Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMPs) are helping users to instead of fighting over water, working together to solve water issues. Dr. Lytle confirmed that the IRWMP program is supported by the state but much of the funding for it hasn't been released yet. Last year was the first release of funds to implement projects but the process is terribly long. Dr. Lytle noted that the Partnership can help the effort by influencing and supporting efforts to shorten process. In addition, the Partnership can help with outreach to the outliers who aren't participating and help influence inter-regional efforts to re-fill the drafted and over-drafted subsurface water. In his final recommendation Dr. Lytle asked the Partnership to focus on interregional projects, help get them funded and get them put into place.

## **IX. Strategic Assessment of the Partnership – *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow***

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Chair Swearingin suggested that the discussion focus on high level, broad perspective topics to support the vision and strategy of the Partnership; from these topics the Board will have opportunities to consider specific initiatives.

Mr. Barth recommended incorporating issues of health in all policies supported by the Partnership. There are co-benefits to be derived when considering the indicators and determinants of health when enacting policy. The Strategic Growth Council is working to leverage and coordinate the efforts of the multiple state agencies for greater efficiencies across them all and asking each to consider how their respective agencies impact issues of health<sup>7</sup>. The Governor's fundamental commitment to efficiency, with a focus on the maximum co-benefits, provides an opportunity to improve the health and well being of the people of the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Barth concluded with a recommendation that the Partnership continue to be a connector across the Valley and up to the State; when doing the work group work to integrate the concept of health and human services into each initiative.

Mr. Weber responded enthusiastically to Mr. Barth's suggestion. Confirming the difficulty in dealing in an integrated way across agency silos, Mr. Weber acknowledged the Partnership as an ideal partner for the State due to our connections around the table.

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<sup>7</sup> [Health in All Policies Task Force Report to the Strategic Growth Council, 12-03-2010](#)



Ms. McPeak announced her approval of the term co-benefits noting that the definition is usually driven by outcomes that relate to who is the customer. Even with the respective agencies' best efforts it is likely the state will end up with some kind of organizational structure that can tend toward silos so all leadership and entities need to be held accountable in order to get to the outcome of co-benefits. The Strategic Growth Council has done tremendous work to develop the (look this up). Ms. McPeak thanked the Secretariat staff for support responses to the arcane processes of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) which resulted in the development of a regional consortium supporting the extension of Broadband which will support the infusion of technology not as a silver bullet but as the silver buckshot.

Ms. D'Adamo thanked Secretary Dooley for attending the meeting, noting the Secretary's participation shows a lot about the Administration's commitment to the Partnership. Ms. D'Adamo recommended the Board focus on the big initiatives such as regulatory reform and to capitalize on opportunities to get a direct pipeline to the Governor's office. Citing the desire to wisely use Board meeting time and work group activities, Ms. D'Adamo noted the need to be nimble and able to pull the eight counties together to participate in issue discussion. Ms. D'Adamo recommended focusing on initiatives where the Partnership can truly make a difference as a region. An immediate action recommendation from Ms. D'Adamo is that the Secretariat resurrects the monthly Legislative Staffer meetings in order to focus on projects and actions that can get traction and action across the region.

Mr. Bigelow suggested the Board focus on select core issues, to pick areas the Partnership is good at and push those elements forward. Noting that all cultures are connected to agriculture, Mr. Bigelow suggested looking at ways to capitalize on that connectivity to develop support for regional initiatives.

Chair Swearingin asked the Board to comment on what stands out as the Partnership's greatest strength.

Ms. D'Adamo responded that the Partnership is able to speak with one voice.

Mr. Duran noted the diversity of points of view and thought around the table and the ability to speak with one voice is a huge advantage for any area of the state. This body is probably the strongest when it selects and focuses on strategic issues that can be embraced by the entire Valley; issues such as health. Communities with jobs are healthy; they have healthier economies and healthier citizens supporting the notion of healthy communities as integrated into the traditional health model.

Ms. Ashbeck observed the Partnership has an amazing opportunity to be an enchilada or even a Petri dish of changes, pointing out the opportunity to lead the redefinition of state versus local responsibilities and programs. Ms. Ashbeck cited as a redefinition opportunity the Partnership developing a regional model for mental health delivery.

Mr. Harper remarked that this group has the opportunity to change conversations in the communities. The Partnership has the people, the thoughts and ideas and the intellectual capital to come up with solutions, the challenge is in the execution. Mr. Harper cautioned the Board, stating, "...we can't do everything but we can do a few things really well". Mr. Harper recommended the Board help the right people come together to have the right conversations to fix things; to help others to break the victim mindset and change the culture

of the Valley in a new way. The Partnership's commitment to change the conversation is its strength.

Mr. Grupe observed that when the Partnership first assembled six years ago, no one knew each other. "We have been able to build trust and respect around the Board; when you look at the water conversation, that could only come about through great trust and respect". Mr. Grupe pointed out opportunities coming in the areas of K-12 Education, Health Care and climate action plans, all of which have historically been based on assumptions that are no longer true. Paraphrasing Charles Darwin, Mr. Grupe stated, "It is not the strongest or the most intelligent that survive; it's the most adaptable. This board can do that".

Mr. Weber observed that there is one good thing about not having any money; we don't have turf to protect or money to lose. This condition drives the issue of adaptability and looking constantly at what's changing in our environment. Given the direction of both Federal and State governments it will be necessary to find new ways to be more effective and efficient. The Partnership ought to be the guinea pig for change; convene the conversations based on the relationships and coalitions of trust built around incentives that promote common outcomes. Pointing out that according to a McKinsey study, 70% of private sector restructurings and 90% of public sector restructurings fail, Mr. Weber declared the Partnership has the foundation to be that Petri dish for effective transformation by supporting Ms. Ashbeck's suggestion that the Partnership find a few cross-cutting initiatives can redefine how things are done.

Mr. Watson remarked that the original Executive Order<sup>8</sup> was the Governor's invitation to the San Joaquin Valley, knowing we were underrepresented, to have a say in its future. In a way the Governor was saying, "...here are your problems, what do you need..." Mr. Watson continued noting continuity in the Partnership that transcends the current Administration; we need to focus on strategizing and planning but as a body we can't actually get things done. In order to get things done we need to help communicate that broader picture to our legislators; we need to get our Board in forums with legislators to have issue discussions and to demonstrate the issue is a reasonable, responsible and equitable solution. We should focus on the question of how to convince legislators it is important and valuable to listen to the Partnership.

Secretary Dooley recalled even 20 years ago efforts to create Valleywide initiatives when Senators Maddy and Zenovich were proudly Valley representatives, setting aside their party affiliations in the interests of the bigger Valley. Commenting that it may not be necessary to reactivate the Health and Human Services Work Group, the Partnership does have an extraordinary opportunity to contribute to the health-care reform effort. Along with the health coverage initiative come the issues of delivery system reform and developing a prevention system through public health (e.g., behavioral health). Secretary Dooley announced that one of the first steps toward getting the Partnership into the discussions mentioned by Mr. Watson is that she and Secretary Cate can go back to the Administration with the Partnership's willingness to be a Petri dish. This could be an opportunity to address the behavioral health deficit and healthcare reform in creative ways by becoming a Realignment Laboratory and a part of [The Health in All Policies Task Force](#)

Mr. Navarro observed that all the things being talked about are linked in some way. Too often we deal with symptoms rather than solutions and the Partnership is good at identifying

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<sup>8</sup> [Executive Order S-5-05](#)

solutions. Mr. Navarro suggested formation of an advisory group to provide general promotion of what the Partnership is and what it does.

**X. Secretariat Report**

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In the interest of time Mr. Dozier referred the Board to the Secretariat Report section of the Board packages with a request that anyone with questions contact him directly.

**XI. Valley Grant Update and Reports**

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Citing the Valley Legacy Video (to be shown at the end of the meeting) Ms. Nutting referred the Board to the appropriate section of the Board packet which provides budget update on the Valley Legacy Grant specifics.

**XII. Board of Directors Meeting Schedule 2011-2012**

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Ms. Nutting directed the Board to updated meeting dates and proposed venues as noted in the Board packet.

**XIII. Public and Board Comment**

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Chair Swearengin invited comment from the Public and Board.

**IVX. Adjournment**

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In the absence of further public or Board comment, Chair Swearengin thanked all participants, inviting everyone to remain to view the Valley Legacy Video<sup>9</sup> and adjourned the meeting at 2:56 PM.

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<sup>9</sup> [Valley Legacy Video](#)