



Meeting of the Board of Directors

Friday, June 20, 2014

10am – 3pm

International Agri-Center

Social Hall

4500 S. Laspina Street

Tulare, CA 93274

I. Convene Meeting and Introductory Remarks

The meeting of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) was called to order at 10:10 am by Secretary Karen Ross who welcomed Partnership Board Members and guests, including newest board member, Harold Hansen and new Board Advisory members Jennifer Carson and Larry Martin.

Board Members present: James Aleru, Lynne Ashbeck, Jeffrey Beard, Steve Bestolarides, Monica Blanco-Etheridge, Judy Case McNairy, Vito Chiesa, DeeDee D’Adamo, Randy Dodd, Diana Dooley, Mike Dozier, Lee Ann Eager, Bryn Forhan, Andrew Genasci, Carole Goldsmith, Harold Hanson, Genoveva Islas, Dorothy Leland, Luisa Medina, David Nelson, Suzi Picaso, Billy Powell, Karen Ross, Ted Smalley, and James Tague. Advisory Board Members present: Jennifer Carlson, Glenda Humiston, Larry Martin, Robert Tse and Pete Weber. Board Deputies present: Sharri Bender Ehlert, Brian McMahon, Albert Rivas, and Jim Suennen.

II. Recognition of Sponsors

The Board recognizes and thanks our sponsors: The Tulare County Economic Development office, represented by Eric Coyne, who sponsored the room rentals and morning coffee; and our lunch sponsors; Quad Knopf, Quincy Engineering and VSCE.

Introductions were then made from the Board and the guests around the room.

III. Oath of Office

Diana Dooley administered the oath of office to Secretary Karen Ross who was sworn in as the new co-deputy chair. New board members Andrew Genasci, Suzi Picaso and Harold HansOn were also sworn in.

IV. Public and Board Comment

There were no comments.

V. Consent Calendar

Board Member Luisa Medina noted that her name was misspelled in the March 21 minutes on Page 6.

- ACTION: Correction on page 6 March 21 Meeting Minutes – fix “Medina” spelling. (Completed; updated minutes posted in Partnership Document Library)

Mike Dozier announced that OCED staff member Jason Waters is leaving for another position which leaves the CRPC Director position open.

A motion was raised by Lee Ann Eager to accept the consent calendar as published. James Aleru seconded and the motion was approved.

VI. Cal EnviroScreen 2.0 – Draft California Communities

DeeDee D’Adamo introduced Arsenio Mataka, Assistant Secretary, Cal EPA and George Alexeeff, Director, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. Mr. Mataka expressed the importance of State Policy makers to better understand the needs of the region. Cal EnviroScreen 2.0 will help determine where the revenues and resources are needed.

Mr. Alexeeff presented a PowerPoint to the board entitled “Cal EnviroScreen 2.0 Update”. This PowerPoint may be accessed at the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

Lynne Ashbeck suggested the Partnership aggregate all of the data collection efforts in the Valley. She indicated that several organizations and bodies already collect data such as cities, COGS, schools and hospitals, and the Partnership could serve as the hub for all of this information for the Valley.

- ACTION: Discussion needed between staff and Executive Committee.

DeeDee D’Adamo suggests that the Board have the Executive Committee weigh in on financial issues as they arise, bringing in the Partnership early for input before future updates to make sure Cap-and-Trade set-aside dollars go to areas that are in most need of investments.

- ACTION: The Partnership Board should give Partnership Executive Committee authority to formally weigh-in on Cap-and-Trade funding via a letter of support from Mike Dozier.

Motion: D’Adamo/Second: Medina.

Glenda Humiston suggested that the San Joaquin Valley needs to use the environmental monitoring tool that was created by North San Joaquin Valley counties.

VII. Delta Collaboration - Update

Pete Weber presented this agenda item on the Delta Collaboration for which he says much support is building after reaching out to organizations.

- ACTION: Partnership representatives such as Vito Chiesa or Mike Dozier to accompany Mr. Weber in the next meeting between the Governor and the Water Fix Group.
- Mr. Weber will follow up with Secretary Ross on next steps.

VIII. Lunch

IX. Setting the Stage

Mike Dozier introduced a PowerPoint presentation on an overview of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. This PowerPoint presentation is available on the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

Mayor Robert Poythress, Chairman of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council (RPC), next presented his PowerPoint, an overview of the RPC. This PowerPoint presentation is available on the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

Rob Terry of the Fresno Council of Governments, Stacie Dabbs, and Jason Waters, CRPC Director at Fresno State then presented the PowerPoint on Current Collaborations. This presentation may be found on the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

Chancellor Leland expressed concern over the lack of trained medical physicians that have come from the San Joaquin Valley. The Partnership supports UC Merced's efforts in quality high level education.

X. Key Issues/Projects for 2014

DeeDee D'Adamo introduced her PowerPoint presentation on Key Issues and Projects for 2014 which can be found on the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

Ahron Hakimi from Kern Council of Governments gave a PowerPoint presentation on current key issues of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, discussing Goods Movement, Transportation Funding and other key issues. This presentation can be viewed on the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

Supervisor Vito Chiesa led a discussion which began with the topic of watershed protection vs. watershed restoration. Supervisor Chiesa updated the Partnership on the Valley's current groundwater disposition and stated the importance in remembering that surface water and groundwater issues go hand-in-hand.

XI. Projects of Regional Significance

Ted Smalley's summary PowerPoint presentation on Sustainable Communities Strategies can be found on the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

Maya Abood, representing Smart Valley Places presented a PowerPoint on Fair Housing and Equity Assessment. This presentation can be viewed on the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

Clark Thompson, Senior Planner, Fresno Council of Governments presented his PowerPoint on the Greenprint. This PowerPoint is available on the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

ACTION: Glenda Humiston suggested the Valley pursue the RUC's model rather than static maps.

ACTION: Supervisor Allen Ishida indicated that the board needs new leadership on the Delta Collaboration now that Supervisor Watson is no longer on the board.

ACTION: A link to the FHEA report and the Greenprint materials need to be sent to both boards following the meeting.

Secretary Karen Ross presented her report on housing and transportation.

XII. Closing Remarks from Board Chairs

Robert Poythress thanked those responsible for arranging for the joint meeting.

Secretary Karen Ross expressed her admiration for the power of the unity and cautions that the Partnership still needs to find opportunities.

END JOINT SESSION

XIII. Tulare County Economic Development

On behalf of Mike Washam from the Tulare County Economic Development Office, Eric Coyne presented the PowerPoint now available at the Partnership website: sjvpartnership.org.

XIV. Drought Discussion - Update

Glenda Humiston from USDA briefly updated the Partnership about current drought relief projects.

DeeDee D'Adamo discussed processes for water rights holders and the Governor's directions to adopt regulations. Water usage curtailments will continue, and in Mid-July there will be a review of other restrictions on water use in urban areas. Statewide requirements are being considered.

Secretary Karen Ross announced that funds are available now from emergency drought legislation which is very similar to the program that ran earlier. This program is tied to Cap-and-Trade. There are workshops to assist farmers and ranchers to apply for the funding and food has been distributed to communities.

XV. Public and Board Comment and Meeting Feedback

Diana Dooley is pleased that the FFA program will now be able to keep funded.

Dorothy Leland congratulated Secretary Ross on the agenda, appreciating the collaboration.

Judy Case McNairy also appreciated the agenda and thanked all of the people who came and participated in the board meeting.

XVI. Adjournment

The sponsors and staff were thanked again and the meeting was adjourned at 2:57pm.