



Meeting of the Board of Directors

Friday, December 5, 2014 – 10am – 3pm

Manteca Transit Center
220 Moffat Boulevard
Manteca, CA 95336

MEETING MINUTES

I. Convene Meeting and Introductory Remarks

The meeting of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) was called to order at 10:15 am by Chair Ashley Swearengin who welcomed Partnership Board members and guests to Manteca and the Manteca Transit Center.

Mayor Swearengin recognized Supervisor Steve Bestolarides who welcomed all to the area and to the Manteca Transit Center. The San Joaquin Council of Governments was instrumental in funding the Transit Center planning and construction through Measure K. It serves the commuters and community in the area.

Board Members present were: James Aleru, Steve Bestolarides, Judy Case McNairy, Vito Chiesa, DeeDee D'Adamo, Randy Dodd, Diana Dooley, Bryn Forhan, Andrew Genasci, Dr. Carole Goldsmith, Pat Gordon, Genoveva Islas, Paul Johnson, Blake Konczal, Luisa Medina, Michael Navarro, Joe Oliveira, David Orth, Billy Powell, Larry Powell, Karen Ross, Gary Serrato, Ashley Swearengin, James Tague.

Also present were Sharri Bender Ehlert representing Secretary Brian Kelly, Albert Rivas representing Jeffrey Beard and Jim Suennen from California Health & Human Services. Advisory Board members present were Diane Howerton, Glenda Humiston, Larry Martin and Robert Tse.

II. Recognition of Sponsors

Thanks again to Supervisor Steve Bestolarides for arranging for our meeting sponsors. The board recognizes and thanks our meeting sponsors: San Joaquin Council of Governments who sponsored the rental of the Manteca Transit Center, AG Spanos Company sponsored MSI Media Solutions and Grupe Commercial Company who sponsored the lunch.

III. Oath of Office

There were no new board members to swear in, but those whose terms end at the end of this month are being renewed and new appointees will most likely be sworn in at March 20, 2015, meeting in Madera County.

Corwin Harper has moved out of the area and Luisa Medina will now serve as Co-Deputy Chair of the Partnership Board.

IV. Public and Board Comment

Mayor Swearingin invited comments from the board and public, recognizing Steven Miller, the Deputy Director of Strategic Energy Innovations who spoke about a new effort: Core Sustainable Energy Roadmap.

Announcement from Genoveva Islas that a \$3 million grant was awarded to work in six target communities on racial economic health, working with Latino communities around healthy eating, active living and economic development.

Andrew Mendoza from Kaiser Permanente welcomed the Partnership Board and meeting attendees to San Joaquin County on behalf of Corwin Harper.

V. Consent Calendar

Mike Dozier presented the consent calendar and added that he has been elected to the post of president for the University Economic Development Association (UEDA).

Carole Goldsmith recognized the work of Ismael Herrera and wished to draw attention to the need to bring broadband out to the fields and is working with a number of Ag and Tech people to bring this project forward and to bring investor funding from the Silicon Valley. Dr. Goldsmith recognized and thanked OCED staff Marianne Collins King for her work with the project.

Mr. Dozier also recognized two OCED staff members who are now elected officials: Felipe Perez to Firebaugh City Council and Ismael Diaz Herrera, Trustee, Fresno County Board of Education District I.

The motion was made by Larry Powell to accept the consent calendar as published and was seconded by Bryn Forhan. The motion was approved.

VI. GreaterSiliconValley.com

Elena Reyes of the County Administrator's Office of County of San Joaquin made a presentation on "Greater Silicon Valley", a strategy to encourage expansion of the Silicon Valley to diversify the economy of the San Joaquin County. This PowerPoint presentation is available at the 4th Quarter Board Meeting webpage: <http://sivpartnership.org/event/4th-quarter-board-meeting-2014/>

Mayor Swearingin asked the speaker for feedback as to how Silicon Valley is responding to their brand and region being expanded. Ms. Reyes responded that it's been very positive and inviting with much cooperation between the two areas.

VII. 2014 Summit Follow-up

Staff presented feedback received from the Partnership's Annual Summit in September, and discussed the logistics for the 2015 Summit. Staff informed the Board that the State Summit will be held in November in the Inland Empire. In order to provide input, the regional forum needs to take place either March or June, and will double as the Partnership annual Summit. The Board identified areas of interest to be covered at the forum and in other 2015 Board meetings. It was determined that:

- 1) The annual forum will be held in June in place of the 2nd quarterly board meeting; and
- 2) The location decided on is Visalia.

Other input from the board included Robert Tse's discussion of the Broadband Rural Urban Connection Strategy (RUCS) model that allows using data. Mr. Tse believes this would be a great tool to use and adapt to local needs. Glenda Humiston added that RUCS is important also for economic development. Additional capability is being added to integrate ecosystem data. She believes it is essential to infrastructure work.

Carole Goldsmith requests that some specific problems be identified before a meeting with tangible work that will show at the meeting; to plan ahead of time to look at problems which could be taken to groups.

Pat Gordon would like to involve business more with education and convince students that there are excellent jobs within his county to highlight people who have achieved success throughout the area. Also to be explored is how to make the education system become more relevant to local business. More coordination of math programs between the different levels of schooling is needed as well as forming a partnership with the trades in the area to recruit people.

Tourism, hospitality and healthcare were also topics requested by the board as well as the need for high speed internet and broadband availability throughout the area.

Larry Powell suggested that there be a takeaway that can be implemented at a forum.

Mayor Swearingin described a need to further define our audience and determine the best way to get the business voice in the Valley and the necessity of getting business and government together in the room.

Blake Konczal discussed the fact that there needs to be an overarching theme to the conference that unites the details and gives a focus and unifies.

Several board members echoed the need to have both government and business represented at the meetings, and also engage the private sector more.

DeeDee D'Adamo expressed her passion about the group but is frustrated about what else the Partnership can be. She would like to have a sense of what the group can accomplish. She

suggests a focus of two or three big issues: Broadband, for instance, will impact every sector of the Valley.

Mayor Swearengin proposed that the Partnership tell the story of the San Joaquin Valley around California. Proper marketing and communications is needed to tell the story of the Valley without “government-speak.” Target a community to represent the Valley at each opportunity, picking a couple of signature Valley-wide initiatives. An event showcasing the Valley was proposed.

VIII. Lunch

IX. New Groundwater Legislation

Secretary Karen Ross moderated a panel on new groundwater legislation and introduced the following panelists:

- Gary Bardini and Trevor Joseph, California Department of Water Services. Their presentation addressed the implementation of the California Water Action Plan, including water storage and groundwater management, managing the Delta and operational efficiency. This PowerPoint presentation is available at the 4th Quarter Board Meeting webpage: <http://sjvpartnership.org/event/4th-quarter-board-meeting-2014/>
- DeeDee D’Adamo, California Water Resources Control Board, discussed the significance of this year for water legislation. This PowerPoint presentation is available at the 4th Quarter Board Meeting webpage: <http://sjvpartnership.org/event/4th-quarter-board-meeting-2014/>
- Debbie Davis-Franco, California Office of Planning and Research. This PowerPoint presentation is available at the 4th Quarter Board Meeting webpage: <http://sjvpartnership.org/event/4th-quarter-board-meeting-2014/>
- David Orth, Kings River Conservation District, made a presentation on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation. This PowerPoint presentation is available at the 4th Quarter Board Meeting webpage: <http://sjvpartnership.org/event/4th-quarter-board-meeting-2014/>
- Sarge Green, representing the Stanislaus County Water Committee and the California Water Institute at Fresno State, brought a map displaying the impacts of the new groundwater law, showing areas using groundwater only. One challenge associated with the new groundwater law will be adding more data to the system. Sarge’s map is available at the 4th Quarter Board Meeting webpage: <http://sjvpartnership.org/event/4th-quarter-board-meeting-2014/>
- Terry Withrow, Stanislaus County Supervisor representing the Stanislaus County Water Committee, described the relationship between surface water and groundwater issues and stressed the need for cooperation among the agencies in order to move forward.
- Brandon Nakagawa, Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Banking Authority He discussed their experience in practicing groundwater management. Encouraged by the dialogue, Mr. Nakagawa’s discussion touched on the great difficulties faced in August when water had to be taken from growers.

X. Adjournment

Mayor Swearingin pointed out the schedule for next year's meetings. Secretary Ross would like to follow up on Larry Powell's earlier suggestion to invite more people to future Partnership Board meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47pm.
