

Winchester/Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 12, 2015

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

Attendees:

Winchester MAC:

Andy Domenigoni, Chairman; Dirk Meredith, Vice-Chairman; James Horecka, Secretary; Jimmy Sheldrake; Jeff Logan

Ex Officio:

Opal Hellweg, Legislative Assistant for Third District Supervisor (not present this meeting)

Members of the Public

Call to Order: Call to Order by Andy Domenigoni at 6:31 PM.

Flag Salute. Introductions.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve: Sheldrake; Second: Meredith. Approved, unanimously.

Approval of January Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve: Logan; Second: Sheldrake. Approved, unanimously.

Guest -- Menifee City Manager Rob Johnson:

Mr. Johnson delivered a lively oral presentation about the City of Menifee (no slideshow or graphics). He explained that recently the City performed a Municipal Services Review (MSR). He noted that the City did not intend to expand their sphere of influence. In September 2013, the City produced their first General Plan. At present, there is no SOI outside of the city borders. He noted that several Specific Plans straddle Briggs Road; bot in Menifee and in our area. Any changes to these would pose a potential issue. MSRs occur every five years. Those Specific Plans are not built yet. Johnson spoke about the Line A Flood Control Project. It was shown that the County could fund this project, to improve infrastructure from Juniper Flats down.

Menifee by the numbers: city six years old. Original population 65,000, average age 57 year. Current population 85,000, average age 35 years. Presently 85 projects on the books, most of which are County legacy. In a ten mile radius, there ae ~700,000 persons. With only some commercial development, Menifee is experiencing sales tax "leakage" to surrounding areas that area residents travel to for goods & services. So Menifee is trying to gain more restaurants and commercial projects. There will be a Council meeting next Wednesday.

Johnson discussed parks: Valley Wide had east of the 215; County had west of the 215. Menifee invited V.W. to handle the west as well. That has proceeded. He discussed major improvements to freeway interchanges: Newport Road first; later, Scott Road, widening to ten lanes. Mentioned MSJC College, and Brandon University. Possible new stadium. Johnson stated that the City encompasses 48 square miles. The 20-year build-out is projected to be 168,000.

Questions:

Q: What is the future of the Sun City core area? A: Menifee doesn't have control of that. HOA does.

Q: Are there plans for along Hwy 74? A: Not presently, as Line A is not done; area values are rising, though.

Q: Will residential developments in that area be approved? A: Most likely.

Comment: Cowdery noted that before Menifee incorporated, founders reportedly made a deal with WHOA that the City of Menifee would not expand east of Briggs Road. Johnson responded that time will tell.

Comment: Charlie mentioned issues he has with right turn signs on Newport Road. A: An engineering matter.

Q: Mary Plumb inquired whether an equestrian project was still going to become part of the Audie Murphy Ranch.

A: Johnson did not know. He mentioned the Pechanga "gift parcel," and noted that equestrian trails will never go through that special area. If the equestrian component were ever built, trails would be moved.

Q: Super Wal-Mart; who approved that? A: A vote of the people.

Q: What is timing for bridges, etc.? A: Partly funded; ROW acquisition to begin soon. Johnon noted that The Shops at Scott & Commerce have paid into traffic improvements.

Q: Future developments? A: Line A & Line B Fingers Flood Control projects are a 100 year plan; huge.

Q: Does the City offer City Hall workers free bus passes? A: No; no demand for such.

Q: Plans for other interchanges? A: First Newport and Scott improvements. McCall is in design. A flyover is

planned at Holland. Garbani was taken of the traffic map; not in the General Plan.

Q: Is Menifee adhering to the "74/79 Policy Area"? A: No, Menifee is not adhering to the 74/79 Policy Area.

Q: Inquired about the SE portion of the City, regarding density disputes; Bell Mountain. Wongs wanted medium & high-density; County set this area as 2-acre minimum. Johnson said there is potential for cooperation.

Unscheduled Guest: Mario Herrera, representing Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez.

Herrera gave a brief description of what is going on at the State Capitol. Noted that AB109 & Prop 47 both have resulted in an increase of crime. He noted that gun theft has been redefined from a felony to a misdemeanor. Melendez proposes to make that a felony. Same for 'date rape' drugs. He spoke of her ideas on Education, including ideas for a possible tax credit. Mentioned public safety efforts: Melendez will be hosting a Women's Self Defense Course, led by the trainer who worked on the "Karate Kid" movie. Murrieta Community Center, Feb. 24th.

New Business.

A. City of Hemet Action Item – Annexation No. 14-001

- The City of Hemet. Jeff Logan reported that the City Council approved a Resolution to apply to LAFCO to support the annexation of the area presently in the sphere of influence out to California.

B. Other New Business:

- Gregg Cowdery, representing the WTA, went to the Zone 4 Flood Control Hearing. This covered various lines. Gregg also noted that Senator Stone has asked that he supply information pertaining to the extensive recreation plans for the west side and east side of Diamond Valley Lake that MWD had promised. Noted that Stone proposes body contact for the Lake. Gregg mentioned Riverside County Recreation, involvement in trails along Salt Creek.

Old Business:

A. Update – Opal Hellweg, 3rd District Legislative Assistant

- Opal not present. No update this meeting.

B. Sheriff Dept.:

- Sergeant Guillen not present.

C. EMWD Updates:

- Phil Paule & Kevin Pearson spoke. Olive line on schedule and budget. Army Corps awarded a \$3.5M grant for desalination of ground water. EMWD is participating in Cal Fire training, which involves helicopters scooping water from open storage. Announced that next Saturday there will be a workshop on Smart Controls for landscape irrigation.

D. Highway 79 - Update on widening.

- Most of the second phase pavement was repaved to correct issues with profiles.

E. MWD Proposed Solar Farm:

- No news.

F. Land Use:

1. Downtown Core Planning: Consultant Max Nardoni is scheduled to be at the next Winchester Town Association Land Use Committee meeting.
2. Riverside County General Plan Amendment No. 960: No news on this item.

G. City of Hemet update: Jeff Logan reported on miscellaneous minor items.

H. City of Menifee

- Andy Domenigoni met with City Manager Rob Johnson; invited as our speaker; see Guest above.

I. Winchester Post Office:

- Growing number of issues & concerns. Proposed that we engage a guest speaker rep of USPO.

J. Other Old Business:

- A citizen suggested that the rural roads that were recently graveled have 15 MPH speed limit signs posted. This was countered with the reminder that those roads are not County maintained.

Open Forum:

1. Winchester Clean Up Day was announced. A free event. Typical conditions, spelled out in the flyers.

Next WMAC Meeting:

The next WMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2015, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.

Adjournment: The WMAC adjourned at 7:41 PM.