

Winchester/Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 9, 2016

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

Attendees:

Winchester MAC:

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

Ex Officio:

Opal Hellweg, Legislative Assistant for Third District Supervisor

Members of the Public

Call to Order: Call to Order by Andy Domenigoni at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve: Motion by Meredith; second by Sheldrake; approved, unanimous (Horecka not yet present).

Approval of May Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve: Motion by Logan; second by Sheldrake; approved, unanimous.

Guest Speaker: Bob Cullen, Flood Control Chief of Design & Construction Division

Mr. Cullen introduced himself and gave a brief bio, along with a brief history of Flood Control (FC). FC was created in 1945. Some 2,700 square miles is managed. Funds collected must be spent here. They handle planning and design. FC employs about 230. Zone 4 is the largest zone. He went on to describe various lines and stages in our area. 2013, Line A, Stage 3; 2014, Line A, Stages 4, 5, & 6. Briggs Basin is being built. They are getting the backbone in to accept future construction. A CFD was created to do the work. The County floated a \$20 million Bond for this. Progress is moving ahead. Cullen stated that Traffic Control will begin June 10th, in the area around Hwy 74 at Briggs Road. They hope to be out of the area before school starts back up at the high school nearby, though may not be. The work under SH 74 will be done by the cut-&-cover method, which will result in closures. Jack-&-bore is not practical, due to shallow ducts. Two-way traffic will be maintained, one lane each way, jogged as needed. That portion will take about two weeks. Precast sections will be used to help reduce construction time. This will likely run through mid-August. Cullen also mentioned a couple of other projects, including: Homeland MDP, Green Acres MDP, Winchester MDP. Hemet is putting together the Hemet MDP West (around the vernal ponds, etc.). Also the Green Acres Dam, above Hwy 74. As they can, they have started acquiring acreage from willing sellers in certain areas. What's next? Cullen stated that there are seven zones, each a separate tax area. There are three zone commissioners for each zone. There are annual zone budget hearings. Written requests are made for improvements. At present, the Briggs Road Design did not make the cut. Certain projects are already in the Master Plan. In a given year, some projects get funded, some don't. He listed a few examples. He also noted that the improvements for Salt Creek were in the Master Plan for some 30 years. They ended up being approved and built in part due to locals hounding Flood Control, expressing the need. He also noted that in some cases development drives things: The developer working near Line 4 must execute Line 4.

Cullen fielded a few questions:

- Q: Will the Briggs Basin be made a field for play? A: No. (Citizen noted it would be nice to set up such projects so that they might serve dual duty, should a champion arise to fund and manage a play field.)
- Q: Who is the new Chief? A: Jason Uhley.
- Q: Citizen noted specific areas that wash out due to developments done by others. A: Cullen stated that sometimes leapfrog development has unpleasant side effects. Not much can be done. Attend hearings!
- Q: Are you going to keep all the roads dirt roads? A: Flood Control just does plumbing. Developers will fill in the gaps, as projects are built out. The situation varies.
- Q: Will Zone 4 improvements all be underground? A: Portions will be underground, some open channel.

New Business.

- B. None.

Old Business:

- A. Update – Opal Hellweg, 3rd District Legislative Assistant:
 - The Hemet Ryan Air Show was a big hit, though temperatures were very high. The Fire Planes flew, working to put out fires in various areas. They were dedicated to the memory of Jim Venable (our former 3rd District Supervisor), who was instrumental in establishing and running this very important service from this base. Some family was present, including Mike.
 - Third Quarter Budget hearings are coming up on the 20th. 1.5 days, wherein 19 departments will make their cases for funding. The budget is around \$5.3 billion, \$4.4 billion of which are ‘spent funds;’ so the Board of Supervisors has oversight over about \$800 million. 76% of the budget is for Public Safety. The KP&S Report is an audit looking for efficiencies, hoping to ‘do more with less.’
 - There will not be a Supervisors Meeting next month (July).
- B. Sheriff Dept.;
 - Sergeant Kevin Lamb reported. Lt. Chavez and the Captain were not available this evening. Lamb listed the crime numbers for calls: 170 in April, 213 in May. (Homicide 0; rape 0, robbery 0, assault 5, burglary 4, vehicle theft 1, larceny 1. Etc. Arsons were 0; he noted that the recent fires, which may have been arson, are being investigated by Cal Fire and the Feds as lead agencies (not the Sheriff); thus the 0 value. Lamb remarked that our area is quiet compared to some. For example, Perris gets that many calls in a typical day!
 - Lamb reminded us that Mail Theft is still a big issue. Not much that can be done. Don’t be a victim. Getting a post office box may be a good solution for some folk.
 - Q: Citizens brought up various new dispensaries that have popped up, including: SW corner of Ninth & Wentworth (armed guards seen there). Lamb reminded people that the Sheriff has the MET: Marijuana Eradication Team. Code Enforcement can be called at any time. A citizen noted that Code Enforcement is already aware of this operation.
 - Q: What was the fire in Juniper Flats on Tuesday? A: Please inquire with the Fire Department.
- C. EMWD Updates; by Kevin Pearson reporting:
 - On June 1st, the Board restored Outdoor Water Budgets. There is still no Tier 3. Still in drought, so please conserve. The Winchester Pond Site Recovery Project is still some months out. They fielded a few minor questions from attendees.
- D. Highway 79 (realignment) update.
 - No update.
- E. Land Use:
 - La Ventana Ranch Project GPA 1129 – TPC Hearing 6/1/2016.
Mr. Nagar gave a prepared slide presentation of this project. He noted that he had played a part in the Flood Control improvement efforts years ago, before the bottom fell out of the market. Fred Good from the Perris High School District was also present. The site is at Garbani & Wickerd, and will be adjacent to High School #4. Nagar listed some of the project-provided benefits, including infrastructure improvements ahead of development, support of the High School, etc. He noted that they will put in twice the park areas required. They will also assist with funding the Scott Road / 215 Interchange improvements. In addition to conservation fees, they will pay \$746,000 toward conservation. Nagar stated they have promised to contribute some one million in funds with one year of approval, and \$1.8 million in excess for schools, as part of a package worth some \$5 million for the local community. Nagar went over the property layout, including its features such as parks, a veteran’s memorial, an area for special needs children, etc. Also open space, buffers, views from various existing homes on parcels outside, trails, connections to regional trails, etc. Those interested in details are encouraged to research this on their own. The school district applauded the efforts put forth by this project. Their relationship with the project goes back to 1988. The two fielded questions from attendees, regarding funding for the school, what might happen if Menifee unifies, what the bus travel distances might be, etc. Q: Number of houses? A: About 511. Q: Annexation of Heritage? A: Heritage is in Romoland School District. Other questions about funding and such. The WTA wrote a letter regarding this pro-

ject, which was read aloud. A motion to accept the letter was made by Meredith, seconded by Logan. The WHMAC voted unanimously to forward said letter on to Supervisor Washington.

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- GPA 1120 Housing Element and Downtown Winchester. The WTA sent comment letter on 5/30/2016, regarding the Draft EIR. At the County meeting: Sheldrake was not present. Gregg Cowdery spoke. The County hired a consultant to review the EIR. The WTA sent a 9 page letter. County responded swiftly: They wish to talk with us. A meeting has tentatively been set for June 30th, at the Planning offices. Also: Planning said that they will give us a list of applicants for zone changes in our area.
- Winchester-Homeland General Plan Application: Status: Looking for funding from the County for studies in the County Initiated Plan.
- Proposed K-1 Speed CUP 03733
A cursory review was made of this proposal. The proponent was not present. The proponent will present this project to us at a later date, TBD, at which time we will learn more about the project. Initial concerns include traffic, noise, crime, flood control.

F. City of Hemet update:

- Jeff Logan. No update.

G. City of Menifee

- Andy Domenigoni and Jeff Logan: No update.

H. Other Old Business:

- None.

Open Forum:

1. None.

Next WMAC Meeting:

The next WMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 11, 2016, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.
No meeting in July!

Adjournment: The WHMAC adjourned at 8:37 PM.