

Winchester/Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 14, 2018

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

Attendees:

Winchester MAC:

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

Ex Officio:

Opal Hellweg, Legislative Assistant for Third District Supervisor

Members of the Public

Call to Order: Call to Order by Andy Domenigoni at 6:32 PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve agenda, amended as follows: Omit guest speaker Jerry Hagan, who has been called away in response to the fire in Anza. Motion by Sheldrake; second by Logan. Approved unanimously.

Approval of April Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve April meeting minutes: Motion by Sheldrake; second by Logan. Approved unanimously.

Guest Speaker: No guest speaker (see above).

Old Business:

A. General County update; Opal Hellweg, 3rd District Legislative Assistant:

- Opal introduced Sarah Rodriguez. Mentioned the fires underway. Brought info regarding FY 2018: Riv. Co. is 4th largest county. Growth rate is up 19.5%. Median home price now \$354k. Overall budget: \$5.6B. \$781M in discretionary funds (general purpose). Most is spent on public safety. \$18M interest. Riverside County is 125 years old. At its start, Riv. Co. had just 14k inhabitants; today, 2.4 million. The state had promised \$17M for Child Support Services; Riv Co got \$3M. Pensions are still a major issues: Massive pension liability: \$282M. The Sheriff asked for an extra \$5M.
- Sarah: The Clinton Keith extension is expected to open on the 27th or 30th. It will be open to automobile traffic after the gala opening. The ne Cois M. Byrd Detention Center will be dedicated on June 20th, at 10:30 AM. Cause for celebration!
- The proposed Cannabis Ordinance is working its way through the process. Expected to go to the Planning Commission June 20th. They expect two hearings, with much public attendance. There will be a Town Hall Meeting on the subject on July 19th, in Anza. Details on line.
- Gregg Cowdery commented that the County did a wonderful job of swiftly rebuilding the damaged sidewalk in front of Winchester Store on Simpson Road.
- Q (A.D.): He was at the Director's meeting the night before. Thomas Ketchum: The traffic now is terrible. With huge new developments dumping onto Hwy 215, millions of square feet yet to come: What traffic mitigation measures will be imposed on new development? A: Set as conditions, fees, etc.
- Sarah: "Has anyone tried the new App for reporting graffiti & dumping? Yes! A couple of citizen reported that they had. The illegal dumping was cleaned-up swiftly. In one case, 40 tires were removed. At another case, the remediation took longer than two days, due to remoteness. Overall: Well received!

B. Sheriff Department update. No report.

C. EMWD Updates; Kevin Pearson:

- The State said that there is no water tax in their budget. Yet the tax issue is still going on. EMWD still opposes the proposed Water Tax as presently written. Warning: There is much misinformation being promulgated on social media. E.g. new water use regulations and water limits, directly effecting personal use, etc. Not true. Rather, there are some new regulations that apply at the agency level, in an effort to get all agencies aligned. Most websites and FB: False.
- Q (A.D.): Tap water tax? A: Two separate issues. The legislation didn't go anywhere. But the state is still pursuing a tax. Tap water budgets are the limits that promote responsible use.

- Q (A.D.): What about water meters, or lack thereof? Well, some cities are finally catching up: e.g. Sacramento now has 85% metered. Where there is no data, there is no incentive!
- Q: (A.D.): If we're planning to 'grow' our area in the future, we need water and sewer infrastructure; whereas we presently have hardly any. Is there anything that EMWD can do to help 'jumpstart' development? A: Perhaps so! Take for example Wine Country, near Temecula: All wineries were on septic systems. One exploded. The locals had wanted sewer service, via a main on Rancho California Rd. EMWD partnered to help finance the large project. The challenge of such projects is not such much an engineering matter as it is a finance matter. In that case, EMWD was able to be an economic "push start," to the tune of \$30 million. We are all a part of EMWD.
- Q: What about storm water? A: The responsibility of Flood Control. Still, we ought to be capturing what we can. All agreed that coordinating as many utilities as we can, within reason, is a good thing.
- Director Phil Paule: MWD wants the two tunnels. Voted to support the two tunnels, \$11B. The Central Valley pulled out (won't have access), but MWD decided to carry on regardless. MWD views this as essential for a 'secure water supply.' This is 5-10 years away. This is seen as "a conveyance, transportation & security issue." There are 26 agencies. The vote was close. San Diego & LA against; they have higher clout, based on property values.
- D. Code Enforcement: Not present; no report.
- E. Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez' Office Field Representative: Not present; no report.
- F. Senator Stone District Director, Glenn Miller: Not present; no report.
- G. Highway 79: No news.
- H. Land Use update; Cindy Domenigoni:
 - The WTA LUC (Land Use Committee) had a meeting with the County today. They are moving along. They were summarizing information gathered at our March meeting. Next up: Coordination with Flood Control, Water, Transportation, etc. The next local Workshop will likely be in September. The MAC will be dark in July; the announcement may come in August. Cindy said there are some minor changes. Some schemes are yet far off; the idea of a rail station, e.g.; yet at least there is some infrastructure there, and that helps. But much depends on what happens in Winchester, how it builds out. For the General Plan, etc.: There will have to be a complete CEQA report, including the EIR. The requirements include the listing of Alternatives: 'Preferred' alternative and others.
 - No news on the progress of the go-karts project.
 - Upcoming meetings with the County will include transportation, infrastructure, parks & open space, flood control, water, electrical distribution, etc. Later, we will be working on: The Design Guidelines, Density Transfer policies & guidelines, etc.
 - Q (A.D.): What about the Soboba property? A: We specifically asked the County to not designate use of that land: The Soboba people ought to determine the uses for their tribal lands.
- 1) Winchester Ranch Marketplace: No new news.
- 2) Winchester –Homeland General Plan Amendment #1207: In process. No new news.
- 3) Stone Creek (TR 36365): Pending TPC hearings. No new news.
- 4) Villages North (TR 36504): To Board of Supervisors. No new news.
- I. City of Hemet update; Jeff Logan: Some changes in leadership. Updating the City Limits Plan, and Sphere of Influence. Now a new thing: Land up to SH 79 designated as "Planning Area," which may be a cause of concern for our community.
- J. City of Menifee update: Andy Domenigoni & Jeff Logan: The mayor passed away.
- K. Other Old Business: What is the status of Emerald Acres, in Hemet? (Kim Wortman.) South of Florida Ave., west of California; 300+ acres. Processing continues in the county. Hemet was to annex the area.

Open Forum:

- Mary Plum: The Fire Dept spoke at the WTA, covering annual weed abatement, etc.

Next WMAC Meeting:

- No meeting in July.
- The Next WHMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 9, 2018, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.

Adjournment: The WHMAC adjourned at 7:30 PM.