

Winchester/Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 12, 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 6:36 PM.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Approval of September Meeting Minutes:

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

Guest Speakers:

- Zuzzette Bricker – Riverside County Emergency Management Dept.
- Claudia Steiding – Riverside County Transportation Dept.
- Stuart McKibben – Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District.

The guest speakers put on a PowerPoint presentation. They covered, among other things:

Flood Control handles channels, dams, levies. Cities handle streets & culverts. Rural property owners are responsible for their own sites. El Nino was discussed: Be prepared, not just for El Nino, but all emergencies. Flood Control is preparing: Inspecting facilities, performing mock event drills, pre-positioning rock & equipment, coordinating with contractors, public outreach (brochures, websites, and presentations like this). They are also coordinating with other agencies and groups (like ours, e.g.).

Homeowners: Flood insurance is available. There is an interactive map by FEMA on line.

Claudia, Zuzzette & Mary Ortez presented on preparedness. In the County, the County is responsible for what is in the ROW; stuff blocking storm drain inlets, culverts, etc. Code Enforcement is assisting. Identifying at-risk properties, NPDES violations, etc. 100 properties identified, 75% notified so far. The goal is to communicate the higher risks, advise the owners, educate re NPDES, etc. Noted that nothing but water may leave a property: No pollutants. Noted California Fish & Wildlife: beware of disturbing habitat when clearing debris and such. Be mindful of blue-line watercourses. Comply with laws.

County of Riverside Emergency Management Dept presented. Zuzzette Bricker. Included: Staging and storing sand. Up to 50 sandbags per resident are available for use.

During an event: Don't go sightseeing! Avoid unnecessary trips. Don't go around barricades. Don't cross low-water crossings with flowing water. In emergency, or to report clogged waterways, call 911.

Before an event: Be prepared. Make an emergency kit. See website for details. Have a plan, including a predetermined meeting place. Secure important documents. Have a communication plan with others. Stay informed. See county websites: www.rivcoready.org.

Opened floor to questions & comments:

Q: If in danger? A: Call 911.

C: Red Cross has used the Community Center in the past.

C: Dirt roads: Fire Dept may not be able to respond over washed-out or poorly maintained roads.

Q: Is there \$ for crank radios? A: No. Opal mentioned that County has some kits (no radios). Dollar Store!

The audience thanked the representatives from Riverside County for their presentation.

New Business.

A. Other: None.

Old Business:

- A. Update – Opal Hellweg, 3rd District Legislative Assistant:
 - Quiet at the County this time of year.
 - Lobbying to keep assets in our County: March ARB, Norco Naval Weapons Site.
 - The Riverside County Budget is going to print. The highest costs are Public Safety.
 - The French Valley Air Show was a big success: 30,000 attended. 600 in wine & brew: all sold out.
 - The next air show will be back at Hemet Ryan, in the spring.
 - Advised seniors to be wary of new scams: Unsolicited telephone calls for insurance coverage.
- B. Sheriff Dept.:
 - Lt. Fellows reported: Nothing significant. Suspects in custody over the thefts of pickup trucks.
- C. EMWD Updates:
 - Not present.
 - Winchester Pond Site Recovery – Phase I Project: Tabled until January.
- D. Highway 79 (realignment) update.
 - No update.
- E. Land Use:
 - Downtown Core Planning: Waiting to get a meeting with the Planner who will be working with the Housing Element for our area.
 - A Joint Land Use Meeting is scheduled for Nov. 18th, 2015, 2:30 PM, at Cindy Domengoni’s office. This meeting will cover the La Ventana project; reviewing the EIR, etc.
 - Riverside County General Plan Amendment No. 960, Board of Supervisors hearing, November 10, 2015. Closed public comments. Next hearing December 8th. Will go on the agenda in January.
 - La Ventana project: The Draft EIR was circulated.
- F. City of Hemet update: Jeff Logan reported on misc. minor items.
 - Annexation 14-001, 995 acres east of California Street, which the WTA Land Use Committee is following. LAFCO approved this. A Protest Hearing will be scheduled in December. While the annexation was approved at the hearing, residents in the actual area have a last chance to dissent. Logan noted that there was no discussion of further expansion of the sphere of influence at that hearing. Some off-the record discussion mentioned expanding out to the future-realigned Hwy 79.
- G. City of Meniffee
 - No update.
- H. Other Old Business:
 - Winchester Town Association Fundraiser: Christmas Meeting, December 3rd, 2015. Tickets for sale.
 - Other: None.

Open Forum:

- 1. Opal Hellweg noted that the State of the County address is coming up. Stay tuned for report in January.

Next WMAC Meeting:

The next WMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 2015, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.

Adjournment: The WMAC adjourned at 7:48 PM.