

SANTA ROSA VALLEY MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
November 19, 2009

**The Santa Rosa Valley MAC held a Meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2009
at 6:00 p.m. at the Rancho Santa Rosa Property Owners' Association Club House,
11701 East Las Posas Road, Camarillo, CA 93012**

1. Call to order

Rosemary Allison called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. MAC members Janis Gardner and Mark Burley were present. Ruth Means arrived a few minutes after 6:03 p.m. and Don Shubert was absent.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Shirley Fortney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Agenda Review

The agenda was revised to change Item 8i to Item 9d.

4. Approval of Minutes

The October minutes were revised to clarify language under Item 7, Don Shubert and Mark Burley comments. Mark Burley moved to approve the revised minutes and Rosemary Allison made the second. Motion passed 3/0.

5. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

In Supervisor Parks' absence, Janet Wall told the MAC that the County of Ventura paid the City of Thousand Oaks \$196,000 so that residents living in the unincorporated areas near Thousand Oaks can continue to use the Thousand Oaks library at no cost. She said the City of Thousand Oaks is the only city in the County that charges to use their library. She also told the MAC that the Watershed Protection District agreed to attend the next meeting to explain the FEMA map revisions and to update the MAC regarding the 2008 FEMA appeal. The MAC requested that WPD be invited to the January 21 meeting. Janet Wall also pointed out that copies of the Board of Supervisors Public Hearing Notice for Tuesday, November 24, for the Wildwood Stables Estates project were available.

6. Public Comments

Stan Ullman addressed the MAC regarding maintenance issues at 3003 Redondo when the property was abandoned earlier this year. Mr. Ullman showed photographs that illustrated the maintenance issues that were finally abated. Rosemary Allison thanked Mr. Ullman for the presentation and agreed that there should be a more efficient way to make owners of foreclosed properties more accountable.

7. Council Comments on Issues Not on the Agenda

None.

8. Information Items:

a. Camrosa Water District Presentation

Gene West told the MAC that he has served on the Camrosa Water District Board for 3 years. He said he is one of five members who set policy for the District and that all five members live near Santa Rosa Road. Mr. West stated that the Master Plan includes a rate increase, noting that Camrosa's priorities are not only delivering safe, high quality water but also rate equity; i.e., all ratepayers pay the same rate. He said Camrosa water comes from the Sacramento Delta area through Metropolitan Water District (MWD) and Calleguas Municipal Water District. MWD raised their rates 21% in the last year and Calleguas raised the surcharge 27%. Those costs must be passed on to the customers. The two problems that contributed to the cost increase are the drought throughout the State and the "regulatory drought" which are the restrictions that ultimately protect an endangered fish. Mr. West stressed that the cost of water piped into homes

in January 2010 would be one cent for the same amount of water a customer would purchase in a 16-oz. plastic bottle if purchased in a 24-pack. Mr. West said that Camrosa is the only water district in the County that has not placed restrictions on water use. In addition, he told the MAC that when the Board votes on the increase on December 9, Camrosa's water rates will still be the lowest in Ventura County.

Frank Royer, General Manager of Camrosa Water District reiterated that Camrosa's primary concern is high quality service. Mr. Royer's slideshow presentation showed that 68% of the water comes from outside Ventura County and 32% is groundwater. Because the nitrate levels in the groundwater are high, the water is blended with imported water. Mr. Royer said that 2006 was the last year that Camrosa received the amount of water they requested from the State Water Project. In 2007, the amount was cut 40%. In 2008 a legal decree to protect the endangered Delta Smelt further reduced the amount of water being delivered to Southern California. In addition, discounted water for agriculture was no longer available. Camrosa asked local growers for a voluntary reduction. In February 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger declared a state drought. Metropolitan is currently receiving 40% of the amount of water they need and in April 2009 they raised their rates 20.8%. Mr. Royer said that in 1991, Camrosa imposed restrictions. Today Camrosa is looking for "new water." Non-potable water is currently used in agriculture. In 1997 Camrosa modernized their water reclamation plant, and in 2002 they created Conejo Creek Diversion structure. In 2004 Camrosa was able to deliver recycled water to CSUCI for landscaping. He said Leisure Village uses non-potable water for their landscaping. Mr. Royer told the MAC that costs have gone up 49% in 4 years. He said Metropolitan does not have to hold a hearing to raise water costs; Camrosa does. Seventy-one percent of Camrosa's budget is non-discretionary. In 1997 Camrosa had 30 employees; today they have 20.

Mr. Royer said that with the new rates, if approved, small lots (approximately 1/10 acre) will pay \$8.00 more a month; medium lots who currently pay \$113 to \$136 a month will see an increase of \$23/month and large lots who use 900,000 gallons/year will pay roughly \$46/month extra. He noted that Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Moorpark and Camarillo rates are much higher. Mr. Royer summarized by telling the MAC that their 2015 goal is to decrease their needs for state water even more. He said huge savings will be available to those who get non-potable water. The Camrosa Water District expects to have the revised Master Plan available in January 2010.

Mark Burley requested that Camrosa consider allowing wells for properties that will not receive recycled water under the Master Plan. Mr. Royer said he would take the suggestion to the Board.

b. Santa Rosa Synchronized Signal Update

Kevin Cannon told the MAC that the synchronized signals are still being finessed and that all signs will be reviewed mid-2010.

c. Moorpark Vineyard Church Update

Janet Wall read an e-mail from Thousand Oaks planner Ed Rinke which stated that there is no information on the church plans available at this time because the pre-application filed was rejected by Thousand Oaks as incomplete. Mr. Rinke said the Church hired a new architect; however, new plans have not been submitted.

d. Norwegian Grade Update

Janet Wall told the MAC that the upgrade is still planned for Summer 2010 and that Janis Gardner's concern about the project extending into the beginning of the 2010 school year had been transmitted to Tom Pizza, City of Thousand Oaks, Public Works Department.

e. Las Posas Bridge Over the Arroyo

Mark Burley told the MAC that it is not official that the County will waive fees. He said John Johs continues to research using recycled plastic "I" beams. They are reviewing the plans with the bridge consultant.

f. Timeline for McCrea Park

Mark Burley said he submitted a letter to Jim Friedl, General Manager, Conejo Recreation and Park District on November 6, 2009 requesting that the MAC be included in any and all phases of the future of McCrea Ranch and that they add the MAC to their notification list (via Supervisor Parks' office).

g. Graffiti Removal Team Update

Kevin Cannon asked if any graffiti had been spotted in the channel. Gusie Woodfil will send Kevin a location of graffiti in the channel.

h. NP-Moorpark SCE Transmission Line

Janet Wall told the MAC that Supervisor Parks had succeeded in getting the PUC hearing on the SCE project pulled from the November 20th agenda. She said it is on hold to allow time to work with SCE. An update will be provided at the next meeting. The MAC expressed appreciation for Supervisor Parks' efforts.

9. Action Items:

a. Letter to Camrosa Water District

Janis Gardner made a motion that Mark Burley write and submit a letter to Camrosa Water District requesting (1) a timeline which provides the areas and completion dates for recycled water in Santa Rosa Valley and (b) permission for homeowners who are not part of the recycled water project to drill wells on their own properties until recycled water is delivered to all properties. Rosemary Allison made the second. Motion passed 3/1 with Ruth Means abstaining.

b. Cancellation of December Meeting

Rosemary Allison moved to cancel the December meeting and Janis Gardner made the second. Motion passed 4/0.

c. Wedding Venue at 10350 Santa Rosa Road

Rosemary Allison said that instead of 60 events per year, the MAC could suggest that the venue be limited to 32 events per year. She also said that events should finish at 10:00 p.m., with the clean-up crew leaving by 11:00 p.m. Mark Burley moved that the MAC recommendation is to request a restriction on hours so that events end at 10:00 p.m. and the clean-up crew is done by 11:00 p.m. The motion also recommended that the CUP be reviewed after one year and that the Perlman/Mimaki venue at 10350 Santa Rosa Road have the same restrictions as applied to the Maravilla wedding venue. Rosemary Allison seconded the motion. Motion passed 3/0. Ruth Means abstained.

d. Santa Rosa Valley MAC Recommendations to County Planning Staff

Mark Burley made a motion to recommend to staff at the December 2, 2009 meeting that all future development in the Santa Rosa Valley:

- (1) design the properties to allow the ability to own horses;
- (2) design the properties to include access to the trail system; and
- (3) include public trails to the Santa Rosa Valley Trail Plan.

Rosemary Allison made the second to the motion. Motion passed 4/0.

10. Future Agenda Items

Information Items:

- Moorpark Vineyard Church
- Las Posas Bridge Over the Arroyo Update
- Graffiti Team Update
- NP-Moorpark SCE Transmission Line Update
- Wedding Venue at 10350 Santa Rosa Road Update

Meeting adjourned to Thursday, January 21, 2010