

**South County Advisory Council
Minutes for the February 23, 2009 Meeting**

Chairman Richard Wright called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called by Recording Secretary Elaine Thomas and a quorum was declared:

Members Present:

Reggie Dion	Dan Gaddis
El-Jay Hansson	Istar Holliday
Vince McCarthy	Mike Murphy
Elaine Thomas	Harry Walls
Dan Woodson	Richard Wright

Members Absent:

Rick Dean, excused absence	Stephanie Franks
Phil Henry	Mike Winn

Approval or Deletions to Agenda:

1. Mr. Gary Larson will present the property proposal on 146 N. Thompson. This will be added to New Business.
2. El-Jay Hansson requested a letter be sent regarding proposed County budget cuts to public safety. This item will be added to New Business.

Approval of Minutes:

Harry Walls moved the minutes be approved, second by Istar Holliday.
Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Chairman Dick Wright gave the Treasurer's Report in the absence of Treasurer Stephanie Franks.

Board Meetings	\$712.32	Dump Fees	\$1,885.76
Library	\$2,182.01	Total	\$4,780.09

Harry Walls moved, seconded by Dan Woodson, that the report be accepted.
Motion passed.

Comments from the Chair: Chairman Wright announced the resignation of Kevin Beauchamp from the SCAC Board and noted that the Agriculture Representative position is presently open.

The quarterly meeting of County Advisory Council Chairs conducted by the Planning Department was held on February 20th. The budget was discussed and it was announced that a \$30 million budget gap exists for San Luis Obispo County. It was indicated that the Planning Department currently had 14 vacant positions and may lose an additional 16 positions depending on whether funds from the stimulus package are received. Additionally, Planning Director Vic Holanda was concerned that the Department was anticipating the retirement of 15 to 20 experienced members within the next three years.

A new County Website will be up and running by July 2009 which will be more user friendly and allow the public to directly comment.

Chairman Wright reminded members that applications for SCAC Council positions must be filled out and turned in to Mr. Ed Eby by March 9, 2009 prior to the Town Hall Meeting.

Correspondence:

Mr. Alfredo Athie, a neighbor adjacent to the proposed Crosno project had written requesting that the scheduled hearing on the proposed plan be conducted in both Spanish and English since there are a number of neighbors who are Spanish speaking. Since the letter did not contain Mr. Athie's contact information, this issue was referred to El Jay Hansson for subsequent contact and resolution.

A notice was received indicating that a County hearing to discuss the draft EIR on the Cold Canyon Landfill expansion would be held on February 26, 2009

Community Presentations:

Cal Fire Representative Brent Lee reported for Battalion Chief Bill Fisher:

Nipomo Station #20 - 99 calls

5 Fires 10 Vehicle Accidents

50 Medical 34 Other

Mesa Station #22 - 60 calls

8 Fires 6 Vehicle Accidents

24 Medical 22 Other

Training: Nipomo Paid Call Firefighters drilled on pumping, hydraulics and hose evolutions

Prevention: A Chipping Program is scheduled for February 26 – 27, 2009 for the Suey Creek Area. The Fire Safety Council has approved funding for the Nipomo Area Chipping Project working with the CCC for dates in April and May. Both stations are focusing on Prefire Plans and Business inspections.

Administration: The State of California has furloughed all Cal Fire Employees two days a month to help with the state budget problems. Cal Fire Offices will be closed the first and third Fridays of each month. There will be no fire station closures.

New Station 20 is now undergoing finish work and will be finished sometime in April 2009 with the dedication in July.

San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Department Commander Brian Hascall reported the following:

On Feb. 13, 2009, six shots were fired at Lopez High School. No students were present at the time and the shots hit the building. The Sheriff's Department is asking for anyone with information on this crime to please report it or call Crime Stoppers: Phone: 549-STOP

Commander Hascall reported on the cock fighting ring on Joshua Rd. in Nipomo. Over 2000 birds were euthanized by the Humane Society. Five men were arrested and one was deported back to Mexico. This was the same operation that was broken up in 2006 and restarted when publicity died down. The Sheriff's Department will keep a close eye on this property and is still seeking other locations where cock fighting may be taking place.

Fraud continues to be a problem. Commander Hascall cautioned the audience to be careful of emails that ask for personal information or scams asking for bail money for relatives who are in jail. Also aggressive door to door salesmen have been making the rounds in our area and appear to be trying to case homes.

California Highway Patrol: no representative present

SLO County Planning: no representative present

Parks Commissioner: no representative present

Nipomo Community Services District: Mr. Jim Harrison reported no news.

Public Comment:

Ms. Jeanne Taylor reported that she had attended a seminar on earthquake safety.

Mr. Ed Eby, SCAC 2009 Election Committee Chairman, announced the following:

Applications for positions on the SCAC Board are due by Mar. 9, 2009, prior to the Town Hall Meeting that evening at 6:30 p.m. at the NCSD Building.

March 16, 2009 – The Election will be held from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

March 23, 2009 – The new Council members will be seated.

The following Council members are up for re-election:

Vince McCarthy	Dan Gaddis
Harry Walls	Elaine Thomas
Dan Woodson	El-Jay Hansson
Reggie Dion	Stephanie Franks
Mike Murphy	

The following members have one more year of their two year terms to serve:

Istar Holliday	Richard Wright	Rick Dean
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Old Business:

Crosno – MUP DRC2007- 00161 at 819 Sheridan Lane re: modification of a paint booth and metal warehouse. El-Jay Hansson reported the property adjoins a residential neighborhood and neighbors are upset with this proposed change. Istar Holliday noted that the owner made a number of verbal promises that would have made this proposal more acceptable; however she would like to see these promises in writing. Istar Holliday will send another letter to the Subdivision Review Board and also a copy to Supervisor Katcho Achadjian and the Health Department with the noted recommendations.

Review of “Clustering” letter: Istar Holliday read a proposed letter noting some problems with Clustering especially in agricultural land. Discussion followed. Istar Holliday was asked to revise the letter and bring it back for review at the March 2009 SCAC meeting.

Transfer Development Credits (TDC): Mr. Dan Gaddis discussed TDC's in reference to how and where they are to be used in our area. Discussion followed.

Huasna Oil Drilling letter: Istar Holliday noted that a hearing on this project will be held March 26th and she urged that a complete EIR be conducted, as recommended in our December 16th letter to the Board of Supervisors, rather than the mitigated negative declaration subsequently requested by the Planning Department. Discussion followed. El-Jay Hansson moved, seconded by Dan Gaddis that a new letter be sent to the Board of Supervisors and the SLO Planning Commission with this recommendation. Motion passed.

New Business:

Mr. Greg Larson, owner of the property at 146 N. Thompson Rd. requested a waiver for the curb, gutter and sidewalk requirement in front of his property. Discussion followed. Harry Walls moved, second by Dan Gaddis recommending approval of the waiver. The motion carried, 6 in favor, with 4 against.

Draft Framework for Planning Amendment: This proposed amendment is calling for changes to the General Plan. Discussion followed. It was determined that further study on this amendment is needed. Harry Walls moved that committees be set up to study different sections of this proposal. Istar Holliday seconded the motion. Motion passed. The following sub-committees were established with their Chairpersons:

1. Coastal Zone: Istar Holliday and El-Jay Hansson;
2. Inland Zone: Harry Walls
3. Transportation: Dan Woodson.

Phil Henry, as the public relations representative, will be asked to distribute a media announcement requesting the public to join the sub-committees to assist in the review.

Resource Management Systems Report – Since Mike Winn was to lead this discussion and was not present, this report was tabled. However, Mr. John Snyder requested and permitted to present information on water planning. Discussion followed.

Public Safety concerns: El-Jay Hansson requested we individually write to the Board of Supervisors requesting that they not cut public safety positions, noting that this is not the place to cut the budget.

Committee Reports:

Land Use Committee: Istar Holliday indicated that she attended a community meeting at Nipomo High School in which new taxes were discussed to close a funding gap to construct the Willow Road interchange with the 101 Fwy. County staff is proposing three options for a Prop 218 election that would require property owners be taxed to fund the interchange. Two of the proposals would allow for the tax to be continued after the project is completed in order to fund other projects.

Traffic and Circulation: Mr. Dan Woodson reported that another attempt is being made to install speed bumps on Las Flores.

Meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m. – Next meeting: March 23, 2009