

Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 8, 2022

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

Attendees:

Winchester-Homeland MAC:

- James Horecka, Secretary; Gary Long; Jimmy Sheldrake; Thomas Laury. Absent: Andy Domenigoni
Members of the Public.

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

Flag Salute. Introductions.

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion-to-approve Agenda by Sheldrake; second by Laury. Approved unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 11, 2022:

Motion-to-approve by Sheldrake; second by Long. Approved unanimously.

Presentation by Robyn Brock, Deputy Chief of Staff, on behalf of 3rd-District Supervisor Chuck Washington:

- The Fairview Fire continues. For official updates on the fire, go to: RivCoReady.org.
- This wildfire does not affect Winchester yet. A storm is expected; rain would help, but wind would not.
- You can sign up for alerts from RivCoReady! Via your email address or cell number for text messages.
- Robyn met with Transportation regarding the desired traffic signal at SH 79 & Haddock Street. Winchester Road is a State Highway, so it falls under the jurisdiction of CalTrans. She said Transportation floated-up the request.
- Robyn told us that Supervisor Washington was first appointed in 2015, when former Supervisor Jeff Stone was elected a senator. Then Washington was elected as Supervisor in 2016. She reminded us that Supervisor Washington is here to help. Robyn Brock handles Land Use, but we can reach out to her for other issues as well. Contact info as follows: 951-955-1030. Email: District3email@RivCo.org They are there to help!
- Robyn reminded all that the MAC serves as eyes and ears of our Supervisor.
- The UCI fund is for unincorporated areas of the County.
- This Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors will be reviewing updating the ordinance governing short-term rentals. There has been a dramatic increase in STRs, in part due to popular platforms. New rules and regulations are being considered.
- A Letter from the WTA and citizens was presented regarding the need for the traffic signal at SH 79 & Haddock, dated September 6th, 2022. Sheldrake made a motion that this letter be forwarded to Supervisor Washington. Thomas Laury seconded the motion. Vote called: Unanimous. The MAC will forward the letter to the Supervisor.
- Q: Could speed bumps be installed in the interim? A: No. Bumps can't be used for this.
- Robyn mentioned that certain markers ('warrants') must be met to show a traffic signal is needed. "Proximity to a School" is one such warrant. The first step would be a Study. This is a lengthy process.
- Q: Can other measures be used to contain cars to lanes, like barricades? A: No; cannot place K-rails here.
- Robyn stated that she notified Mark Lancaster in Transportation right away.
- C: Jeff Logan reminded all that a traffic signal is needed at SH 74 & Sultanas, too. There was a death recently. Robyn noted that anyone can submit a request via the website of the Transportation Department.
- All thanked Robyn Brock for her presentation and discussion.

Old Business:

- A. General County update; Robyn Brock:
 - See above for her presentation this meeting.
- B. Sheriff Department update; Deputy Pendleton:
 - Not available, due to the Fairview Fire. No report.
- C. Cal Fire Winchester Station #34:
 - Not available, due to the Fairview Fire. No report.

D. EMWD Updates: Alma Ramirez, and Phil Paule

- The majority of California is now in a severe drought. Shun nonfunctional turf!
- Convert your turf to more water-wise landscaping! Programs are available.
- There will be an Open House on October 15th, at headquarters. She left flyers in the back.
- October 20th: French Valley Town Hall meeting, at the new French Valley Library.
- C: There's water in California, but it's allowed to run to the ocean. R: Yes, water is going to the Bay. But we get our water from the Colorado River via those aqueducts, not northern California.
- Q: Is there a proposal to place water meters on private wells? A: Paule responded that EMWD is actively involved in governmental affairs; part of what they do is keeping the public informed.
- Q: With rainfall so low, can we capture more runoff? A: Water districts are working on ideas to capture and store even more rainwater. Paule noted that the large reservoirs in our area hold water for use by others. To be more resilient, locally, we can enhance our water infrastructure and storage; but infrastructure is expensive & can take a very long time to realize. Paule noted that last year, EMWD's allocation of state water was zero. Storm water capture and storage can be of help.
- Paule EMWD owns the Winchester Ponds: A contractor wishes to use a portion as a laydown area. Paule said he insisted on screening to mitigate the impact to neighbors.
- Q: Water rights on properties? A: Water Rights is a complex matter. Consult a water attorney for advice.
- C: What about Diane Feinstein's law that just passed regarding water for agriculture? A: We have good ground water resources here, and a robust Recycled Water program. EMWD strives to not use potable water.
- Q: Does development require 'approval' from EMWD? A: EMWD reviews, & provides a "Will Serve" letter.
- Paule noted that the new desalination plant supports 15,000 homes per year.

E. Code Enforcement; Matthew Piper reporting, at the request of Ryan Calametti:

- Piper handles our area, assisted by another officer.
- Winchester Inn status: Code Enforcement has issued a Notice of Violation, for a substandard building.
- Homeland, on a parcel with much trash: The owner has a 602. Code Enforcement offered a one-time clean-up.
- Q: What is the procedure for dealing with growing mess from a homeless encampment? A: A 602 is a "No Trespassing" order. File with the Sheriff, and keep it updated annually. The Sheriff has their HOT program: Homeless Outreach Team. They've already offered the people in this encampment assisted living and other resources: They all turned down those offers. Due process must be followed. They issue a Notice of Violation.
- Q: Situation in Homeland? Piper handles Winchester & part of Homeland. He's in contact with others.
- Q: Regarding the Fairview Fire: Will post-disaster area clean-up services be available? A: Unknown.
- Robyn Brock noted that Supervisor Washington approved \$100K for community beautification to Code Enforcement ("Huzzah!")
- Q: Community Clean-ups? A: Robyn advised that there will be a Community Clean-Up Event in Homeland on December 3rd, & one is scheduled in Winchester for October 15th. These are always welcome! Thank you!
- Jeff Logan complimented Code Enforcement on their efforts.

F. Assemblyman Kelly Seyarto's Office; Hilder Sam:

- The session ended August 31st. Three of his bills were signed; three hopefuls. Our Assemblyman is 'in-district' now. He toured the Fairview Fire site this morning.

G. Senator Melissa Melendez; Amanda Fisher:

- Not present; no report.

H. Valley Wide Park & Recreation District; Craig Shultz:

- Valley Wide facilities are closed today (including indoor), due to the Fairview Fire, in Hemet & San Jacinto.
- Diamond Valley Lake Park is serving as the Base Camp for the fire suppression efforts.
- Upcoming: Oct. 1: Dog Days at the Park, in Menifee, including costume contests.
- Dedicating a new pickle ball at Venable Park. Dedicating a wall at a park.
- The "Autumn Elegance" fundraising gala will be November 5th.
- They hope to keep the pool open through September 24th.

I. Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians; Lori VanArsdale:

- Not present; no report.

J. Land Use update; Cindy Domenigoni:

- Not present; no detailed report.
- In the pipeline:
 1. "No Worries" RV & Boat Storage. Change of Zone #2100123, Plot Plan 210135.

2. Winchester Community Planning & GPA #1207: The DEIR should be posted soon.
 3. Crossroads / Boulder Crossing – TTM #38305 & TPM #38037 – NW corner of Hwy 79 and Domenigoni Parkway: Presently under construction.
 4. Matthews Road: Change of zone.
 5. SoCal Mulch CUP 200009: Awaiting hearings.
 6. RV Storage & Pod Storage PPT 190038.
 7. Val Daele Homes: Proposed 164 units on 14.9 acres (south of Salt Creek).
 8. Riverside Views TTM 37670 (81 acres at Briggs & Old Newport Road).
 9. CUP 210015 – Commercial Cannabis Operation at 31170 Highway 74, Homeland.
 10. Winchester Hills Specific Plan – PA#18 (14.9 acres) – Van Daele
 11. Off-Highway Vehicle Park: See rivcoparksohv.org
 12. CUP 210129 – Commercial Cannabis Operation “The High Class” in Homeland.
 13. CUP 210133 Cannabis Cultivation Project
 14. A proposed Light Industrial development east of downtown (proponent tapped into the LUC; very good).
- K. City of Hemet update:
- No representative present; no report.
- L. City of Menifee update; Doug Darnell, Senior Planner:
- Recently, action was taken by LAFCO regarding the Sphere of Influence. City of Menifee planners will give a report to their City Council during their October 5th meeting (6 PM).
 - Q: Can we get a copy, please? A: Sure. It would be available on their website. He’ll let us know when it’s up.
 - He noted a couple of developments under way or continuing.
- M. Other Business:
- Robyn Brock reminded all that Public Comments on the EIR for the Winchester Area General Plan amendment has been extended, to September 23rd, 5 PM. Email Planning@RivCo.org

Open Forum:

- None.

Next WHMAC Meeting:

The next WHMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2022, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.

Adjournment:

The WHMAC adjourned at 7:25 PM. M:JS / S:TL