

Exhibit B
July 19, 2010, Agenda Item 4

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
SAN GABRIEL RIVER DISCOVERY CENTER AUTHORITY
HELD AT THE
THE UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
11310 VALLEY BLVD.
June 21, 2010 - 9:30 A.M.**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CALL TO ORDER:

The San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority meeting was held at the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, 11310 Valley Blvd., El Monte, CA, 91731 on June 21, 2010 and was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Apodaca.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

President Robert Apodaca, Central Basin Municipal Water District; Vice President Russ Guiney, LA County Dept. of Parks and Recreation; Sam Pedroza, Stakeholder Committee; Dan Arrighi, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Anthony Fellow, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

STAFF PRESENT:

Belinda Faustinos, Executive Officer; Valorie Shatynski, Project Manager; Jane Beesley, Project Manager; Clarke Moseley, Legal Counsel; Amber Slankard, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kacey Jurgens, THA Architecture; Jim Odling, Friends of the Whittier Narrows Natural Area; Don Bremner, Sierra Club; Jim Flournoy, Save Our Community; Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights resident; Patrick Cambell, LA County Dept. of Parks and Recreation; Grace Allen, Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates; Ed Barajas, Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates; David Warren, Whittier resident.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Flournoy stated that it is not required by the Brown Act for members of the public to fill out speaker request cards to speak during the public comment period. He stated that the interviews for a geologist that the San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority (Authority) will be done confidentially. He noted that when the City of

Rosemead hired a geologist and the City attorney for the redevelopment agency, they interviewed the candidates in public and they this is something that the Authority Board might want to consider. He stated that he wants the work of the geologist to be done right the first time.

Mr. Odling stated that at the June 7, 2010 strategic planning session, Board Member Arrighi stated that the Discovery Center project should be like the Vista del Lago Visitor Center by interstate 5, which is not an educational facility, but a visitor stop. He stated that at the same meeting, President Apodaca reported that some of his water districts constituents do not like this project.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SAN GABRIEL RIVER DISCOVERY CENTER AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING HELD MAY 17, 2010

Recommendation: Staff recommended approval of the minutes of the San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority Board Meeting held May 17, 2010.

Item 4 was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Arrighi, seconded by Board Member Pedroza.

5. STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Officer Update

Recommendations: Staff recommended receipt and file of Executive Officer Update.

Ms. Faustinos stated that Authority Staff continues to work on the grant application for the nature education center grants which his due July 1 in Sacramento. She stated the recommendation for site tours will probably not start until late Fall and the funding recommendations will take place no earlier January 2011.

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-Existing Litigation Entitled Friends of the Whittier Narrows Natural Area vs. San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS125058 (Closed Session Consideration Authorized Under Government Code Section 54956.9).

Counsel Moseley stated that there was no reason to have a closed session item this meeting.

C. Schematic Design Process Update

Recommendations: Staff recommended receipt and file of Schematic Design Process Update.

Ms. Faustinos introduced Ms. Jurgens from THA Architecture.

Ms. Jurgens gave a presentation update on the schematic design

process of the Discovery Center project. *A copy of this presentation is attached to the June 21, 2010 Authority board packet.*

Board Member Pedroza asked Ms. Jurgens if she knew the total square footage of the existing Whittier Narrows Nature Center (WNNC) building and the existing parking lot on site. Ms. Faustinos stated that existing (WNNC) building is approximately 2,500 sq. ft. Ms. Jurgens stated that the parking lot can be measured.

Ms. Allen asked Ms. Jurgens how many people the multi-purpose room can fit. Ms. Jurgens replied by stating that when the building was 18,000 sq. ft, it could fit 150 people, that the building has shrunk to 14,000 sq. ft., the multi-purpose room can fit 120.

Board Member Pedroza asked Mr. Jurgens what LEED Level this project will be. Ms. Jurgens stated that this project will be going for a platinum level. She stated that when Authority Staff is able to get geo-technical information about the site, we will be looking into using the soil on site to help build the building.

Vice-President Guiney asked Ms. Jurgens if Authority Staff has talked to the staff on the maintenance facility about their daily operations and how it would fit in this new reconfigured site. Ms. Beesley replied by stating that Authority Staff will ensure that this issue has been addressed.

D. Consideration of a resolution attaching an Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report and approving the award of a contract for Soils and Geology Consulting Services

Recommendations: Staff recommends adoption of a resolution attaching an Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report and approving the award of a contract for Soils and Geology Consulting Services.

Ms. Faustinos stated that as provided in the previous Agenda Item 5.C., the schematic re-design to date includes a reconfigured site layout. She stated that this reconfiguration represents a change to the project description as previously approved. She stated that in compliance with CEQA an addendum to the Final EIR has been prepared to evaluate changes to the project. She stated that in approving the award of a contract for Soils and Geology Consulting Services for the project as reconfigured, the Board considers the addendum with the Final EIR in its decision.

Ms. Faustinos stated that this reconfiguration of the project site would move the maintenance building from its current location within the Significant Ecological Area (SEA) No. 42 and the Whittier Narrows Natural Area (Natural Area). She stated that the maintenance area will be relocated adjacent to and integrated with the main building at its eastern edge. She stated that the proposed relocation site is currently developed as the existing driveway for the WNNC. She stated that the relocated maintenance building would be reduced in size and structurally integrated with the 14,000 sq. ft. main building on the County-owned parcel on Durfee Ave. She stated that the foot-print of the integrated buildings would be approximately 14,700 sq. ft., approximately 300 sq. ft. less

than the total of the two buildings configured as separate structures.

Ms. Shatynski stated that the impacts of the proposed reconfigured project site payout would be the same or similar to, or slightly less than impacts identified in the Final EIR for the 14,000 sq. ft. project resource areas.

Ms. Shatynski stated that although some changes or additions are necessary, none of the conditions identified in Guidelines Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred. She stated that the proposed changes in the project would not require major revisions of the previously certified EIR due to the involvement of new previously identified significant effects. She noted that the Addendum to consider is attached as Exhibit A to the board packet.

Ms. Shatynski stated that the Authority gave staff approval to release a request for proposals for geo-technical information regarding the site, necessary for the architectural and engineering team (A/E team) to complete a conceptual re-design. She stated the five qualified firms provided proposals by the deadlines on June 16, 2010. She stated that staff is currently conducting analysis of the proposal on a confidential basis, with the assistance of the A/E team. She stated that in accordance with this Board action; staff will award the work as soon as possible, based upon concurrence of the A/E team, not to exceed \$50,000. She stated that the FY 10/11 SGRDC budget allows \$50,000 for this item and this allocation would come from the RMC grant.

Counsel Moseley stated that the Authority Board has the power to delegate a professional agreement to the Executive Officer to approve subject of putting a cap not to exceed and subject to having the agreement reviewed by counsel.

Item 5.D. was unanimously approved on motion of Vice-President, seconded by President Apodaca.

E. Consideration of a resolution approving an amendment to the contract to VMA Communications, Inc. for Outreach Services for Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

Recommendations: Staff recommends adoption of a resolution approving an amendment to the contract to VMA Communications, Inc. for Outreach Services for Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

Ms. Faustinos stated that Authority Staff is requesting approval for a change to the Budget and Scope of Work with VMA Communications, Inc. (VMA). She stated that the Authority approved the contract in September 2008, of which the primary purpose was to improve and expand media relations and to work effectively with the news media to communicate the progress and status of the project and its benefits to the community. She stated that the contract was restarted this year with \$9,000 in funds remaining on the contract; the proposed 10/11 budget reflects this recommendation of an increase of \$35,000 for Outreach Services. She stated that the amendment will increase the budget for the contract an additional \$35,000 for a total not to exceed \$44,000. She stated that the consultant would be expected to provide brochure updates, E-blast/newsletter, logo, presentation materials, press releases, relationship

support, standardized PowerPoint presentation, and website update.

Item 5.E. was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Arrighi, seconded by President Apodaca.

F. Consideration of a resolution approving an amendment to the contract to ADM Consulting for Project Implementation for Fiscal Year 2010-11.

Recommendations: Staff recommends adoption of a resolution approving an amendment to the contract to ADM Consulting for Project Implementation for Fiscal Year 2010-11.

Ms. Faustinos stated that Authority Staff is requesting approval for a change to the Budget and Scope of Work for ADM Consulting. She stated that this addendum is to change the scope of work to the following: act as liaison, provide strategic counsel, monitor ongoing county matters with a focus on the successful approval of EIR/leases by Board of Supervisors, Develop the County & SGRDCA JPA working group, develop the convene monthly meetings and coordinate with Authority Staff in preconstruction/construction activities. She stated that the proposed 10/11 FY budget reflects the Authority Staff's recommendation of an increase of \$35,000 for Project Implementation services. This amendment will increase the contract amount by \$35,000 for a total not to exceed \$53,000.

Item 5.F. was unanimously approved on motion of President Apodaca, seconded by Board Member Pedroza.

G. Consideration of a resolution adopting the FY 2010-2011 Budget.

Recommendations: Staff recommends approving a resolution adopting the FY 2010-2011 Budget,

Ms. Faustinos noted that the FY 2010-2011 budget was shown on page 104 of the board packet. She stated that the total project revenue and expenditures for next fiscal year will be \$1,135,318. She stated that the majority of the funding for FY 2010-2011 will be from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) grant. She stated that she hopes to allocate \$25,000 from each of the partner water agencies. She stated that some of the line items in the FY 2010-2011 budget include personnel, general expenses, communications, fundraising and outreach, and consultant and professional services.

Item 5.G. was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Pedroza, seconded by Vice-President Guiney.

H. Consideration of a resolution authorizing Payment of Demands to the SGRDC Authority Account.

Recommendations: Staff recommended adoption of a resolution authorizing Payment of Demands to the SGRDC Authority Account.

Ms. Faustinos stated that the current demands were listed on pages 109 of the board packet. She stated that the total demands for the month of June amounted to \$32,557.49

Item 5.H. was unanimously approved on motion of Board Member Arrighi, seconded by President Apodaca.

L. Budget and Expenditure Reports

Recommendations: Staff recommended receipt and file of Budget and Expenditure Reports

Ms. Faustinos stated that the 2009-2010 Budget and Expenditure reports are from pages 113-118. Expenditures are categorized based on whether or not the expenditure was RMC grant reimbursable. She stated that the report shows all capital, project planning and design, general administrative grant reimbursable and general non-reimbursable expenses. She stated that the Total Expenditures for the current 2009-2010 Fiscal Year total \$421,142.53. She noted that the total budget for the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year is \$2,406,246.

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Statements, response, questions or directions to staff pursuant to section 54954.2 of the Government Code.

Board Member Pedroza announced that the Authority will have a Stakeholder Committee meeting today at 2 p.m.

B. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: JULY 19, 2010, 9:30 AM, CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

8. MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:20 am

Bob Apodaca, President