

**Inter Canyon League
Minutes of the Special Directors Meeting
Friday, March 2, 2018 at 9:00 AM Bank of America, Foothill Ranch**

Directors Janet Wilson, Scott Breeden, Geoff Sarkissian, and Janet Wilson met to designate authorized signatories for two ICL Bank of America accounts. The following ICL Officers were selected by unanimous vote:

For the ICL General Fund: Janet Wilson (President) and Francesca Duff (Treasurer).

For the ICL Disaster Relief Fund: Janet Wilson (President) and Francesca Duff (Treasurer).

**Inter Canyon League
Minutes of the General Meeting
Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 7:00 PM Canyon Library/Park Community Room**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by President Wilson.

II. General Announcements

- a. Urgent Public Hearing Apr. 10 at Board of Supervisors on Red Rocks appeal
OC Public Works Planning Director Colby Cataldi said that he will be briefing Supervisors on the proposed Red Rock Gardens facility prior to next Tuesday's meeting, at which the public may make comments.

III. Guest Speakers

- a. Sarah Skigen-Caird et al from GEI Consultants discussing proposed septic policies for the canyons

Director Cataldi introduced Sarah and OCPW staff, and briefly described Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) regulations. Since local agencies are allowed to implement alternative versions of the new state regulations, OCPW is working on a "friendlier" Local Agency Management Plan (LAMP) specific to Orange County.

Sarah said that one goal of the proposed OC LAMP is to "grandfather" permission for existing (pre-2013) functional (working) septic systems. She also described how the new OWTS policies categorize septic systems into five "tiers" based on condition and regulation. Without a LAMP, new and replacement septic systems would need to meet conservative default state requirements for Tier 1 status. But with a LAMP, potentially less "burdensome" site-specific Tier 2 requirements regarding lot size, setbacks, and slope could be specified, allowing installation of systems in that category.

Under the proposed LAMP, if an existing septic system no longer has sufficient capacity (because of a room addition, for instance), a variance could be sought and considered on a case-by-case basis. A qualified professional would probably have to be hired to take measurements and make the case for granting such a variance. Any annual inspections, etc. of new or replaced septic systems would also probably need to be paid for, but the cost has not yet been determined.

Colby brought up the question of whether a LAMP would allow more development than what is currently permitted in the canyons—unintended consequences? In his opinion, big developers do not do septic systems. But he is interested in what people think.

Public comments on the proposed OC LAMP may be submitted to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board in Riverside by April 11, 2018. If the LAMP is approved, Orange County would have to draft implementing ordinances, which could create a gap between the time that default state regulations go into effect May 13 and the date that the county ordinances take effect later.

Some audience questions and answers:

(1) Q: Can we lose our home or septic system with the LAMP?

A: With the LAMP, the septic system is grandfathered if functioning properly. Without the LAMP, the house cannot be occupied if the septic system fails.

(2) Q: What went wrong that the OWTS regulations are trying to fix?

A: California has been slow in dealing with impaired bodies of water, an issue dating back to the 1972 Clean Water Act. This is part of a bigger effort to manage the impaired (polluted) bodies of water in the state.

(3) Q: Will existing septic systems be inspected?

A: If functional, probably not (with the LAMP). Caring for your own system helps the creeks and makes it less likely that you develop a problem. New systems would be entered into the inspection scheme.

(4) Q: What happens when you sell your house?

A: Grandfathering goes with the parcel (unless subdivided), even if a grandfathered system is replaced.

(5) Q: What are repair requirements?

A: For a failing system, there is a process for working with OCPW for correction; it might require third-party input.

(6) Q: What LAMP category does construction without adding plumbing fall under?

A: If adding a room, recalculate septic capacity to see if it is exceeded.

(7) Q: Could above-ground septic systems (mounds) block views?

A: Yes, it's possible (with or without a LAMP).

(8) Q: Can the LAMP be altered? How was it created?

A: OC staff hired consultants, and they looked at similar work in nearby areas like San Diego and Riverside—some areas already have LAMPs. It is recommended that people send comments and proposed changes to the Regional Water Board, but be reasonable (about setbacks, etc.) or the state will not go along with the request. Also, the Regional Board will not address fees: that is something to be decided by the county, which will want to recover costs somehow.

A motion to ask the Regional Board to extend the public comment period past April 11 to allow ICL more time for a response passed 4-0 (Scott abstaining).

IV. Director Reports

a. President---Janet Wilson

The Silverado Children's Center Chili Cookoff is next month. And Francesca Duff has templates for email to send the OC Supervisors about the Red Rocks project.

b. Vice President---Geoffrey Sarkissian

No report.

c. Secretary---Scott Breeden

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as amended per Verizon activity 5-0.

d. Treasurer---Francesca Duff

1. Approval of Financial Report

Paperwork is changing—submit bills now. The March financial report was approved 5-0.

e. Director---Dion Sorrell

No report.

V. Advisory Committee Reports

a. Land Use Committee---Scott Breeden, Janet Wilson

1. Wildlands update, Red Rocks appeal, Verizon boxes

Janet said that The Wildlands Conservancy has brought up the possibility of 45 acres in Modjeska now being saved on condition of an offer being “rescinded.” A letter to TWC is being crafted asking about getting this issue on TWC's meeting agenda.

Janet also urged people to come to the April 10 Board of Supervisors meeting at 9:30am for the Red Rocks project hearing. And Verizon is not done—they will paint the cell boxes and do landscaping.

b. Communications Committee---Francesca Duff, Dion Sorrell

Francesca is putting together a newcomer packet with Maureen Voehl. Dion is working on website posts and Facebook.

c. Emergency Preparedness---Joanne Hubble

No report.

d. History Committee---Melody McWilliams

No report.

e. Friends of the Library---Fran Williams

For the April 21-22 library swap meet, Phil McWilliams has volunteered to be “watchdog” Friday and Saturday evenings, but other warm bodies are also needed that weekend. School credit may be available. Call Fran or Connie Carter for more information. This event solely benefits our canyon library (not the library system in general).

When Janet asked about spending money if the library didn't need it, Fran suggested partnering with the History Committee to fund work on the local archives.

f. Canyon Watch---Marion Schuller

Marion will continue hosting “Coffee with Cars” radio practice the last Sunday of each month, 9-11am at the Silverado market.

VI. New Business

a. Location of May meeting

A motion to hold the next meeting in Modjeska passed 5-0.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30.

***** The next ICL meeting will be held May 1, 2018 at the Modjeska Community Center *****