

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP (BPG)**

***** MINUTES / SUMMARY FOR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 7TH, 2024
39919 RIBBONWOOD ROAD, BOULEVARD, CA, 91905*****

March 7th meeting called to order at 7:02 PM

A. ROLL CALL (Determination of quorum): 1) Manuel Casanova, Jr.; 2) Earl Goodnight 3) Kevin Keane (Absent); 4) Anthony Ralphs; 5) Melanie Zardeneta-Hayden; 6) Michael Coyne; 7) Nancy Good
A quorum was present.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (optional):

C. APPROVE MINUTES/ SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 1ST MEETING:

M/S Casanova/Good: Approve February 1st minutes as written, Passed 5 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: John Renison expressed his problem with SDG&E wanting him to sign permission to underground on his property. In doing so they would be trenching across his gravel driveway. SDG&E has called every day, sending emails and pressuring to sign the underground power permission. Asking the community if he can refuse their entry on his property. A member of the community shared information from another local resident that had denied and sued SDG&E, winning his case of refusal.

It was reported that local resident Rupert Pedrin received a sizable financial offer on his property. He had declined to identify the source of the offer.

Nancy Good asked if anyone had information on “Tim Walker” wanting to put a waste collection/transfer site in the Boulevard region. Responses were from Facebook postings that had been seen.

E. ACTION ITEMS (Agenda items may be taken out of order upon request):

1. AT&T REQUEST TO THE CPUC TO DISBAND LANDLINE SERVICE: Should the Boulevard Community Planning Group submit public comments to the CPUC representing the residents in our area?

After lengthy discussions by the members and attending residents, one via email. It was determined that in our rural area landline phone service should be given a high priority by the CPUC and deny AT&Ts request. Previously Kevin Keane had supplied information on AT&Ts efforts to eliminate landline service that was circulated in 2015.

Local Resident Dennis Berglund mentioned there’s a lawsuit against AT&T to determine whether they’re required to uphold their contract to continue providing landline service.

A motion was made to direct the Chair to submit comments to the CPUC on behalf of the residents of Boulevard and surrounding area.

M/S Good/Ralphs: Passed 5 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

F. GROUP BUSINESS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:

• **NEW SOLAR PROJECTS IN BOULEVARD:**

Bear Peak Power, Denver identifies the site as a 5MW Solar and Battery Storage project on 45.7 acres at 1746 Tierra Del Sol Rd, Boulevard.

No further information was available to report.

There is a new addition to the CAISO interconnection application list (item 56). Project name - **Boulevardier**: A hydrogen generated powered 348 MW system, with Battery Storage, is proposed for Boulevard, with a 138 KV transmission line connecting to the Boulevard substation.

Location of this project is unknown currently.

Chair Goodnight reported that in the hydrogen production process, per chemistry standards, it could take of up to 20 gallons of water to produce approximately 1 quart of hydrogen. Water is central to the production process for this form of energy, it's used as a purification substance and the means of process cooling.

Jim Whalen expressed his doubts that the current grid would be able to handle another 348 MW of generated power.

- **SANDAG UNINCORPORATED REPRESENTATION:** Chair Goodnight gave a brief on the minutes from Robin Joy Maxson, Chair, Association of Planning Groups report from the SANDAG February BOD meeting. A full text of her minutes was included in the agenda packet.
- **CANNABIS LICENSING & ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM NOTICE:** Chair Goodnight gave a report on the virtual listening meeting (Zoom) that was held 2/7/2024, covering the programs timeline and program details.
 - 2023 Finalized the program and are scheduled to provide an update to the BOS 3/12/2024.
 - 2024 Accepting applications for storefront license.
 - 2025 Issuing storefront licenses.

A Cannabis Community Collaborative will be set up consisting of a 9-member group, one member appointed by BOS, balance of the group will be filled from applicants. The Group will assist on shaping the ownership/benefits program and will be required to provide an annual report to the BOS.

Michael Coyne stated how unfair it is that the County votes on Land Use Developments for our area - where they don't live, yet we can't vote on their issues, or vote for their mayor or city council members.

- **SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS (SVP):** An email was shared from Assemblymember Marie Waldron. In the email she and Senator Brian Jones have co-sponsored Senate Bill 1074 (Sexually Violet Predators). SB 1074 will make public safety the highest criteria for housing SVPs in any area, with the Director of State Hospitals (DSH) being held responsible for ensuring that public safety is the major consideration. The DSH will be required to take ownership by approving any placements before leases for placement can be signed.

Discussions followed including that this bill doesn't define our rural area as being exempt from SVP placement. The DSH was charged with the responsibility in the past, they contracted to an outside firm. All complaints to the DSH were forwarded to their contracted firm to handle responses.

- **SDG&E ELECTRIC SYSTEM HARDENING NOTIFICATION:** Construction notification letters were mailed 2/2/2024, 2/9/2024 and 2/16/2024 for the Boulevard area.

C445 – Boulevard: Tierra Del Sol Rd, Zarina Lake Dr, Jewel Valley Rd, Mary Joe Ln, Tierra Real Rd, Tierra Estrella (dated 2/2/2024)

Crews will be installing new steel poles and replacing overhead wires.

C445 N – Boulevard: Highway 94, Rancho Manzanita Dr, Old Highway 94 (dated 2/9/24 – 90-day construction)

C445D – Boulevard: Ribbonwood Rd, Clements St, Opalocka Rd (dated 2/16/24 – 90-day construction)

This work includes site preparation, staging yard preparation, structure removal, road work and vault installation, trenching, conduit installation, trench backfill, cable pulling and splicing.

- **OPTIONS FOR STREAMLINING AFFORDABLE AND ATTAINABLE HOUSING:** Chair Goodnight gave a report on the PDS hosted virtual public meeting held on 2/15/2024 that provided information and to receive input on the following.

The BOS had directed PDS to explore the feasibility of developing three potential housing programs.

1. Small Lot Subdivision Program
2. A Senior and Assisted Living Housing Program
3. A County By-Right Program

Information was supplied on a second virtual (Zoom) meeting to be held March13, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

- **REVITALIZATION & FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Jacumba/Boulevard Revitalization Alliance:

Working on purchasing interior paint and will paint interiors of Community Room and Old Court House. Will finish exterior painting once weather is better. Food Pantry will reopen Monday as well as recycling. Looking to start program on reporting and writing news stories for youth, currently in talks with retired reporter. As always need volunteers and donations to continue these programs and start new ones.

Chair Goodnight added that SDG&E had completed the solar installation on the Resource Center (waiting County inspection). Continuing their upgrade of the Community Resource Center (CRC) that is being used during PSPS and other emergencies affecting the area.

Fire Safe Council:

FSC will have chipping events, 2 tire collection events, and cleanup events. Flyers are available in Community Room please copy and share with others. Fire Safe also needs volunteers to help on these events.

G. PROJECT UPDATES:

1. **100 MW STARLIGHT SOLAR AND BATTERY STORAGE PROJECT ON 565 ACRES OF THE EMPIRE RANCH ON JEWEL VALLEY RD; PROJECT: PDS2022-MPA-22-006.** Jim Whalen reported more tech studies have been submitted to the County. Efforts are underway to eradicate the invasive Tiger Salamanders from the Haagen waterways. This is the biggest infestation of a non-native species in this area.
2. **74 MW RUGGED SOLAR PDS2017-MUP-12-007W1 MAJOR USE PERMIT MODIFICATION APPROVED BY BOS ON 10-12-22:** Change of ownership is ongoing. Nothing new to report.

Chair reported that agenda items numbers 3 through 8 had no activity, nothing to report.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday April 4th, 2024.

Minutes were approved by the Group on 4/4/2024.

Signed: Anthony Ralphs, Secretary _____



For more information contact Earl Goodnight, email [s](mailto:earl.goodnight@sdge.com), Current and past meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted on the County website @ <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html>.

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