

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP (BPG)
***** MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024**
AT 39919 RIBBONWOOD ROAD, BOULEVARD, CA, 91905 ***

April 4th meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM

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

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (optional):

C. APPROVE MINUTES/ SUMMARY FOR MARCH 3rd MEETING:

Minutes approved as written, M/S: Ralphs/Zandeneta-Hayden **4 Yes, 0 No, 3 Absent**

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: Member Kevin Keane disclosed an ex-parte communication with Jim Whalen about battery technologies for possible use in the Starlight Solar Project.

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

No action items on this month's agenda

F. GROUP BUSINESS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **AT&T REQUEST TO THE CPUC TO DISBAND LANDLINE SERVICE:**
On March 19, 2024, the California Public Utilities held their virtual public meeting for input from communities. Most calls were opposing AT&T's proposal. The few in favor of AT&T felt the savings from eliminating landlines could be invested in more modern services. A final decision by the CPUC is not expected until the fall on this year.
- **NEW SOLAR PROJECTS IN BOULEVARD:**
No new information was presented on the Bear Peak Power, Denver Project.
No new information was presented on the Boulevardier Project.
- **SANDAG UNINCORPORATED REPRESENTATION:**
Chair gave a report on the Associated Planning Groups minutes from SANDAG's BOD 3/29/2024 special meeting that reported the findings of the independent audit on the 125 Toll Road operations. A full text of the special meeting minutes was supplied in the agenda packet.
- **CANNABIS LICENSING & ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM NOTICE:**
Chair reported on the virtual Cannabis meeting Supervisor Anderson's Staff held (3/9/2024).
The meeting was a review of the Cannabis virtual presentation previously held. A Cannabis Program update to the BOS was scheduled for 3/12/2024.
Two points were clarified in Anderson's Staff meeting:
 1. The 25-Cannabis operations cap is for storefront facilities only, currently there is no cap on cultivation operations.
 2. The Cannabis Community Collaborative will have nine members. Each Supervisor will appoint one member from their district, the remaining four members will be selected from applicants. Previously it was thought that only one member would be appointed by the BOS.The Cannabis update presentation to the BOS that was scheduled for 3/12/2024 was withdrawn by the Cannabis Staff. The BOS have not received word when it will be scheduled.

- **SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS:**

SVP Alan James was scheduled to be placed in Campo in March, despite the objections of the community, to a residence at 1138 Custer Road, near state Route 94 (Campo Road), on or before March 22, according to the District Attorney's Office website. At agenda posting confirmation had not been received of the placement.

Status on the Sexually Violent Predators Senate Bill 1074: A hearing date of April 9th is set for the Senate Public Safety Commission.

- **SDG&E ELECTRIC SYSTEM HARDENING NOTIFICATION:**

A 30-day updated construction notification was mailed March 4th for the below project.

C445D Boulevard Ribbonwood Rd, Clements St, and Opalocka Rd

SDG&E or its contractors will be performing undergrounding in these areas.

Jennifer Ramp, SDG&E is the contact should you have any questions or concerns during construction.

email Jennifer Ramp at: JRamp@sdge.com. Phone: 844 765-6388

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

Revitalization: Solar on the Resource Center is complete, awaiting County finalization. A/C units have been purchased (awaiting County inspection on Solar to install). Interior paint for the Community Room has been purchased. At the Resource Center location, the Food Pantry is on-going every Monday morning. Recycling is open every Monday morning. Mattress recycling is available, drop off is by appointment only by calling Mark at 619 302-0470. Unauthorized drop off are not allowed. Mattresses that get wet are not recyclable.

Fire Safe: At the Resource Center location there will be two free tires only drop off dates (6/22 & 7/13).

Chipping events and Cleanup events (accepting all house waste, electronics, appliances, furniture and metal) are scheduled. No hazardous materials or batteries. Asking for volunteers to assist in 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 the final tech study has been submitted to the County. Anticipates the Draft EIR will be released later in the year. Updated on the Haagen Company donation of equipment and services for internet and virtual meeting capabilities: Internet is installed and operating throughout the Resource Center. TVs, cameras and supporting equipment is scheduled to be installed in the Community Room as soon as the ordered equipment is received.

Mark Ostrander was thanked for his services in scheduling the contractors and his hours of voluntary labor.

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. Jim Whalen stated that Projects of this type are very hard to sell.

Chair reported; No activity on agenda items 3, 5, 6, 7.

TERRA-GEN'S BOULDER BRUSH FACILITIES (SUBSTATION GEN-TIE) PDS2022-MUP-19-002TE:

Ruling on appeal submitted 6/20/2023 by non-profit: On March 13, the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, **ruled in favor** by issuing a judgement that reverses the previous court dismissal of BADs legal challenge. The bottom line is Boulder Brush Substation is proposed for private land where Tribal sovereign immunity does not apply.

SEMPRA'S CIMMARON WIND: 300 MW Wind & 500 MW Volta Mexicali Battery storage project in Baja, Mexico. Sempra is moving forward with \$550 million phase 3 of Energia Sierra Juarez Wind, connecting to ECO Substation at the border near Jacumba. They have a 20-year PPA contract with Silicon Valley Power. It will

include 64 - 5 MW Vestas turbines. This will bring ESJ complex to 580 MW. They have the capacity for an additional 300 MW and future potential for an additional expansion of 650 MW.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday May 2nd, 2024.

Minutes were approved by the Group on 5/2/2024.

Signed: Anthony Ralphs, Secretary 

For more information contact Earl Goodnight, email blvdgoodnight@gmail.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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