

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP (BPG)  
\*\*\*MINUTES FOR JUNE 6, 2024, MEETING  
AT 39919 RIBBONWOOD ROAD, BOULEVARD, CA, 91905\*\*\***

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

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

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (optional):**

**C. APPROVE MINUTES/ SUMMARY FOR MAY 2nd MEETING:**

**M/s: Zardeneta-Hayden/Keane**

**Approved as written; 5 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent**

**D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:** Rupert Pedrin reported seeing Cal Fire at the Boulevard Microgrid battery location. With the recent fire at the Otay battery storage site, it was good to see Cal Fire becoming knowledgeable of this site. Rupert pointed out to Cal Fire the dead vegetation within 10 feet of the battery storage area.

Discussions followed on which type of lithium batteries are used in the Boulevard Microgrid batteries.

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

- 1. JULY BPG MEETING RESCHEDULE:** Due to the holiday, Board vote on rescheduling July's first Thursday (7/4/2024) meeting to the second Thursday (7/11/2024).

**M/S: Keane/Zardeneta-Hayden**

**Approve moving meeting date to 7/11/2024; 5 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent**

- 2. CRESTWOOD CEMETERY:**

Chair presented a brief on the Campo Lake Moreno PG Chair's letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the lack of regulations on the placement and controls for cemeteries in San Diego County.

The Campo/Lake Moreno Planning Group is asking for support letters from planning/sponsor groups who agree. Even a simple endorsement of our letter would be helpful.

The item was opened for discussion. Nancy Good started with information that she had gathered concerning ground water contamination. She used Glen Abby Cemetery wells as an example. All three on-site wells are contaminated, the water can be used as non-potable only. Another member of the public said Mt. Hope Cemetery has the same water warning too.

Kevin Keane followed with the numbers of burials cited (350/year) saying it would take nearly 100 years for the cemetery to reach capacity making ground water contamination nonexistent. Kevin also pointed out errors in the letter.

Another discussion was on compaction, once the earth is disturbed by burial the ground does not return to its natural state which affects the percolation rate.

Michael Coyne felt there should be more scientific studies done at the local area where cemeteries are proposed.

A reminder was made that the agenda item was for support of CLMPGs letter to the BOS. A vote was called for.

M/S: Coyne/Zardeneta-Hayden

Passed, 4 yes, 1 No, 2 Absent

#### **F. GROUP BUSINESS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **AT&T REQUEST TO THE CPUC TO DISBAND LANDLINE SERVICE:** Chair reported the California Public Utilities Commission had issued a proposal rejecting AT&T's request to withdraw as a carrier of last resort (COLR) and indicated that the CPUC intends to initiate a new Rulemaking process to address COLR telecommunications service obligations.  
The proposal may be on the CPUC's June 20 Voting Meeting agenda.  
The 26 page "DECISION DISMISSING WITH PERJUDICE THE APPLICATION OAF AT&T TO WITHDRAW AS A CARRIER OF LAST RESORT" was made available to the attendees.
- **NEW SOLAR PROJECTS IN BOULEVARD:**
  - **Bear Peak Power:** A 5MW Solar and Battery Storage. No further information has been received.
  - **Boulevardier:** A hydrogen-generated powered 348 MW system, with Battery Storage.  
Jim Whalen's office staff has obtained information on the project's location. The parcel, approx. 10 acres, is east of the Boulevard substation on the south side of old Hwy 80, known as the Nava property.  
  
Questions have surfaced: Overall lack of capacity of the SDG&E grid, and broader, electric grid to accept new projects? Will a hydrogen line be required?
- **SANDAG UNINCORPORATED REPRESENTATION:** Chair reported Association of Planning Groups SANDAG April meeting highlights.
  - **New SANDAG CEO:**  
As expected, Mario Orso of Caltrans was selected as the new SANDAG CEO.
  - **2025 Regional Plan: Draft Series 15 Growth Forecast Regional and Subregional Results:**  
By 2050 it is expected that the overall population of the region will slow in growth and then begin to decline. This is true for the State population as well.
  - **125 Toll Road Action Plan:**  
Tabled from the previous SANDAG BOD meeting - This is SANDAG management's response to the Office of Independent Performance Auditor (OIPA) findings.  
Interim CEO Coleen Clementson was directly asked about who knew what, when and who was responsible for the 125 Toll Road failures.  
Clementson responded that all along there was a "general lack of accountability" and that there was "gross mismanagement."  
A full text of the SANDAG April minutes was supplied to the attendees.
- **SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS:** Albert Carder, designated as a sexually violent predator (SVP), was approved by a judge for conditional release to a home in Jacumba Hot Springs by the end of the month, making the second such offender to be released to that property. Albert Carder, 57, is set to be released to a home located at 45612 Old Highway 80 no later than June 26.  
An article reprint on Carders past sexual convictions was provided to the attendees.  
  
Reported Senate Bill 1074 (Sexually violent predators) was in Assembly on 5/23/2024 for first reading.
- **SDG&E ELECTRIC SYSTEM HARDENING NOTIFICATION:** A construction notification was mailed May 17, 2024.

C0445 C CC – Boulevard: Jewel Valley Road.

Questioning SDGE because power along Jewel Valley Rd. is all underground.

Response from SDGE: The work scheduled is closest to Jewel Valley Rd., that is why it is referenced, it may be on private property.

- **SD COUNTY BROADBAND NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA):** The County of San Diego’s Land Use & Environment Group (LUEG) conducted a series of public meetings from **May 20 - June 4** to gather public feedback and input on a recently released [draft Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\)](#) on a \$9 million American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)-funded grant program to help address broadband access and affordability in unincorporated communities.

Written comments can be submitted directly through the County’s broadband engagement website (<https://engage.sandiegocounty.gov/broadband>) or by email ([broadband.grants@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:broadband.grants@sdcounty.ca.gov))

Due to the late notification of this program, the Chair had little information to share, referred interested parties to the link provided.

Pam Hass had recorded the Campo public meeting and offered the video to anyone interested.

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

RECFSC:

Upcoming events: Free Chipping Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup> 8am - 12noon

Free Tire Collection Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 8am – 12 noon or when bins are full.

No early drop-off before events nor after events.

First Community Cleanup Event Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup> at the Resource Center, 8am – 11am or until trucks are filled. You Bring You Unload. E-waste, appliances, and metal waste. No Hax-Mat, Tires, or Construction Materials.

This date is also a chipping event.

JBRA:

Painting is continuing both Interior and Exterior.

Continue installation of HVAC units, Waiting for Final Inspection for Solar System.

Commissioning, and Community Room Conference Equipment should be Installed by the time of the Planning Group Meeting.

Food Pantry continuing while supplies last. Hoping to receive a new grant to continue program.

The Resource Center will be used again for the upcoming Election as the Voting place for in person voting or ballot drop-off. Encourage everyone to use this opportunity to vote so it can continue to be used as a local voting place.

Next meeting dates for RECFSC & JBRA: Monday July 15<sup>th</sup>

RECFSC meeting time 6:30pm in Community Room

JBRA meeting time 7:30pm in Community Room

## **G. PROJECT UPDATES:**

No progress was reported on items 1 > 5, 7, 8

Item 6

**90 MW JACUMBA VALLEY RANCH ENERGY PARK (JVR SOLAR); APPROVED BY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON 8-18-21:** 90 megawatt (MW) solar energy facility and a battery energy storage system of up to 90 MW (360 MWh) on 613 acres.

Update 5/30/2024, The litigation has been resolved and the developer is now moving forward on conditions that were required as part of the project.

Construction on the project may start in the summer of 2025.

Project documents are posted at: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/ceqa/MUP-18-022.html>.

**Minutes were approved by the Group on 7/11/2024.**

Signed: Anthony Ralphs, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_



**H. ADJOURNMENT: 8:30 PM NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY JULY 11th, 2024.**

For more information contact Earl Goodnight, email [blvdgoodnight@gmail.com](mailto: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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