

\*\*\*\*\*SPECIAL NOTICE\*\*\*\*\*

To take part in the VIRTUAL meeting call in by phone at either 669-900-6833 Or 346-248-7799 starting at 7:15 pm.

When directed, enter the meeting ID: 825-8974-8600 and Meeting Password: 827443

You will be placed in a Queue until admitted by the Host. You will then be placed on hold until the Meeting begins. When it is your turn to speak, the host will say the last four digits of your phone number and you will be permitted to speak at that time. If you become disconnected, call back and enter the appropriate ID and PW numbers.

To join the meeting via the web use the following link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82589748600?pwd=cE5MQ1FOemJEUlqMlhVUG>

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\*\*\*\*\*SPECIAL NOTICE\*\*\*\*\*

**JAMUL DULZURA  
COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP  
FINAL MINUTES  
Tuesday April 27, 2021**

**To be Approved, May 26, 2021**

\*\*\*\*\*VIRTUAL MEETING\*\*\*\*\*

CALL IN BEGINS AT 7:15 p.m.

**7:30 p.m.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Dan Neirinckx, called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Dan Neirinckx, Janet Mulder, Ed Mollen, Summer Piper, Steve Wragg, Rachel Vedder, Michael Casinelli, Amber Recklau, Preston Brown, Kevin Brown, Eve Nasby, Streeter Parker

**Excused:**

**Absent:**

**Guests:** Kathleen Lippitt, Leonard Manos, Steve Wallace, Cesar Stirling, Russell Walsh, Paul Romero, Judy Strang, Chief Tony Meacham,

3. **APPROVAL** of the Agenda for April 27, 2021, and Final Minutes for the Meeting of April 13, 2021. Motion to approve was made by **Eve Nasby**. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **OPEN FORUM:**

- a. **Amber Recklau** bought up the Loveland Reservoir stating that they want to drain it and it is now muddy and no one is able to fish. Sweetwater is using it and they have enough water for their customers without using it and they need to stop. On KPBS it was stated that Sweetwater is planning to mine the reservoir and we need to check on it as they are taking more than they need for their customers which is leaving the reservoir low. This is particularly scary for fire as that where helicopters fill their buckets to fight the fires. We need to check with Sweetwater Reservoir. **Preston Brown** suggested we put this item on the agenda for the next meeting.
  - b. SDG&E called during the meeting and told us that there would be planned outages in our area for equipment upgrade.
  - c. **Judy Strang** has been attending our meetings for several months. She reported that there will be meetings of the BOS on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 4 and 5, regarding the proposed regulations re Cannabis. She asked us to help them see our position from the East County as we have talked about at meetings and she would encourage us to send in or call in our comments, hoping they would hear our concerns.
  - d. **Kathleen Lippitt** has been attending many Planning Group meetings and would like to encourage us to remain firm in our objections to the new cannabis rulings. She noted that the County is planning to increase hours of operation of Cannabis locations, lower the required separations between churches and schools (plus others as well) from 1000 feet to 600 feet, allow Cannabis events from 6 am to 10 p.m which is greater than the state allows as they now have 7a.m to 9pm. They would also increase the number allowed at the gatherings to 200 and would increase the use, and her question is... is this the time to allow the increase of marijuana? She would encourage us to give the time to be present at the Board of Supervisors meetings as our comments are important.
5. **County General Plan changes: Safety Element – Preston Brown** introduced **Cal Fire Chief Tony Meacham** and pointed out that he has worked with the BOS for several years trying to get all of the fire agencies under one umbrella. He has had 27 years’ experience working with fire and 18 years working with CalFire serving there the last several years. **Preston** welcomed **Chief Meacham** and asked him to tell us his reaction to the safety plans that have been proposed. **Tony Meacham** is Cal Fire San Diego Unit Chief of Rural Fire Protection District. They have been refocusing their efforts on fire protection, realizing that we will always have fires in San Diego, and the reality is there are a huge number of existing developments which are spread over the backcountry. All the County Fire districts have been brought together under the San Diego County Fire Protection District. In 2018 a “Resilience Review” was conducted with the purpose of protecting existing communities through community risk reduction. This is to be accomplished through a program called “Cohesion Resistant Strategy”. There are 4 parts to this: 1) Education, 2) Defensible space and hardening, 3) Fuel breaks and reduce loads, 4) Evacuation corridors.

We need to educate the community and the homeowner’s regarding their resources, helping them to create defensive space, including fuel breaks aimed at protecting the evacuation corridors. The OES, Office of Emergency Services and the Sheriff Department work together as a joint “unified” group. The Sheriff Dept is in charge of the directing and controlling the evacuation. They formed an inter-evacuation agency working group with the Sheriff’s department and the Fire Department, in which

the Fire Dept is responsible for getting everything together for an evacuation and the Sheriff is working on evacuation routes. A pilot project was formed in Valley Center with the Planning Group, the Fire Safe Councils (who can apply for grants, design plans), Public Safety Officials including Sheriff, to work on planning corridors for safe evacuation. Assembly Bill 2911 applies to our group as it requires communities with 30 or more units to survey and identify safe corridors. SB99 says that all residential areas that have less than two emergency exits need to be identified and says they need to make sure these are covered in the safety element efficiently. The need is to create community networks that work with Planning Groups and Fire Safe Councils (who will do the tasks of making these workable). This would give one set of directions to be able to establish effective evacuation routes.

**Preston Brown** pointed out that **Chief Meacham** has been working on getting the integration of the evacuation plans with the Fire Safe Council and the Planning Groups. **Chief Meacham** stated that while Planning Groups have a responsibility, they are looking at contingency plans to identify the routes within the areas that will make it eligible for grants. The Governor has set a high amount to be awarded. The Safety Element of the General Plan identifies evacuation routes which identifies major highways, but as we know the feeder roads are the ones that will be used. We need design standards for evacuation roads and the fire department could require a greater higher degree of safety in order to implement safe evacuation standards. It would mean a new set of standards. **Dan Neirinckx** asked **Chief Meacham** about the emergency exits that are only over public land, and whether consideration is also given to routes over private land. **Chief Meacham** said that some projects have been conditioned for some type of private egress and it would be considered. **Dan Neirinckx** asked about the clearing on Wisecarver as it is mostly a private road. **Chief Meacham** said that Wisecarver would be a contingency route at least for fuel management. With the property owner's permission, they are able to do fuel suppression work on private property. Property owners can sign an agreement to allow it. **Preston Brown** asked about agreements for fuel and how that impacts secondary access for homeowners, as that caused some disagreements between homeowners. He asked if there is any type of agreement that is made with the homeowners as far as evacuation routes. **Chief Meacham** said that in new development they would not agree that Wisecarver would be an alternate access. He said that truck trails are a very valuable tools for us for creating fuel breaks. Barber Mt Truck Trail to Barrett Lake Rd on the east side is a good example. If a horse trailer turns over on Lawson Valley Fire like during the Valley Fire it would necessitate the use of another route like Wisecarver for safety. **Kevin May** asked, in an emergency situation, could you order the use of a private road as an exit route without the permission of the owner? **Chief Meacham** answered, "Yes, if there was eminent danger, they would use the road and would worry about the legal issues later." Recognizing that there are private property rights, they feel that enforcement actions are the last resort. **Kevin May** then asked when do we need to utilize eminent domain and not just agreements? **Chief Meacham** responded that for new developments they will propose to the BOS that "defensible space" needs to be cleared 20 feet for driveways and roadways. **Chief Meacham** reminded us that they have the right to use any road they need to use in an emergency, or same is true with water, but they have to restore both back to where it was before the fire.

**Kevin May** asked what determines whether a dual exit actually exists if it is a private road. **Chief Meacham** pointed out that it will need to go through the court system to establish case law. They are working on getting a list of the communities where there is no secondary access and they are working on improving the primary access. They are

looking at areas where they can shelter people in Deerhorn Valley or Lawson Valley and that is where he wants to use the money in the areas of greatest risk. **Michael Casinelli** asked if the County uses private property for emergency purposes, and a situation arises, does the County indemnify the property owner? **Chief Meacham** said no the County would not indemnify the property owner, and that is one of the main reasons that they don't want to use private roads for evacuation. They would not plan to use those "country dirt roads" as evacuation. **Summer Piper** asked if a road was named as an evacuation route wouldn't it have to meet the standards? **Chief Meacham** said that the primary and alternative evacuation routes would be used first but in an emergency or a contingency they would want to identify any road that has possible use in that emergency. **Amber Recklau** asked if someone got burned on someone's property would they have a problem?

Preston asked if LAFCO played a part in this process of the Safety Element. **Chief Meacham** said "Yes, they are very important and have weekly consultations regarding consolidations. It is a municipal service and regional service." **Preston Brown** pointed out that perhaps we need to get to one map that lists all of the emergency actions necessary for all the homeowners. It should also have check lists on the back. Something they can hang on the refrigerator. **Chief Meacham** said this was a good idea and he pointed out that they are willing to sacrifice firefighter's lives for safety of people, but not for homes. Everyone needs to be prepared to leave the area, especially with functional disabilities, or animals, and to be able to leave quickly. Through simulated activities, they are able to predict the ferociousness of the fires. **Summer Piper** asked if their community has only one evacuation route, do they need to make sure they have alternative ones? **Chief Meacham** said "Yes. The Fire Safe Councils will work to get grants for new evacuation routes and to get cooperation from the landowners with the help of the experts from the Fire Department. Planning Groups will be working County Wide in partnership to establish new routes. There are roughly 2,271 miles of evacuation routes in the unincorporated area that we need to maintain. We are working on a map that has many layers of information on the condition and needs of evacuation routes. The Fire Department only clears about 40 miles a year specifically for fire suppression or fuel removal. The problem is where do we focus, due to cost and lack of manpower. **Kevin May** suggested that they need to work with local television channels so that when Santa Ana's come in, they could give the evacuation information. **Chief Meacham** said that was a very good idea. **Chief Meacham** said they could also list locations for "shelter in space" areas as well. The Fire Safe Councils will work on this to get cooperation from the landowners after the experts from the Fire Department have identified the needs. Planning Groups will be working County Wide to establish the routes.

**Preston Brown** asked about the dead-end road distance as he felt it could be important to us as we have so many that would be considered dead-end. **Chief Meacham** told us the Sheriff has a small contingent devoted to working on evacuations, but the Fire Department has spent hours on the Fire Protection Plan and we need to agree on the number of cars per home, numbers of people living in the development, capacity of the road, and there are set points that are used in the analysis but the stakeholders need to come to agreement as to what is necessary, that is, what is the necessary timeline for each of the areas that are being looked at as being important in a fire. **Preston Brown** said that one of those new variables is the additional people with RVs that are occupying the property of friends and family out here during the Covid Period. That would increase the traffic a lot. He asked what is the newest information available, and **Chief Meacham** said we will use an internet version to show the best way out, but it is easier to see an

evacuation model from a static perspective, as the new communities will bring new problems. **Preston Brown thanked Chief Meacham for coming and sharing with our Group and the public. Chief Meacham pointed out that fire safety and land issues will not go away soon, but his staff is available and he would be glad to come back again. Chief Meacham thanked the Fire Safe Council members for being here as well.**

6. **Public Works request for local road improvements priority list. Dan Neirinckx sent it out to all of the members. He went over the areas that are currently on the list. Dan would suggest that we agree with the current list with a few additions. Michael Casinelli suggested that they have only a part of Lyons Valley Road and would recommend Roads in his immediate area that need repair which include Jamul Highlands Rd; about two miles long from Lyons Valley Road to the end of the cul de sac where Granite Lion Winery is located, and with the increased traffic they cause, the road has been deteriorating and has had multiple large patch work to fix to date, particularly on the southern half of the road. County told Michael that part of the problem is the resurfacing contractor did a lousy job years ago, and another reason is in spots the subsurface is clay and causes the asphalt to decay more quickly. The other area is Lyons Valley Rd from Jamul Highlands Road to Skyline Truck Tr. Not only are there pot holes, but there are storm drainage problems. When it rains, the west bound lane floods in two locations, i.e., near 14680 and 14722 Lyons Valley Rd. They have tried to fix the flooding problem, but it still doesn't handle the rain runoff very well. Janet Mulder added Skyline Truck Trail is still breaking up where it was repaired earlier. They need to keep some of these main arteries on a regular rotation for repair. Amber Recklau asked them to look at Lawson Valley Road as it needs repair in several places. Summer Piper asked what cycle we are in as the beginning of Lawson Valley Road (at Skyline) was repaired, but further down the road only spot repairs were done. She asked if there some sort of cycle JDCPG members. They too are concerned about the roads. The Fire Safe Council's next Wood Chipping event will be on May 21 at the Pius Church arena. He will get the information to the Planning Group members.**

#### 7. **JDCPG OFFICER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

**None given.**

8. **Adjournment: Vice-Chair, Preston Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:28 as Chair Dan Neirinckx was having technical difficulties and unable to be present.**

**Respectfully Submitted:**

**Janet Mulder, Secretary**

#### **NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

**7:30 P.M. TUESDAY May 11, 2021**

**SITE: Virtual Meeting format until public/in-person meetings permitted.**

**Meeting minutes and agendas can be accessed at**

**<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/pds/CommunityGroups.html>**

NOTICE OF SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING.  
GENERAL PLAN: SAFETY ELEMENT AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENT

6:30 P.M. TUESDAY April 27, 2021

VIRTUAL MEETING FORMAT, SIGNIN/JOIN USE:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/5878955016?pwd=QTYzUnVyMIN1Y3Z0Y2NMU29XWkY5UT09>

CALLIN BEGINS AT 6:20 PM

PUBLIC NOTICE

We strive to protect personally identifiable information by collecting only information necessary to deliver our services. All information that may be collected becomes public record that may be subject to inspection and copying by the public, unless an exemption in law exists. In the event of a conflict between this Public Notice and any County ordinance or other law governing the County's disclosure of records, the County ordinance or other applicable law will control.

Access and Correction of Personal Information

You can review any personal information collected about you. You may recommend changes to your personal information you believe is in error by submitting a written request that credibly shows the error. If you believe that your personal information is being used for a purpose other than what was intended when submitted, you may contact us. In all cases, we will take reasonable steps to verify your identity before granting access or making corrections.

**JAMUL/DULZURA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP**

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

*The mission of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group is to represent the best interests of the communities of Jamul and Dulzura while adhering to County of San Diego, California Board of Supervisors Policy I-1.*

**PURPOSE STATEMENT:**

*The purpose of the Jamul-Dulzura Community Planning Group is:*

*To provide a public forum where local citizens can learn about issues of importance to them and their community and provide input.*

*To carefully consider all input when advising the county on such issues as planning, land use, discretionary projects, and community and sub-regional plans.*

**APPROVED 5/12/2020**