

**San Joaquin Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan
Habitat Technical Advisory Committee
San Joaquin Council of Governments
555 East Weber Ave.
Stockton, CA 95202
Wednesday, March 11, 2009**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order/Introductions

Mr. Niblock called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. Self-introductions were made.

Committee Members Present:

Mike Niblock	City of Stockton
Tendai Mtunga	City of Lathrop
David Morimoto	City of Lodi
Ken Zuidervaart	City of Ripon
Vicki Lombardo	City of Tracy
Dan Gifford	Dept. of Fish and Game
Ray Hoo	SJC Community Development
Susan Jones	U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Ellen McBride	U. S. Fish and Wildlife
Brad Lange	Lange Twins, Inc.
John Beckman	Building Industry Association

SJCOG Staff/Consultants Present:

Steve Dial	Deputy Executive Director/CFO – SJCOG, Inc. Treasurer
Steve Mayo	Senior Habitat Planner
Anne-Marie Poggio-Castillou	Regional Habitat Planner
Douglas Leslie	ICF Jones & Stokes
Rod Attebery	Neumiller & Beardslee
Monica Streeter	Neumiller & Beardslee
Laurel Boyd	Office Assistant II

Public Present:

None

II. Approval of February 11, 2009 Minutes

Mr. Mayo stated that he wanted to make a change to the minutes; the minutes need to reflect the correct date. The date should reflect 2009, rather than 2008.

It was moved/seconded (**Morimoto/Beckman**) to approve the minutes of Wednesday, February 11, 2009. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Consent Calendar

a. Grace Vineyards Project

It was moved /seconded (**Hoo/Beckman**) to approve recommendation to SJCOG, Inc. to allow the Grace Vineyards Project to Participate in the SJMSCP.

V. El Rio Restoration Maintenance Contract Extension

Mr. Mayo stated that the El Rio Farms Valley Elderberry Longhorned Beetle Preserve was established in 2005. Over the last few years, restoration was done; SJCOG, Inc. planted an area consisting of approximately 8 acres with the assistance of SLEWS. The area, consisting of approximately 1,200 plants was restored back to its native riparian vegetation; however, there was about 1 acre that was left untouched due to bank stabilization. SJCOG, Inc had a contract with Costa Verde Landscaping, which ended in December 2008 to maintain the restoration area; which consisted of irrigation and weeding. During 2008 the plants were doing very well, though due to the drought in California, more maintenance was needed. After consulting with ICF Jones and Stokes and considering the long term survival rate of the newly planted area through the drought, it was concluded that the contract should be extended for 10 more months. SJCOG, Inc. staff put out a bid for contract extension to short list of restoration agencies as well as Costa Verde. After the bids came back, SJCOG, Inc. staff concluded extending the contract to Costa Verde was the most logical solution because they had the lowest bid, the expertise of work and the familiarity of the property.

Mr. Mayo continued that SJCOG, Inc. staff recommends that the award of the contract extension be awarded to Costa Verde Landscaping Services not to exceed \$17,525.00. A separate contract should consist of the additional work to be executed with Costa Verde Landscaping Services with additional planting work not to exceed \$19,000; and also with the consideration that additional costs may be added based on the number of plants to be replaced.

Mr. Niblock stated that he would like to review the summary of the other bids for this project for comparison, so that it may be helpful for the HTAC committee to analyze; though Mr. Niblock recognizes that Costa Verde Landscaping has familiarity with the property.

Mr. Gifford questioned if SJCOG, Inc. staff needed that one acre and then asked what the motivation was behind it.

Mr. Mayo stated that SJCOG, Inc. staff wanted to just fill it because between plant sites there's a big empty void also, the one acre already has irrigation. SJCOG, Inc. staff doesn't need to plant the one acre but we can.

Mr. Gifford stated that SJCOG, Inc. staff is in a 10 month extension because the implications are sort of in a drought and maybe plant survival isn't the greatest. Mr. Gifford asked what the plant survival is on the property.

Mr. Mayo stated that plant survival rate is 71% in 2008 but needs to stay above 60% over the three year period.

It was moved/seconded (**Beckman/Gifford**) to recommend Approval to the SJCOG, Inc. Board to Award the El Rio Farms Habitat Restoration Project Maintenance Contract Extension to Costa Verde Landscape Services; but to wait to on the Authorization of the contract for the additional planting work to be executed with Costa Verde Landscaping Services.

VI. 2008 Annual Report Final Draft

Mr. Mayo stated that everyone should have a copy of the Final Draft Annual Report for 2008. SJCOG, Inc. wants to entertain a recommendation to the SJCOG Board in March of 2009, so that staff can release it by April 1, 2009. There were minor changes, but no comments were submitted to the Final Draft Annual Report. Mr. Mayo reviewed the changes and stated that the good news is that SJCOG, Inc. is 90% satisfied and would like to get final comments in by a deadline of March 13, 2009. SJCOG, Inc. staff recommends approval from HTAC to release the Final Draft Annual report to the SJCOG Board and permitting agencies

It was moved/seconded (**Beckman/Hoo**) to approve recommendation to SJCOG, Inc. Board to Release the Final Draft of SJMSCP 2008 Annual Report to Permitting Agencies.

VII. Other Matters of Business

a. Quarterly Reporting

Ms. Castellou stated that she has one request on the quarterly reporting from the local jurisdictions; going forward, some jurisdictions are not giving SJCOG, Inc. staff their full information that is required for quarterly reporting. SJCOG, Inc. staff needs the exact acreage and the fees that are being used, which without the proper information, it causes an error in calculation. Ms. Castellou stated that she can provide a template of the information SJCOG, Inc. staff needs.

Ms. Jones stated that Ms. McBride is now an official employee of U.S. Fish and Wildlife department. Ms. McBride will be the representative for HTAC from now on.

This was an informational item only

VIII. Summary and Adjournment

There being no further business to, the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 am until April 8, 2009.