

## **CRESTON ADVISORY BODY**

Meeting Minutes – Prepared by Don Clark

In person

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 7 PM

Creston Community Center

Members Present: Don Clark, Sheila Lyons, Roy Barba, Steve Almond, Mike Aarons, Wayne Waszkiewicz (Thomas Edel's alternate), Matt Lynge

Guests Present: Ross Henderson, Ed Redig, Supervisor Debbie Arnold, Michael Young, Linnea Chandler

1. **Meeting** called to order at 7:00 pm.
2. **Recorder for this meeting:** Don Clark
3. **Minutes** to the January meeting. Motion to approve by Steve. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Unanimous vote to accept as written.
4. **Public Comments.** none
5. **Public Safety**
  - a. Deputy McKinney reported on November 2022-February 15, 2023 with the following: lots of activity on O'Donovan Road including burglary and a car theft, loud music and one animal cruelty investigation. School was burglarized and a computer stolen. A PC 290 (sex offender) failed to register.
  - b. Cal Fire Representative Aaron Minninni reported public Safety calls, 13 medical, 3 public assistance, 2 fire calls, 2 hazard alarms & 2 wellness checks. Captain Ryan and Chief Talburt working on an emergency plan for flooding and evacuation for the Creston area. Also, hoping to work with the Fire Safe Council with the chipping program this spring and summer. This would help mitigate some of the creek debris and creating firebreaks.
  - c. CHP report: none
6. **New Business:**

Sarah Paulson and Megan Rooney from California Fish and Wildlife Department presented on the project planning and emergency work resulting from possible future "atmospheric river" flood events. Code 1600 covers the Emergency Procedures addressing creek crossing and fencing repairs needed following flooding events. Under an emergency situation, form 1610 is used to report work done to save house or property, due 14 days after work begins. Streambed alteration projects come under Code 1620, which is much more extensive. Additional information at [www.wildlife.ca.gov/Regions](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Regions). Her advice was to do any work clearing creeks on private property now while we are in winter storm situations with more rain in the forecast. Surface debris can be removed and does not require any type of permit. She pointed out that Fish and Wildlife does not issue fines. DWR issues fines. Climate Resiliency Grants are available for up to \$200M, but this is for agencies and non-profits, not individuals.
7. **Fifth District Supervisor Report:** Supervisor Debbie Arnold (present in person) reminded us that under the new supervisory district maps includes Creston as being in the district 1, after she retires in January 2025. Dawn Ortiz Leggitt will be up again for election in 2024 since she replaced Adam Hill in a special election after he died. Next District 2 & 4 elections will be with new district lines (2026). Districts 1,3 and 5 are up for re-election on the same years as the US President (2024). New District Map is being challenged with a lawsuit. Rules for redistricting say they must try to

to keep cities and community reserve lines whole. No one knows what the final district lines will be until the court case is settled. Discussions are happening behind closed doors.

Paso Basin's safe yield has been reduced from the originally estimated a90,000 acre feet to around 60,000 AF. County still has land use authority while GSAs will have control of the water. There is talk of giving GSA's land use authority. She believes this would be a huge mistake. Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District seeking GSA status through LAFCO. B of S will revisit this subject. If this were allowed to happen, County will no longer be the controlling authority on this committee. The Estrella- El Pomar-Creston and the Shandon-San Juan Water Districts would together control management of the PR Basin. The new GSP has recently been approved by DWR. It will be in place for 5 years at least so changes will not happen any time soon.

Items coming before the Board of Supervisors included: Integrated Waste Management, WMA recycling rules and laws, 3 ECE Energy (brokered energy group) to be revisited. Bruce Gibson, et al. have removed road maintenance as a priority in the County budget. Additionally, new B of S majority have removed Supervisor Arnold and Peschong from the PR Basin GSA Committee and replaced them with Gibson and a County staff member, thereby removing anyone who lives over the PR Basin, or anyone is voted in by residents over the PR Basin, from having a say in how they are represented on this issue. Basically they have taken over our vote without representing the district. Camping on Rural parcels Ordinance will be ongoing.

8. **Planning & Building Department & Projects report:** No report from County representative. Jim Wortner's report stated that there have been no changes to any of the three remaining cannabis projects in progress for Creston.

9. **Unfinished Business:**

- CAB and Thomas Edel separately requested that Thomas be included on any ad hoc committee assembled by Supervisor Peschong on drafting a Rural Camping Ordinance. To date we have not heard anything about the formation of this committee.
- Thomas Edel and Sheila Lyons met with Supervisor Peschong and discussed issues related to Creston – specifically Rural Camping problems we have faced in Creston. PR Basin and water management. Community Center problems with Planning and Building permit. Impact of change in members of B of S board.
- Public Information – Nothing to report

10. **Committee Reports:**

- a. By-Laws – Nothing to report.
- b. CAB Elections for 2023 representatives running are Sheila Lyons, Matt Lynge, Thomas Edel, Steve Almond, Roy Barba. Steve Almond has said he will not run again and is actively looking for a replacement.

11. **TREASURERS REPORT** -\$1776.24 in the checking account with expenses including \$100 to the CATCH Fund for facility rental, leaving a balance of \$1676.24 for February 2023.

12. **Net meeting** – March 15th

Meeting adjourned 9:00 pm

Submitted to Creston Advisory Board by Don Clark