



HIGHGROVE MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Highgrove Library

530 W. Center Street, Highgrove, CA 92507

Wednesday July 24, 2013

7:00 pm

**Minutes**

1. **Roll Call** Melanie Zimmermann, Richard “Barney” Barnett, Kathleen Cochran, Don Earp (absent), Denis Kidd, Mark Visyak, Raina Boal (absent- excused, conflicting work schedule)
2. **Approval of Agenda & Minutes:** Melanie was excused from last meeting due to medical reasons.
3. **Old Business:**
  - Street name changes discussed about changing Old Highgrove Road, on the east side of Mount Vernon Avenue, to East Center Street.
  - The former Spring St. east of Mt. Vernon Ave. was changed to Blue Mountain Drive a few years ago. Current residents east of Mt. Vernon Ave. on Blue Mountain Drive objected to changing Blue Mountain Drive back to Spring St. because it has taken them 5 years to get their address recognized as Blue Mountain Drive.
  - Barney motioned to have Center St. east of Mt. Vernon Ave. changed from Old Highgrove Road to East Center Street on the east side of Mt Vernon and for Blue Mountain Drive to remain Blue Mountain Drive on the east side of Mt. Vernon Avenue. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Melanie, motion passed by unanimous vote of MAC.
  - Barney motioned with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Melanie to remind the county that any new Highgrove street signs should include the Highgrove logo at the top of the signs. Motion carried.
  - Members of the Community have stated that Main St. is not properly marked and needs correction to correct their addresses on Main Street.
4. **New Business:**
  - Gen. Mgr. of Riverside Public Utilities, David Wright, stated that water customers who get their water from the city of Riverside but live outside the city limits have a 50% Surcharge. Customers inside the city limits were able to vote on measure A to allow 11.5% transfer of the water tax to be used for Riverside Police and Riverside library and other city services but Highgrove customers were not allowed to vote on Measure A.

Barney asked why Highgrove customers have to pay this extra fee when it isn't going for water related purposes. Per David Wright on the General Fund Transfer: The return on our investment was voted on Prop 218. That vote is part of the City of Riverside Charter and citizens within the city vote on that. The utilities from Riverside help smaller communities to provide clean healthy water. City Services are mapped out for decades. Services in the county cost more than services within the city and it is not the same standard (in regards to the infrastructure.) Maintenance and operation costs are more outside the city limits. It costs more to send water to Highgrove from the UCR area. Question was raised by community member if we could change to a different water company. David Wright stated that two water companies would have to agree in order to transfer the service to another agency or we could request going back to our own water system. Water meters are being replaced every 10 years because the older the meter, the slower it runs.

Suggestion: Send a letter to the Riverside City Council asking for a waiver and contact Supervisor Tavalogne and ask him to intervene on our behalf.

Riverside City Water is supplied generally in areas from the UPRR track to the I-215 freeway and the older parts of Highgrove. Water service, for the new homes planned in Spring Mountain Ranch are not serviced by the City of Riverside. This area and other newer portions of Highgrove are within Riverside-Highland Water Company's jurisdiction. When we go to sewer, the bill will be to the City of Riverside.

## **5. Staff Reports & Board Member Updates**

- Sheriffs Report: Lieutenant Dave Knudsen will be transferred to Lake Elsinore. Lieutenant Eric Hernandez will be our new Officer. Medical marijuana shops discussed and proximity to the gun shop. DA and Code Enforcement are working together to close down the shop but the business in Highgrove is tied up in court.
- The \$120 assessment fee that was voted to cover the salary of a Highgrove deputy in 1995 would now cost \$135.00 per parcel per year. There is money in the account and this money can be tapped into for certain Sheriff services.
- Melanie asked if we could take care of the homeless on Spring Street and Swayze. Dave will give it to the Corporal.

## **6. Public Comments/Board Member Reports**

- Review of the MAC Members Participation:  
We would like to have active members on the board. Melanie's absence was discussed since she had missed several meetings. She explained that she missed the meetings due to medical reasons but she is back and would like to continue on the board. Don Earp still wants to remain on the board but also has missed several meetings. We will check the By-laws on absences.
- The Highgrove Burros were discussed. We are still having problems with the

burros coming into the neighborhood and defecate on the lawns. Only one Burro sign is left out of 10 signs that were posted.

- Spring Mountain Ranch Representative Debbie Melvin spoke and updated the Spring Mountain Ranch progress. Grading and compaction done but barricades are still up on Pigeon Pass Road.
- Denis announced there will be a Town Hall Meeting in Grand Terrace at Azure Hills Church at 7pm-8pm on Wednesday July, 31. Grand Terrace has declared a fiscal emergency and is proposing a utility tax increase.
- Kathy Cochran wanted to know if anything was done about the burnt out railroad ties by the railroad tracks and she is waiting for a phone number.
- Code Enforcement phone number: 951-485-5840 Mary Overholt
- Barney announced that former Highgrove resident Dixie Hogan passed away.

#### **7. Items for Future Agenda**

- a) Bixby Land Co.
- b) Code Enforcement
- c) Cost of Sheriff for Highgrove
- d) Water Letter to Riverside City Council

**8. Announcements, Next Meeting Date:** Wednesday August 28, 2013 @ 7:00pm

**9. Adjournment:** 8:43pm

\*\*\*Further questions or comments please contact: Jason Farin, Legislative Assistant 951.955.1020 Agendas may be found online the Monday prior to our meeting at the following address: [www.rivcodistrict2.org](http://www.rivcodistrict2.org)