

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

TRANSPORTATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Tony Carstens · Agency Director

Planning Department

Ron Goldman · Planning Director

ANZA GROUNDWATER STUDY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting: Tuesday, November 28, 2006

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.

**South County Permit Assistance Center,
39493 Los Alamos Road, Murrieta, CA**

MEETING NOTES

1:05p.m. :Meeting Begun: Jerry Jolliffe begins meeting and introduces Peter Martin from the USGS, and announces that meeting notes are going to be taken and made available on the county website.

It is proposed and decided that meetings will commence henceforth every 3rd Thursday of each month beginning January 18, 2006, from 1:00 – 3:00p.m.

Jerry Jolliffe opens the floor to anyone having comments about the study.

Frank Miller states that the Water Master Report which is distributed annually is very informative about all watersheds including the Anza watershed. He suggested a sub-report focusing primarily on the Anza area be created.

Chuck Binder stated that the most recent report was distributed in August of 2006 for the 2005 Report, and that he can work on formatting some kind of report regarding the Anza area and making it available. He stated that the 2006 Draft Water Master Report should be ready sometime in April and the final report would tentatively be ready in June of 2007.

Suggestions were made by the group that the Powerpoint Presentation Email be made available to the public to have emailed to them. Mr. Martin stated that the email would be too large to email to everyone and that it can be possibly put onto the county website for public access.

Anthony Madrigal – Representative from the Cahuilla Indian Reservation stated that the Tribe in whole believes that their water supply is being greatly affected. He stated that the Tribe agrees with the study, and will work with any agencies to assist with the study, but expressed great concern about the three year time frame for the study to be completed. He stated that the tribe felt it would not have enough water right to withstand the three year wait, and suggested some kind of a management plan being put into place to resolve any concerns by the tribe.

Chuck stated that motions and complaints have been filed by the Cahuilla and other Tribes. He stated that there is a hearing regarding those motions on Monday, January 22, 2007 at 1:00pm in the Federal District Court in San Diego. He stated that a notice regarding the hearing would be sent by email form to everyone in the group.

Jerry gave the floor over to Mr. Peter Martin and suggests Mr. Martin go over the study to ensure that everyone fully understand the process and its scientific validity.

Mr. Martin stated that the proposal is going through review with the Science Center and then it will go to the Region for approval. The proposal has to be approved before any work can be done. Mr. Martin stated he can give one week for any requests for changes to the proposal, but in order for the proposal to be submitted for a timely approval these changes would need to be received by him by December 5, 2006.

Mr. Martin stated objectives of the proposal included:

Framework

Water Budget

Different Components (rainwater, etc.)

Quality of groundwater (now and perceived for the future)

Checking for high nitrates

Checking the age of the water (whether the water is recharged annually or many, many years old.)

He also stated that management is developing a length of time to collect data to make reports on the water – synthetic data – rainfall gauges. Currently there is no surface water data and there isn't anything to do about that, but that surface water runoff is an important part of the data. Reports will be written to:

1. Characterize the geology – gravity surface geotechnical techniques such as electromagnetic radar. There is a need to get copies of wells that have already been drilled in the area as well as any further wells to be drilled in order to get data from them. Geophysical logs to record deposits will be performed as well as establishing a location and funding to drill a well for USGS to attain data about water level quality.

Jerry stated that funding should be coming no later that March 2007.

Peter stated he would like to begin work in January 2007 and that the Anza/Terwilliger area will be the main focus.

2. Define Aquifers – how many are there and do they affect each other (deep and shallow aquifers)?

A question was proposed about how the percentages were configured, and the importance of surface water testing. Mr. Martin stated that they are configured by funding mainly. The

USGS configured the money where they felt it was needed most. He stated that surface water testing would be done at approximately 2%.

Mr. Martin stated the hydrology of the area will be figured by the transducers at the wells that have already been drilled in the area, and that the modeling will help to understand all of the data received.

A question was asked about how the USGS is going to figure if the Rancho Santa Margarita is the water supply for all of the different aquifer levels.

Chuck Binder stated that the courts found that the shallow aquifers were from the Rancho Santa Margarita water supply and they have jurisdiction over them, but that the deep aquifers were found to not be a part of the Rancho Santa Margarita water supply and they do not have jurisdiction over that.

Mr. Martin stated the model is going to decipher how much of the groundwater/surface water is running out of the area and how much is staying in the area (runoff – precipitation). Smaller, less expensive gauges for the streams are going to be attempted to be developed. The current surface water model is going to give current and future data about groundwater and surface water.

A suggestion was made to use isotopes for groundwater testing. Mr. Martin stated that isotopes cannot be used solely for groundwater testing to get a detailed reading. He stated that the models they have developed will give a full spectrum of data.

Mr. Martin stated that there is going to be aging testing of the water; for example, if there is Tritium present that would show newer water, but if there is Carbon 14 present the water would be considerably older water, possibly even thousands of years old.

A suggestion was made from the Cahuilla Tribe representative - to help in finding the recharge cycles - to utilize the Bureau of Reclamation. He stated that a gentleman from the Bureau of Reclamation had stated he would be happy to assist in obtaining data for the study or possibly sharing current data obtained by his department. Mr. Martin stated he had been attempting to contact the gentleman from the Bureau of Reclamation with no success as of yet, and that he would keep trying to contact him.

Jerry Jolliffe suggested putting the Bureau of Reclamation on the email list for the monthly meetings. It was agreed upon by the group to do so.

Mr. Martin stated the USGS had a basin characterization model that would tell how much recharge occurs versus runoff, and that it was relatively less expensive to use than the groundwater model.

Mr. Martin stated that Velocity Logs will help determine how deep water is coming from, but velocity gauges are very expensive. Some data in fractured rock will be obtained by wells at that level, but in most cases at 100 feet down or more the amount of water is

lower. The fractured rock system is still not that well known. Transducers are going to be needed to monitor the fractured rock system, preferably wells that are not being pumped. Deep aquifers might not recover quickly enough if water is pumped from them. Their water might be received over a long period of time from the mountains and not be affected by rainfall, but more research is needed to be sure.

He stated that production wells go from 100 to 600 feet. The different depths will be tested for septic infiltration. Best data is from the shallow area just above the pump, and velocity logs are needed for this testing.

Mr. Martin stated that existing wells are going to be utilized as much as possible.

A representative from the County of San Diego stated that they were concerned about nitrates being pushed into their water supply system, and inquired how thorough the nitrate testing for both septic and environmental would be.

Mr. Martin stated that Septic nitrates and Agricultural nitrates can be differentiated in chemical tests. Other contamination in wastewater can be tested as allowed in budgets and funding. Finding high nitrate areas should be determined to decide where not to pump water for water contamination problems, but it all depends on budget issues how extensive the testing will be.

Mr. Martin's colleague stated any concerns or questions can be email to him at Pmmartin@usgs.gov.

Mr. Martin stated that particle testing can be utilized by both backward or forward tracking to calibrate contamination.

He also stated that a nitrate problem hasn't been seen at this point, and that a water budget will help decide the density of contamination possibilities. He referenced his study in Joshua Tree and stated it would be the same process.

Jerry inquired about having the Joshua Tree data available on the website for people to become more informed and educated about the whole process.

Mr. Martin said that anyone wishing to find out more about the Joshua Tree project to learn more can email him a request and the he would email the links back.

FUNDING ISSUES:

Jerry Jolliffe advised that a system needs to be set up for an account where money can be deposited with the county and then the USGS can be paid as needed. County Counsel has discussed doing something in the way of an account. The funding issues are still not further along than they were before, but work is being done to get issues resolved. Joe Tronti (Board of Supervisors) has been contacted about setting up a meeting to resolve

the issue and facilitate the account set-up. The Vision and Goals that were adopted by the Board of Supervisors included the water study at the top of the list of importance.

The residents of Anza feel that they have paid enough taxes to facilitate a processing of funding for this project. (stated by current resident)

Mr. Martin stated that researching grants to help facilitate funding would be very helpful to getting the project off the ground as soon as possible. It is agreed by everyone that the project needs to be started as soon as possible.

There were many suggestions about how to pay back the loan for the project such as attaching a fee to any future well permits or building permit fees.

There is a high level of frustration among the group about getting the funding issue resolved.

Jerry Jolliffe stated he would work to have the funding arranged by February, and that he would attempt to set up the meeting with the County Counsel as soon as possible.

Jerry stated again that any and all comments for the proposal needed to be emailed to him or Peter Martin by December 5, 2006.

There is a general consensus that the county should pay into this project.

Due to the high level of frustration regarding the funding issues a funding meeting has been set for December 14, 2006, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. It was suggested by the group to have essential people in the county present at the meeting to help resolve the issues first hand.

A representative from Dyson stated that he wanted to be sure that everyone was well aware of the fact that they have offered funding a loan for the project, but were in no way paying for the study and any contributions would be greatly appreciated.

The consensus of the group was that the loan needs to be paid back as soon as possible.

One of the current residents of Anza suggested that the current residents be credited contributing towards the project with their property taxes, and that any future developments should be charged some sort of fee. He also stated that the Village Center should be top priority before big housing developments, but that he agrees that more people are necessary to validate a Village Center.

Jerry stated that the data needs and sources will be postponed to the meeting in January, but that a list needed to be compiled from the USGS, so that those needs can be referred to the people who can meet those needs.

Jerry confirmed that the meetings would continue every 3rd Thursday of the month beginning with January 18, 2007 from 1-3pm. He also reiterated that any questions, comments, or concerns be emailed to Peter Martin with USGS at Pmmartin@usgs.gov.

Jerry concluded the meeting at 3:15pm.

Filename: Anza Meeting Minutes.DOC
Directory: C:\Documents and Settings\jward\Desktop
Template: C:\Documents and Settings\jward\Application
Data\Microsoft\Templates\Normal.dot
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Subject:
Author: David Mares
Keywords:
Comments:
Creation Date: 11/30/2006 10:33:00 AM
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