

**Russian River Property Owners Association**

Officers: Brad Petersen, President; Paul Foppiano, Past President; Harry Black, Vice President; Rickie Pina, Treasurer; Carolyn Wasem, Secretary

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: January 11, 2023**

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 5155 Highway 128, Geyserville, CA

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

President Brad Petersen called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm. Board members Harry Black, Richard Rued, David Fanucchi, Rickie Pina, Carolyn Wasem, David Fanucchi, Allan Nelson, Cam Mauritson, Justin Miller, Pat Burns, Paul Foppiano, and Bret Munselle were present.

Advisors Adriane Garayalde and Walter Keiser were present.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – December 21st

Harry Black moved to approve the minutes for December 21, 2022. Pat Burns seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

1. FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVAL

Rickie Pina presented the Financial Report. Balance on December 31, 2022, $36,930.21. Rickie Pina moved to approve the Financial Report. Harry Black seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Item 1. Consideration to approve contract with County of Sonoma for Feasibility Study. (Chair Petersen/Walter)

Walter Kieser presented the workplan for the $50,000.00 contract for District Formation. Cam Mauritson moved to approve the contract. Allan Nelson seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

Item 2. Initiation of LAFCO District Formation Process (Chair Petersen)

* 1. Update on status with LAFCO- Reviewed options for creating a District in Alexander Valley…LAFCO or legislation. Also, some boundary changes are being considered, based on requirements of SGMA. Tim Byrd, Gallo, gave his thoughts on both processes and the risk/uncertainty of either route. Legislation may have a cheaper cost. There is also political vs. bureaucratic uncertainty. Would LAFCO be CEQA exempt? Meeting set with Senator McGuire on January 30th. Consensus is to submit language to hold a legislative spot.

Reviewed draft legislative document and roster of properties.

* 1. Outreach to Supervisors

Outreach will continue.

Item 3. Review of Petition Process (Chair Petersen)

Walter reviewed the District Formation Steps. The election process is paid for by the District (win) or the County (loss).

Cam Mauritson updated the Board on his and Justin’s meeting with Supervisor Gore. The preference is to continue the LAFCO process to create the District. There is a discretionary exemption for CEQA.

**MOTION:** Cam Mauritson moved to initiate the LAFCO process to form the Alexander Valley Water District. Justin Miller seconded. Passed with a unanimous vote.

**MOTION:** Harry moved to continue pursuing the legislative process to form the Alexander Valley Water District. Paul Foppiano seconded. Motion passed with majority vote. Cam Mauritson opposed.

Item 4. Authorization to Identify Legal Counsel for Formation Process (Chair Petersen)

Discussed the need for special counsel experienced in District creation, as well as counsel to review our documents.

**MOTION:** Pat Burns moved to retain Aubrey Mauritson to provide document review. Allen Nelson seconded. Motion passed, with Cam Mauritson abstaining.

Consensus for Walter to move forward to identify possible counsel to write the petition and other requirements to form the District.

Item 5. Review Boundary Map and Properties to Include (Chair Petersen)

The proposed boundary follows the groundwater basins for the Alexander Valley. Will have larger map printed to see details.

Item 6. Discuss Selection of 5 Board Candidates (Chair Petersen)

Had a discussion on identifying 5 candidates with diverse representation to be the initial Board members upon District creation. Asked everyone to pass on the names of good candidates. TABLE for further discussion at next meeting.

Item 7. To Do for RRPOA and Environmental Groups:

1. Update on Potter Valley Project was provided.
2. Working Group consists of Brad, Harry, Bret. Adriane.
3. Develop list of goals/principles. What are concerns of landowners? Consider language issues in documents.
4. Write plan with identifying vision/goals for reliable water for AV.
5. Outreach to AV tribes for input and participation.
6. Finalize a Shared Plan with Groups/Tribes for Collaborative Reliable Water Supply Effort.
7. GOAL: Large, broad support has most strength to attain our goal of water continuing into the Russian River system.

Item 8. Discussion on District Assessments and Special Taxes (Chair Petersen)

Walter gave an overview on options. TABLE to future meeting for discussion.

Item 9. Update Grant Opportunities (Adriane Garayalde) TABLE

Item 10. OTHER BUSINESS.

Passed out list of Committees.

Item 11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Membership Drive

Item 12. NEXT MEETING – FEBRUARY 8TH  at the Oriental Hall.

Item 13. ADJOURNMENT at 6:10p.m.

Motion to adjourn by David Fanucchi. Seconded by Justin Miller. Passed by unanimous vote.