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# Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency

*City of Corona* ◇ *City of Hemet* ◇ *City of Lake Elsinore* ◇ *City of Menifee* ◇ *City of Moreno Valley*  
*City of Murrieta* ◇ *City of Perris* ◇ *City of Riverside* ◇ *City of Temecula*  
*City of Wildomar* ◇ *County of Riverside*

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## MINUTES

Thursday, November 19, 2009 - 10:00 a.m.

County of Riverside  
4080 Lemon Street  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor – Board Chambers  
Riverside, CA 92501

**PRESENT:** Mr. Eugene Montanez, Chairperson, City of Corona  
Mr. Bill Batey, City of Moreno Valley  
Ms. Maryann Edwards, City of Temecula  
Mr. Mike Gardner, City of Riverside  
Mr. Gary Thomasian, Vice-Chair, City of Murrieta  
Mr. Fred Twyman, City of Menifee  
Mr. Mark Yarbrough, City of Perris

**ABSENT:** Mr. Bob Cashman, City of Wildomar  
Ms. Melissa Melendez, City of Lake Elsinore  
Ms. Robin Lowe, City of Hemet  
Supervisor Bob Buster, County of Riverside

**STAFF:** Carolyn Syms Luna, RCHCA  
Gail Barton, RCHCA  
Princess Hester, RCHCA  
Brian Shomo, RCHCA  
Karin Watts-Bazan, County Counsel

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Eugene Montanez, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Roll call of the RCHCA Board of Directors showed seven member agencies present with the Cities of Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Perris, Wildomar, and the County of Riverside absent.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were offered.

**4. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Maryann Edwards wished Supervisor Buster a speedy recovery.

**5. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS**

There were no additions/revisions to the agenda.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR:** Presented for Block Approval. Board Members have the option of excluding discussion items from a master motion.

**6.1 Minutes from the September 17, 2009 Meeting**

**6.2 Status of Mitigation Fee Transfers from Member Agencies through September 30, 2009**

**6.3 RCHCA Financial Report through September 30, 2009**

**6.4 Report on the Attendance Roster**

**6.5 Schedule of Board Meetings for 2010**

**MOTION for approval of items 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, and 6.5: Bill Batey  
SECOND: Mike Gardner**

**Motion Approved  
Ayes-6  
None Opposed**

**7. POLICY CALENDAR:**

**7.1 Presentation on the Lake Mathews Reserve**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year
  - Grazing = Pilot study completed.
  - SKR and Habitat Surveying and Monitoring = Federal and State permits acquired.
  - Grants for Management Actions = Completed.
  - Waste Management MOU = Completed and ongoing.
  - Vegetation Management Plan = In progress.

**7.2 Update on the Lake Mathews Reserve Facility**

Mr. Shomo reported that because of the current fire season, he has not had an opportunity to meet with the necessary individuals regarding the logistics of the building. He hopes to have much to report at the February 2010 Board meeting.

Please note that Board Member Mark Yarbrough joined the meeting at this time.

Chairman Montanez asked Mr. Shomo to schedule a meeting with Silvercrest Homes in order to see what they may be able to offer us. He requested that this meeting be

held prior to the February 2010 RCHCA Board meeting.

**7.3 Report Concerning the RCHCA Sponsored Endangered Species Day Event**

Ms. Barton reported on the October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Endangered Species Act Day event.

**7.4 Election of Vice Chair for 2010**

Chairman Montanez nominated Maryann Edwards for the Vice Chair position for 2010.

Ms. Edwards accepted the nomination.

**MOTION to elect Maryann Edwards as the Vice Chair of the RCHCA Board for 2010:  
Eugene Montanez**

**SECOND: Gary Thomasian**

**Motion Approved  
Ayes–7  
None Opposed**

**8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

- Ms. Luna reported that Santa Clara County has a parcel tax for open space which raises approximately \$4 million for their open space efforts.
- Ms. Luna reported that the California Habitat Conservation Planning Coalition (CHCPC) is making an effort to secure more Section 6 monies from Washington, DC.
- Ms. Luna is attempting to seek credit for Riverside County’s conservation plans in order to help meet the greenhouse gas reduction standards through SB 375.
- Ms. Luna met with Karen Scarborough, the highest ranking non-political appointee with the State Resources Department, who was very pleased with what the RCHCA is doing to educate the young people of our community.

**9. CLOSED SESSION**

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9:

Conference with legal counsel – anticipated litigation:

Consideration of whether to initiate litigation pursuant to subdivision (c) of Government Code Section 54956.9:

**9.1 One potential case.**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session to discuss the above. Upon return from Closed Session, Karin Watts-Bazan, General Counsel for the RCHCA, stated that there was nothing to report out at this time.

**10. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Ms. Edwards asked that at the next RCHCA Board meeting, the Board discuss the possibility

of establishing a Legislative Subcommittee.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m. The next meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on February 18, 2010, in the Board Chambers of the Riverside County Administrative Center.