

Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency

Executive Director

Herbert I. Nakasone

SARFPA Executive Committee Minutes

Members

City of Anaheim
City of Buena Park
City of Cypress
City of Fountain Valley
City of Fullerton
City of Garden Grove
City of Huntington Beach
City of Irvine
City of Newport Beach
City of Orange
City of Placentia
City of Santa Ana
City of Seal Beach
City of Stanton
City of Tustin
City of Westminster
City of Yorba Linda
County of Orange
Costa Mesa Sanitary District
O C Sanitation District
O C Flood Control District
O C Water District

January 25, 2018 at 4:04 p.m.
Orange County Water District
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA

Attendance/Attendees:

John Collins, SARFPA Chairman, Mayor, City of Fountain Valley
Jim Ferryman, SARFPA Vice-Chairman, Director, Orange County Sanitation District
Stacy Berry, Councilwoman, City of Cypress
Barbara Delgleize, Councilwoman, City of Huntington Beach
Craig Foster, City of Santa Ana
Cathy Green, Director, Orange County Water District
Nardy Khan, Deputy Director, OC Public Works
Lucille Kring, Councilwoman, City of Anaheim
Keith Linker, City of Anaheim
Sandra Massa Lavitt, Councilwoman, City of Seal Beach
Art Perry, Director, Costa Mesa Sanitary District
Margie L. Rice, Councilwoman, City of Westminster
James Tyler, Engineering Manager, OC Public Works
Marwan Youssef, Director of Public Works, City of Westminster
Herbert Nakasone, SARFPA Executive Director

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 4048
Santa Ana, CA 92702-4048

Email Address:

Herb.Nakasone@ocpw.ocgov.com
hinakasone22@gmail.com

Phone

(714) 647-3938
(949) 922-1852

Location

300 N. Flower, Room 756
Santa Ana CA 92703

Website

www.ocflood.com/sarp/sarfpa

1. Call to Order

Meeting Call to Order by Chairman John Collins at 4:04 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by City of Huntington Beach Councilwoman, Barbara Delgleize

3. Approval of September 28, 2017, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

After some discussion regarding the appropriateness of the Executive Committee approving the Minutes of the November 19, 2017 Full Agency Meeting, the Minutes were approved on a Motion by Costa Mesa Sanitary Director, Art Perry and second by Huntington Beach Councilwoman, Barbara Delgleize.

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4. Report from Washington DC Advocate Jim McConnell

Jim McConnell called in via telephone from Washington D.C. and reported the following:

- a. Jim reported a two week Continuing Resolution (CR) was passed by Congress after the three day government shutdown. Jim indicated several more CRs may be needed before a spending plan is adopted if any.
- b. Jim is confident the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project will receive \$40 million and possibly more, if Congress increases funding for U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) infrastructure projects, like they have done in the past.
- c. Jim indicated the Westminster Watershed Study (Study), according to reports from USACE Headquarters, is continuing as schedule with the Tentative Selected Plan Report to be completed in May 2018 and is confident the USACE will fund the Study to its completion.
- d. According to Jim, it will be critical for the Study to have as its alternative, a project with a 100 year level of protection. A project with 25 year level of flood protection will not have a benefit for Orange County.
- e. Jim reported USACE staff working on the Study is looking to include impacts of flooding to highways and freeways in Orange County and Los Angeles County, thereby improving the benefit cost ratio of the selected project.
- f. According to Jim, the final Chief's Report is scheduled for completion in 2019 by the USACE Great Lakes District located in Chicago.
- g. Discussion by Executive Committee Members:
Nardy Khan, OC Public Works (OCPW) Deputy Director, asked Jim McConnell to respond to concerns raised by USACE staff regarding the construction funding for a Westminster Project.

Jim responded by saying funding of USACE construction projects is always a 64-thousand dollar question. Jim indicated the Office of Management and Budget recommends USACE construction projects based on the projects benefit cost (BC) ratio and prefers projects with BC ratios of 2 to 1 or 2.5 to 1. Because of the high BC ratio criteria established by the Office of Management and Budget, Jim indicated it is important for the Chief's Report be a quality report rather than a "quick report".

Executive Director, Herb Nakasone, indicated SARFPA plays a key role prior to and during the construction selection process by indicating support of the Construction Project to our Congressional Representatives. To inform our Congressional Representatives of the need for a project in the Westminster Watershed, Herb will attempt to schedule meetings with Representative Lowenthal and Representative Correa.

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Nardy Khan indicated OCPW has been coordinating with their Washington Lobbyist, NAME, and recently invited Congressman Graves, who is the Chairman of the House Environmental and Infrastructure Sub-Committee, to field review the Westminster Watershed site. A recent meeting with USACE LA District Commander Gibbs and Chicago District Commander Brigadier General Helmlinger, resulted in both commanders acknowledging their commitment in completing the Study.

Chairman John Collins and Councilwoman Barbara Delgleize suggested the information of flood insurance premiums paid by Orange County residents in the Westminster Watershed, previously provided be made available again. Executive Director Herb Nakasone indicated he would coordinate with County staff in obtaining the most recent FEMA data in preparing the information to inform our Congressional Representatives.

5. Report on Santa Ana River Mainstem and Westminster Watershed Study:

James Tyler of OCPW provided an update on the Santa Ana River Mainstem using a handout provided at past meetings to identify the progress on the Project since the November 16, 2017 Full Agency meeting. James also Provided a one page Fact Sheet titled "Westminster & East Garden Grove Flood Risk Management Study".

James reported a property was acquired at Prado Dam in December 2017. OCPW has 15 properties schedule for acquisition in FY 17-18 at an estimated cost of \$32 million. When asked by Costa Mesa Sanitary District Director, Art Perry, regarding funding availability for the purchase of the remaining properties at Prado, James reported the Flood Control District believes it has sufficient funding to acquire the remaining properties and includes approximately \$20 million in its annual budget for acquisitions.

Note: The Flood control District has the ability to transfer funding from its Reserves should it need additional funding to cover the cost of a specific property acquisition.

In regards to construction projects behind Prado Dam, the River Road Dike is now schedule for construction in FY 2019 along with the Norco Bluffs Bank stabilization project. The Alcoa Dike is schedule to begin in FY 2018 and the Prado Dam Spillway in FY 2020, which is the USACE optimal schedule.

In regards to the Study, James reported the Chief's Report, according to his sources, is scheduled for completion in 2020. James reports OCPW staff has conference calls every two weeks with the USACE Chicago District to review the status of the Study.

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6. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Herb Nakasone reported SARFPA's web site is up and running and can be accessed at www.ocflood.com/sarp/sarfpa. The site includes contact information, the most recent Minutes, Meeting Schedule, Executive Committee members, list of member organizations, along with the By Laws, Joint Powers Agreement and the most recent Audit.

Herb also suggested a field trip to Prado Dam could be schedule in the month of March if there is sufficient interest. After some discussion, it was determine there is sufficient interest to allow the Executive Director to coordinated a field trip with OCPW staff. A notice will be sent out to all SARFPA members when an agreed upon date is selected. In regards to the field trip, it was suggested that several dates be identified for consideration.

7. Public and Representatives Comments

Nardy Khan asked how and when meeting dates with our Congressional Representatives would be scheduled. Executive Director Herb Nakasone indicated he would make the initial contact on behalf of the SARFPA Chairman and meeting dates would be based on the Representatives availability during their Easter or Summer recess. The preparation of a handout listing the millions of dollars being paid for flood insurance was suggested as a means of communicating the need for a flood protection project in the Westminster watershed when meeting with Congressional Representatives.

No further comments were received.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. Nakasone', is written over a horizontal line.

Herbert I. Nakasone,
Executive Director