

**LEONA VALLEY TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES FOR GENERAL MEETING, JULY 12, 2010**

**MEETING OPENED:** by President Suzy Love at 7 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike Waters, Larry Tyler, Chuck Fluharty and Suzy Love

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bill Elliott

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Motion to approve the Minutes for the June meeting made by Larry Tyler, seconded by Chuck Fluharty, approved by voice vote.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer's Report was read by Mike Waters. All accounts total \$115,062.95.

**AGENDA:**

**PRESIDENT COMMENTS:** Suzy Love displayed a box of Antelope Valley Resource Guides prepared by the Los Angeles County. She will distribute stacks for folks to pick up in several venues in the community.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Juanita Kirkpatrick noted that the Town Council meeting days were incorrect in the Resource Guide. It listed the second and fourth Mondays which was changed a while back. Larry Tyler will email a correction to the publishers.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

**CERT:** Larry Tyler mentioned a July 17 CERT refresher course. He also gave a summary of the countywide united CERT organization under development of which he is one of only two CERT trained people who are active in the County CERT program. It will comprise of CERT trained personnel and LA County Fire and Sheriff Departments from throughout the county. This organization should ideally be able to provide response ability throughout the county in the case of an emergency and/or disaster situation.

**ELIZABETH LAKE ROAD:** Larry Tyler addressed a concern raised last meeting by Juanita Kirkpatrick regarding a press item that suggested Elizabeth Lake Road would be completed "to essentially Godde Hill." Mike Mischel of Palmdale Department of Public Works stated that the city is very aware of the Leona Valley/Ritter Ranch settlement agreement and the extension of the road will conform to that agreement. The city is still undergoing legal action with SunCal's bonding company and that the city wants Phase 1 of the road completed including the street lighting. The drainage improvements on the eastbound side of the roadway are among the items to be taken care of.

**WATER RATE HIKE COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chuck Fluharty reported that Larry Tyler is to sign off on the Settlement Agreement with Cal Water. The Administrative Law Judge is currently writing his report to submit to the California Public Works Commission. It should be available for public comment by the end of September and final decisions should be made by Dec. 31. It was suggested that all who are interested should be able to listen to the settlement hearings next time via speaker phones or some other system.

**VOLUNTEERS ON PATROL:** Larry Tyler, one of the only three volunteers from Leona Valley to this Lakes and Valleys organization, encouraged folks to take advantage of the vacation service offered by the trained personnel. A volunteer, in a marked, white, Sheriff's vehicle, will check on property, especially windows and doors, to make sure nothing is out of the ordinary. If there is a problem an emergency contact person listed by the vacationer will be contacted and if needed the Sheriff will be called to the property.

**VALLEY VINEYARDS UPDATE:** Bill Ford and John Allday, as the proposed developers of the Valley Vineyards project, told the audience that the last two clearances needed from the county had been obtained. These were clearances for water and an advance waste treatment system for the development. The county has made the decision to approve water availability after reviewing all questions about this subject to the county's satisfaction. The proposed waste treatment system has also got the county's nod. Because of the extended time the permit procedures have taken, a revised Draft Initial Study was distributed recently. There is a 30 day comment period on the DIR, which is down to less than two weeks at this time. After the presentation there was discussion about the accuracy of water availability answers and possible problems with waste treatment systems like the one proposed. In other areas with similar conditions (San Diego County and Connecticut) there have been problems reported. The Town Council's Development Committee will be reviewing the reports on the two items as soon as all papers are received.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

**ASSOCIATION OF RURAL TOWNS:** Karen Bryan presented reports from the May 27 and June 24 ARTC meetings. (See attached.)

Alice Benoit reminded listeners to make sure that any construction improvements to their property of over \$2000 be reported to their insurance companies as unacknowledged improvements are not covered. She also reported that Acton Town Council had been awarded the compensation costs (\$110,000) that had been previously denied. It was noted in Alice's presentation that the Town and County proposed map for the Antelope Valley shows all of Leona Valley as a renewable energy resource area and that the county will be relying on the final map to develop their renewable energy plans. She mentioned that Californians for Renewable Energy (CARE) is bringing a federal lawsuit against Edison. Those interested in joining CARE can do so for \$5. She has the information to join.

Larry Tyler had a letter from the county acknowledging receipt of his letter requesting an Operator Academy to train Call Fire-fighters for volunteer fire stations. LA County Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman is to respond directly to the Town Council. John Grimm told Larry that Captain Swiabek (?sp) would like to speak at the next Town Council meeting.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING:** Moved by Larry Tyler, seconded by Mike Waters, approved by voice vote at 8:15 p.m.

**Submitted by:** Christine Stoddard

Revisions to minutes: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion to approve by: \_\_\_\_\_ Bill Elliott \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_ Chuck Fluharty \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ bu Voic Vote \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 08/09/2010 \_\_\_\_\_

## ATTACHMENT

### ARTC Report of Meeting - May 27, 2010

#### 1. Presentation from the California High Speed Rail Authority

A presentation was made by the HSR Authority with an overview of the overall plan. Special focus on the parts that go through the Antelope Valley and south to the LA Basin were the main topics. Because there are several alternatives planned for the Acton/Agua Duce area the residents there are greatly concerned. The closest alternative to us is the one called "North of SR 14" and it crosses the 14 and then goes through roughly at Barrel Springs and Tierra Subida area.

California has been given/allocated \$2.3 billion in funding by the Federal government for this project.

For more information or to make a comment go to <http://cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/>

### ARTC Report of Meeting - June 24, 2010

1. A 2nd presentation/ update by the County on the Los Angeles Bicycle Master Plan. The advisory committee working on this plan is still accepting comments, feedback, and suggestions. It is anticipated that the draft plan will be available for review in the late fall.

For more information or to make a comment go to <http://lacountybikeplan.org/>

2. Jim Walker, the President of the Lakes TC, made a presentation regarding their efforts to preserve the "private half" of Elizabeth Lake, and its surrounding habitat, for future generations. Jim pointed out that the lake is a benefit to everyone in the AV and is seeking constituent support outside of the small local community. Jim said that the County was facilitating a meeting with representatives from the offices of McCarthy, Strickland and McKeon. He was hoping this meeting would happen in early July and include a tour of the lake. He is willing to make a presentation to our TC should we want more information.

3. Someone brought up... if there is a fire and the Fire Department tells you to leave, and you don't, that they could now sue you. The ARTC is getting more info on this as it could have some fairly serious impacts on your homeowners insurance. ARTC also wants to know the precedent that actually would allow such an agency to sue.

#### CHAPTER 7. CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY SERVICES ACT

Article 19. Penalties and Severability 8665. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter or who refuses or willfully neglects to obey any lawful order or regulation promulgated or issued as provided in this chapter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punishable by a fine of not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by imprisonment for not to exceed six months or by both such fine and imprisonment.