

**Santa Barbara County
Regional Conservation Strategy**

**Conservation Steering Committee Development
Meeting**

**City of Santa Maria Public Works Building
Wednesday, January 24, 2007**

Committee Members Present:

Martin Potter – CDFG

Bill Shipsey – Local Jurisdictions, (City of Santa Maria – Community Development)

Susan Petrovich – Ranching Community, (Hatch & Parent)

Sam Sweet – Environmental Community, (PhD Biologist UCSB)

Alternate Committee Members Present:

Willy Chamberlin – Ranching Community, (S.B. County Cattlemen Association)

Project Staff Present:

Grady Williams – Project Manager, Santa Barbara County

Whitney Wilkinson – Project Coordinator, Santa Barbara County

Mike Ghizzoni- Chief Deputy County Counsel

1. Meeting Minutes from November 29, 2006 Meeting:

- 1.1. The following changes were made to the corrected Draft Minutes distributed at the meeting:
- 1.2. Paragraph 3a. was revised as shown below, and now reads as follows:
“Discussed committee’s wish on placement and duration of public comment on agenda items to conform to the Brown Act. The consensus of the committee was to allow public comment at the beginning of the meeting and at each agenda item. In both cases comments may be limited to 3 minutes per person if needed to limit total public comment time. Total public comment period on non-agenda items shall not exceed 15 minutes. Further, the consensus of the committee is to keep public participation unrestricted; imposing the agreed upon limitations only when necessary given the level of public participation.”
- 1.3. In item #5, second sentence, replaced the word “defined” with “proposed”.
- 1.4. The consensus was to postpone adoption of the November 29th minutes until the following meeting of the committee.

2. Facilitator:

- 2.1. Committee members proposed potential facilitators as follows:

- 2.1.1. Susan proposed two options: 1) a facilitation firm from Los Angeles called Solution Strategies Inc., and 2) Laurie McCann of Santa Cruz.
 - 2.1.2. Grady announced that Steve Henry, FWS alternate committee member, called in to request that Bob Copper be proposed on their behalf. Katie could not be present due to illness.
 - 2.1.3. Martin Potter proposed Michael Dimock of Santa Rosa.
 - 2.1.4. Grady suggested Rick Alexander of San Diego, if the committee wished to consider another option, which it did.
 - 2.2. The consensus of the committee was candidates who are not “facilitators” by profession will not be excluded. Discussion of facilitator qualifications yielded the following:
 - 2.2.1. Be a good consensus builder and mediator
 - 2.2.2. Have experience with the HCP processes
 - 2.2.3. Be impartial
 - 2.3. The committee agreed that the project manager (PM) should request proposals from each candidate that include willingness to participate, qualifications and cost, including cost of transportation. Candidates will be given a date to respond. The PM will distribute the proposals to the committee by email, and each member will rank them individually, with the top choice being “1”. The PM will then consolidate the rankings by adding the members’ rankings of each candidate together to produce a score. Candidates receiving the lowest two scores win, and will be asked to interview with the committee at the next CSC meeting.
 - 2.4. The consensus was that qualification should be the greater consideration over cost. If the first choice is unreasonably expensive and negotiations are unsuccessful, the committee will move to the next choice, and so on.
 - 2.5. The committee affirmed that Martin’s and Katie’s votes will be included in defining consensus of the committee.

3. Public Comment and other Discussion:

- 3.1. It was asked how guidelines will be set to manage the responsibilities and limitations of the facilitator. The response was that the County’s contract with the facilitator will establish what is expected of the facilitator. Input from the committee will be sought before the contract is finalized.