

AGENDA ITEM: <u>VII-A</u>
DATE: <u>February 21, 2007</u>
ACTION: _____

**CITY OF MORRO BAY
PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY BOARD**

SYNOPSIS MINUTES

(Complete audio- and videotapes of this meeting are available from the City upon request)

Veterans Memorial Hall
Regular Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

209 Surf Street, Morro Bay
Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Vicki Landis, Chair
Barry Dorfman, Vice Chair
Roger Ewing

Bill Olson
Noah Smukler
Jane Wilzbach

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.
Members Present: Vicki Landis, Bill Olson, Roger Ewing, Noah Smukler and Jane Wilzbach
Members Absent: Barry Dorfman
Staff Present: Bill Boucher, Frank Cunningham, and Cathy Weaver
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Landis called for a moment of silence.
- III. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Board consensus to accept the Agenda as presented.
- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – The Board Members announced a number of community events and meetings that were coming up.
- V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: Landis noted there was an item left on their desks, but it pertained to a following Agenda item. There were no other written communications.
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: None
- VII. CONSENT CALENDAR: Approval of Minutes of December 20, 2006. Ewing explained that during Darren Brown’s presentation there was discussion about the North Coast Scenic Byway signage and he wanted the minutes to show the Board Members had recommended that SLOCOG keep the sign design simple. Wilzbach suggested that the joint RFPs included in the Director’s Report be identified. Boucher said staff would identify which RFPs were being discussed. Landis noted that the request to put WiFi on the January Agenda was not by her, she had just reiterated the Boards request.

MOTION: Ewing to approved minutes as corrected (Wilzbach 2nd). Vote: 5-0
- VIII. DIRECTOR’S REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS – No action required. Boucher presented his portion of the Director’s Report, which included information on: Morro Bay Blvd/Quintana Road Roundabout; Harborwalk Project; Applications to serve on Board due by Friday, January 19, 2007; SLOCOG’s Scenic Byways Program; Harbor Street Fire Station; Bonita Street Fire Station; Quintana Road Force Main break (Quintana Road at South Bay Blvd); Water Main break (Vashon St & Highway One). Questions were raised about what the abandoned water line had served and the Regional Water Quality Board hearing that had been delayed indefinitely, also questioned was the tertiary treatment system study. Boucher answered or explained all of the questions.

Cunningham presented his portion of the Director's Report, which included: street maintenance; Main/Radcliffe Intersection Improvements; MtBE Issue; Main Street Bike Lanes; and City Trees. A number of questions regarding City Trees were raised and discussed including: process to have trees removed; who pays for the Arborist reports; should the Street Tree list be updated; what are we doing to replace trees that have been removed; how are 'Landmark Trees' designated; notification and posting; and are tall trees or pines being used for replanting.

IX. OLD BUSINESS – None

X. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Nitrate Water Emergency Notification Plan – Bill Boucher gave his presentation and recommended that the Board make a recommendation to City Council. Discussion followed which included: Notification in water bills do not reach renters; health centers reach the target population of infants and pregnant women; asking property owners to secondarily notice their renters; water bill notices have lost their impact; continue researching how not to pollute ground water; posting at conspicuous places (i.e., markets, post office, library); County Health's concern with restaurants and grocery stores; and suggestion for using Neighborhood Watch organization for door to door notification. It was noted that City Council would hold another public hearing on February 13, 2007 regarding the nitrate notification plan.

MOTION: Smuckler, the Public Works Advisory Board recommends the City Council adopt the proposed nitrate notification plan adding database contacts for daycare facilities and schools (Ewing 2ND). Vote 5-0

MOTION: Smuckler: the Public Works Advisory Board recommends the City Council consider adding a section to include a long-term plan to maintain, protect and enhance the groundwater supply including reduction of nitrate on a basin wide level, with the proposed hydrology analysis as the first step (Ewing 2ND) Vote: 5-0

Cunningham and Boucher left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

B. Discussion of Wireless Internet System (WiFi). Landis opened the discussion by explaining why the item was on the Agenda and invited Ann Reeves to speak. Wilzbach asked if someone could explain what WiFi stood for or meant. Reeves explained that WiFi was a municipal system using either a fiber optic or tower/utility pole system. She explained doing a feasibility study was the first step to see what would be more economically feasible for our community. The benefit to tourism and business would be huge, it would tie your phone, internet, and cable services together in one system. The community would be able to use it for medical consultations and in case of an emergency the notification could go out to the public wirelessly. It is the future and the community would be receiving the money instead of the telecommunication industry. Landis asked for some clarification and noted some of the concerns with these types of systems. Landis said it was good to look at the subject from both sides and start to stimulate a discussion. Some discussion followed including health risks, and security.

Judy Vick said she had done a lot of research over the last 2 years and had a lot of information on radio frequency health risks from cell towers and above ground systems. She read a document listing numerous facts and figures about different communities, groups, and research reports that showed a link between radiation/radio frequencies and health issues. She stated that fiber optic systems were a safe option.

MOTION: Landis, the PWAB strongly encourages the City Council to support the formation of a citizens committee to explore the benefits and drawbacks of a municipal broadband system (Ewing 2nd). Vote: 4-1

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Elections; new members; subcommittees; update on nitrate issue (hydrologist report, continued nitrate testing); Morro Bay Beautiful trash cans; Green Accords; have AGP come and educate the public as to what they have to offer.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm to the next regularly scheduled meeting of Wednesday, February 21, 2007.