

**Sacramento Area Creeks Council**  
**Monday, September 19, 2011**  
**Board of Directors' Meeting Agenda**

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1. Call to order, Review agenda & minutes (6:35) Present: Alta Tura, Lia Robertson, Betty Cooper, Chad Rinde, Peter Tucker, Bonnie Ross, Sarah Ross, Steve Mayer, Frank Wallace.
2. Approve minutes from previous meeting - June 20, 2011: to be approved at next meeting
3. Treasurer's report from Chad: a few more Creek Week sponsorships came in and the payment for the website work was made. Peter reported that Janette Bowker, who did our website, is a great resource and we should keep her available. An instruction book on how to work on the website will be made available to Lia, Peter and Alta. There was also some discussion on how Chad would access payments to SACC from PayPal. Frank asked how our finances compare to previous years and Alta said we are looking good and have a reserve. We still have the old UCC account open due to unfinished business but we should be able to close that account after the CDs mature (about a year).

**4. Old Business & Committee Reports 7:00– 7:30**

- a) Newsletter – Alta explained that we have an annual postal permit fee which will come due again in January. Alta suggested that we might reconsider the permit if it seems like the newsletter will go mostly electronic. Lia suggested that more people will read it if it is printed and that we could consider going one double-sided page. Bonnie suggested we send a card asking people if they would prefer electronic delivery, but most board members felt that people rarely respond to suggestions to return information on how they would like their newsletter delivered. We should be able to do an electronic version of the newsletter; it's just a matter of how we will decide to deliver it: links in an email sending people to the website, a pdf attachment to an email or a combination of options. Alta feels that our Creek Week participation is largely affected by our newsletter delivery. She also feels that the mailing list could be pared down on a more regular basis. Fall newsletter article topics: Bonnie stated she would like to start doing insect articles again. Frank will do an article on sesbania removal on Arcade Creek. Alta stated that she requested an article from Deb House who received a mini-grant. Bonnie said someone from the Bufferlands might be interested in doing an article on the creeks that flow through there; Alta will contact them. Steve said we should consider an update on the Creek Stewardship effort but the committee has no direction at this time. Alta suggested we not do a Spring issue and just mail out the brochure, which could be redesigned to include a mailing label. There was a discussion as to whether we should do a Fall/Winter newsletter to go out in early December with a content deadline in late October (31<sup>st</sup>) followed by the Creek Week announcement and then a Spring/Summer newsletter in July, keeping it four pages.
- b) Creek Week – Next year's clean-up date is Saturday, April 14. Meetings start in October, first Thursday of the month at 7:30 am. Chad asked when a CW budget will be ready for his review, and Alta said the first draft should be available in late October.
- c) \$2,000 Weed Management Area Steelhead Creek Project & Arundo Removal Project along San Juan Creek – Frank Wallace: Frank said they are working on getting the money released from WMA and getting additional insured parties named; most of the money has gone for sesbania removal on the ARP and stinkwort removal out at Mather. Some private groups have been present at WMA meetings but support for invasive plant removal and weed management areas is dwindling and many are trying to decide if they

can continue. Frank described the borders and flow of Steelhead Creek and its heavy infestation of sesbania and water primrose, and also sesbania infestation of Arcade Creek near where it empties into Steelhead Creek. The San Juan Creek feeds into Arcade Creek just above Costco, and they will be removing about seven arundo clusters, a maximum up to \$9000. The school near the creek is unfortunately closed, hindering potential partnerships. Frank has a budget for the project but hasn't quite gotten the request submitted, plans to have it done soon. Frank will mostly be using AmeriCorp folks for removal but still hopes to have a partnership with the school for planting and watering. Frank thinks this will be his last project effort with the Weed Warriors since he will be retiring from the group.

d) Exhibit – Request for SACC to exhibit at Boy Scout Eternal Flame Event Oct 7-9: Alta went to the event last year at Camp Pollock and said it was an interesting event but there was very little public participation; no one could do it so we will decline.

e) Hydromodification Management Plan – Draft comment letter being developed  
<http://www.sacstormwater.org/ConstructionandNewDevelopment/ConstructionandNewDevelopment.html>

Executive Summary :

Alta reviewed some of the presentation that was given at our last meeting and reported that she has continued to follow the issue. The final report had only minor concessions on the highly developed areas and they have submitted their final plan, but it is not ready for final review by the Regional Board; there will be a public notice giving 30 days for comments and Alta is already preparing comments with Barbara Washburn asking them to address specific concerns. Alta will share the letter with us and suggests we pursue any additional concerns as individuals. She suggests we look at the report on the website but it is technical and over 150 pages long.

Sub-committee reports:

- Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring – Bill not present
- Web site – Peter – SACC redesign update; live with Word Press, he is pleased with the product, and user management will be discussed with Alta, after which time we will all be invited to make blog entries.
- Adopt-A-Creek - Jane, Bonnie, Steve, Frank: The County has allocated up to \$15,000 to spend on Adopt-A-Creek in the next fiscal year. Alta asked who the chair is and Bonnie asked when it must be decided. The money is good until the end of the fiscal year. Bonnie offered to take the lead on it in November. Alta explained that SACC must develop a draft program and then meet with Janet Parris, Jeanette Watson & Dave Tamayo to see if it would qualify for funding or any tweaking that might be needed. Steve talked about using the Creek Week participant list to gather adoption groups since they have already shown an interest in creek cleanup. Arcade Creek between Citrus Heights and Del Paso Park is suggested as an area of focus. There is a need, also, to do outreach to rural property owners in the unincorporated County.

Possible projects:

1. Partnering with SASD on their creek protection project at Garfield (monitoring vegetation and bank changes, restoration, neighborhood outreach).
2. Partnering with Mira Loma HS to extend their efforts into the community.
3. Bio-assessment

Perhaps the biggest challenge is to engage local residents in participating in the project and finding areas that are accessible for stewardship activities.

## 5. New Business 7:50 – 8:00

- a) Arcade Creek – Sewer pipe crossing closure developments; access will not be closed right away and warning signs will be posted. See letter below. Alta will serve on a committee that will start meeting in October regarding a real pedestrian bridge. The sewer district now has the responsibility of organizing the creation of a bridge since they instigated closure of the pipe crossing.

## 6. Next Board Meeting Date – Monday, October 17, 2011 at 6:30.

## 7. Adjournment (7:54)

### New Business Item a)

**From:** Aimee Norman <[normana@sacsewer.com](mailto:normana@sacsewer.com)>

**Date:** Tue, 2 Sep 2011 15:34:44 -0700

**Subject:** Arcade Creek Pipe Crossing Updates

Hello Ms. Tura and Mr. Holm,

Thank you for the feedback you have expressed to SASD related to our pipe crossing at Arcade Creek adjacent Jo Smith Nature Trail and American River College. As you are both aware, SASD's Board provided recent direction to suspend the SASD closure action related to the pipe crossing pending further review and investigation.

As we move forward related to this matter, SASD is forming a committee that will facilitate communication and collaboration between interested parties and will also ensure continued forward action as needed.

We are seeking to get representation on the committee as follows: SASD, Cameron Ranch/Oakcreek Estates HOA representatives, Sacramento Area Creeks Council, WALK Sacramento, ARC, Arcade Creek Recreation and Park District and staff from Sacramento County Water Resources and Sacramento County Department of Transportation.

To that end, we would like to ask both of you to participate in this committee as respective representatives of WALK Sacramento and Sacramento Area Creeks Council. We hope you will join this effort.

We are planning to schedule a kick-off meeting for this committee in late September. I am currently working with the Cameron Ranch/Oakcreek Estates HOA to identify its representatives and I previously preliminarily confirmed participation with both Arcade Creek Recreation and Park District and American River College. Sacramento County Water Resources and Transportation staff participation is already confirmed.

Please reply back with your response to this request for participation. I will look forward to your reply.  
Sincerely,

**AIMEE NORMAN** CUSTOMER SERVICE LIAISON  
SACRAMENTO AREA SEWER DISTRICT [916-876-6148](tel:916-876-6148) direct

**From:** Aimee Norman <[normana@sacsewer.com](mailto:normana@sacsewer.com)>

**Date:** Tue, 6 Sep 2011 15:34:44 -0700

**Subject:** Arcade Creek Pipe Crossing Updates

Dear Arcade Creek pipeline crossing stakeholder,

Thank you for your continuing interest in the matter of the sewer pipeline crossing between the Jo

Smith Nature Trail and the American River College campus. As you may know, on August 24, 2011, the Sacramento Area Sewer District (SASD) Board of Directors directed SASD staff to postpone the closure of the pipeline crossing. In the interim, several activities are underway, including:

- A consulting firm (Quincy Engineering) with expertise in standards for design and safety of pedestrian crossings is preparing an evaluation of the current crossing and possible options for improvements; final report is expected in late-September.
- At the suggestion of the community, and with endorsement by the SASD Board of Directors, SASD will install hazard signs at the crossing on both sides of the creek warning users that the crossing is hazardous and is used “at one’s own risk.” Those signs will be installed within the next two days. A pdf of the signage is attached to this email.
- SASD will continue to work with the community on this issue. We are in the process of contacting organizations that have expressed interest to-date to explore the possibility of forming a task force to seek long-term solutions.

We will continue providing updates to you and all interested parties as new information about this topic is available.

Please feel free to forward this email to others who may be interested in this topic.