

Rancho Bernardo Community Council
MAD Committee Minutes
May 10, 2006

1. Call to Order at 7:08 pm. In attendance: Alethea Altenbern, Diane Peters, Frank Auwarter, Steve Ewart, Robin Kaufman. Staff: Cory Peterson, Joe Henderson. Also attending, Donna Hartings from RB News Journal. Excused: Myrna Reese.

2. Approval of Minutes: Steve made the motion, seconded by Diane. All approved.

3. Staff Report:

-A) Carmel Valley and Carmel Mountain MADs have had backflows stolen for the brass. To prevent this from happening in RB, staff suggested the purchase of protective steel cages for our backflows, especially for our larger ones (seven or eight of them). We have approximately 15-20 backflows in RB ~ four or five presently have protective cages. Cages range from \$670 to \$1280. After much discussion, it was decided Cory Peterson would check with the City Meter Department for certain meters to be insured \$5 per month. This will cover theft, damage, leaks and inspections. Cory will report back next month on the results of his findings.

-B) An accident on the weekend of 4/6-4/7 in the first median on the east side of the freeway on Bernardo Center Drive caused roughly \$800 in damages. Insurance from person causing accident usually covers these expenses.

-C) Water meters ~ MAD is presently paying \$104 a month per meter (we have locations) for water. With installation of meters, we can wind up saving money as suspect we are being charged for more than we actually need in most areas. Prices for installation of each 3/4 inch meter is as follows:

-County Water Authority	\$4295
-City of SD Capacity Charge	\$2550
-Meter	\$151
-Administrative Fee	<u>\$166</u>
Grand Total:	\$7162 x 7 = \$50,134

We presently only have meter valves feeding our irrigation areas. Meters would actually read the amount of water we use. The meter valves lock the water (on/off). It would take approximately eight years to break even.

The City also has a policy that all meters must be located in right of ways and not medians, where most of our valves are located. Staff is looking to get this waived as it would be a substantial increase to the cost. On a positive note, we would not have to pay the service and tap fee, which is a savings of \$3045 for each meter. Total savings there would be \$21,315.

After much discussion, Diane Peters made the motion to presently pay for one meter ~ the one located at Paseo del Verano Norte ~ and see if the meter does indeed make a difference in the price we pay for watering that area. If it is successful, we'll then make a decision on how to proceed. Steve Ewart seconded the motion and all agreed. The motion will be taken to the full Community Council for a final vote.

-D) Olive trees on Rancho Bernardo Road have been sprayed with anit-fruit spray on Sunday, May 7. Remaining olive trees on Bernardo Center Drive will be sprayed on Sunday, May 14. Contractor sprays on Sundays due to less traffic on the roads. We are not charged extra for spraying on the weekends.

4. Agenda items:

-Pomerado Road Median...suggestion to make a motion on how to go forward as time is perfect at this time with less traffic on Pomerado Road.

- it was decided there is still much to consider before bringing this to the full board for a vote. Discussion of costs, ideas, where to find money (grants, DIF, etc.) still are in the works.

-Application for "Conserve a Tree Project" approved at Rancho Bernardo Community Council.

-The full board voted unanimously to accept the application presented by MAD at the RBCC's April, 2006 meeting. Robin will give information to staff, who will submit it on our behalf.

Other items:

-1) Robin brought up the subject of watering plants by the sound wall west of the freeway on Rancho Bernardo Road as she was contacted by our Councilman's office regarding the issue. When MAD was upgrading our areas of maintenance and redoing our budget, it was agreed that MAD would only maintain the area if a water system was put in. Otherwise, property owners adjacent to the sound wall would be asked to maintain the plants. There was some money left over from the project for water trucks, but that is almost depleted. A resident living in the Westwood area wrote a letter in their newsletter, asking residents to take the time to water the plants on the other side of the soundwall.

-Steve suggested a letter be written by MAD to our Councilmember's office as well as the Westwood Club, outlining who is presently responsible and when MAD would be responsible for the area. Presently, MAD is trimming plants only to keep them off the right of way as well as killing weeds as a courtesy.

-2) Committee members and staff discussed possible ways of obtaining a water meter by the sound wall as well as other items we need for MAD in RB

-when building projects come to the Planning Board, we should request assistance. RB Retail and an office project, both of which are in the works off of RB Road, are two examples.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectively submitted by Robin Kaufman