

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ZONE 9 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Meeting materials and video recordings can be viewed at: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Zone9>

Members Attending:

Wayne Peterson, County At-Large (Chair)
Brian Nelson, City Staff (Vice Chair)
Michelle Shoresman, City Council
Christine Mulholland, City At-Large

Non-Voting Members and Guests Attending:

Wyatt Banker-Hix, City of San Luis Obispo
Freddy Otte, City of San Luis Obispo
Brendan Clark, County of San Luis Obispo
Troy Barnhart, County of San Luis Obispo
Josh Porter, County of San Luis Obispo

1. Introductions and roll call

Chair Peterson calls the meeting to order at 1:30 PM and a quorum is established.

2. Approval of December 11, 2024 meeting minutes

W. Peterson introduces the item and asks for comments from the Committee.

C. Mulholland asks about the spelling of Stephnie Wald's name and the voting record for the Annual Workplan budget request, which was recorded as "(5-1-0)".

B. Clark notes that staff will verify the spelling of Member Wald's first name and will correct the voting record for the Annual Workplan budget request to reflect J. Hall's abstention, making it "(5-0-1)".

C. Mulholland moves to approve the December 11, 2024 meeting minutes, as corrected.

M. Shoresman seconds the motion.

Motion passes (4-0-0).

3. Waterway Management Plan

a. Receive an update from Staff on the Proposed Stream Gauge at San Luis Bay Drive and Consider Actions

W. Peterson introduces the item and T. Barnhart presents on the progress of the San Luis Obispo Creek stream gauge project near Avila Beach, a grant-funded initiative first

presented on December 11, 2024. The District Board of Supervisors will consider a resolution for agreement execution on April 29, 2025. Staff requests Advisory Committee endorsement of the project as detailed in the attached Draft Resolution and Board Letter.

M. Shoresman asks how operational costs will be funded after the stream gage is installed. T. Barnhart and B. Clark respond.

M. Shoresman moves to endorse the project for approval by the District Board of Supervisors. C. Mulholland seconds the motion.

Motion passes (4-0-0)

b. Open Discussion on WMP Update

W. Peterson introduces the item and B. Clark discusses the development of a technical memo related to additional stream gage locations and asks if the City has an updated Council date for the updated reimbursement agreement. B. Nelson responds.

4. Receive Presentation from Staff on the Avila Beach First Street Drainage Study

W. Peterson introduces the item and J. Porter presents an update on the Avila Beach First Street Drainage Study. Components 1 (Peer Review) and 2 (Pump Station Alternatives Analysis) of the study are complete. Work efforts to develop a Project Execution Plan and select the preferred design alternative are ongoing. Pursuing the necessary approval and funding will drive future phases of the project.

C. Mulholland asks if elevation was considered when the parking lot was being constructed, and if they added any new structures to the drainage system. J. Porter responds.

C. Mulholland asks if beach erosion results from pumping water onto the beach during emergency flood events. J. Porter responds.

B. Nelson asks if seepage into manhole covers contributed to the Avila Beach wastewater facility almost spilling over.

C. Mulholland asks who will be responsible for paying for the preferred project and/or ongoing pumping costs. B. Clark responds.

W. Peterson comments on the importance of establishing a Zone 9 budget policy or guidance for funding projects.

Committee Members and staff discuss past creek maintenance and flood mitigation projects, the scope and role of Zone 9 participating in the project, and the involvement of partner agencies in finding/funding solutions.

5. Ongoing Updates

Written updates are included in the meeting agenda packet

a. Mid-Higuera Bypass Project

B. Nelson provides a verbal update on the Mid-Higuera Bypass Project.

W. Peterson asks if the June Zone 9 Advisory Committee meeting can be held at the project site. B. Nelson and B. Clark respond.

b. Creek Maintenance

F. Otte provides a verbal update on creek maintenance activities.

c. Arundo Removal Updates

F. Otte provides a verbal update on Arundo removal activities.

d. Avila Beach First Street Drainage Study

No additional updates.

6. Public comment

W. Peterson proposes moving future Zone 9 Advisory Committee meetings to the SLO Vet's Hall.

7. Future agenda items

Zone 9 budget guidance and policy discussion.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:50 PM