



COLAB SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY



WEEK OF JUNE 14-20, 2015

**FY 2015-16 BUDGET REVIEW COMPLETED
NO MAJOR CHANGES BUT THEY DID SPEND 1 WHOLE DAY
REVIEWING THE \$650 MILLION PROGRAM**

LEGAL BUDGET ADOPTION THIS WEEK

**LAFCO TO TENTATIVELY SET PASO BASIN
DISTRICT BOUNDARY & ACCEPT COUNTY
“APPLICATION” FOR PROCESSING**

**ALERT
ATTEND THE APCD MEETING ON WEDNESDAY
JUNE 17, 2015
FUTURE OF DUNES DUST RULE AND APCD
RESPONSE TO COURT LOSS IN PLAY**

**SAVE THURSDAY JULY 30, 2015
(FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL HEARING ON THE
MORATORIUM, AG OFFSET REQUIREMENTS, AND MORE)**

**Board of Supervisors Meetings of Monday, June 8, 2015 and Wednesday, June 10, 2015.
FY 2015-16 Budget Review Week. (Completed)**

Item 2 - Budget Hearings for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Proposed Budget. The Board departed from its MO of the past few years, where it spent only two hours reviewing a \$600-plus million budget, and this year took the whole day. This was a positive first step toward what should become a minimum three-day intensive questioning of staff by the Board members. As we reported last week, during the past four years the review has been perfunctory, with no rigorous questioning of the department heads or testing of the logic and rationality. Even if the Board members believe that the County staff is the most perfect, insightful, and brilliant set of public administrators and municipal finance experts on the face of the earth, they have a duty to poke and test. Often when we raise this point, a Board member will say, “well we question staff in our offices at length and are satisfied. We don’t want to micromanage.” The problem is that these discussions and questions don’t take place in open session, and the public cannot assess the quality and intensity of the questions by the Board on the most important annual public policy document for which it is responsible.

The session started at about 9:15 and lasted until 5:30, with an hour break for Executive Session and lunch. There were 29 questions and/or comments by Board members between 9:15 AM and 4:00 PM. Arnold, followed by Mecham, led the pack. Arnold had a number of good questions about Section A of the Budget, which contains important summary, trend, and policy material.

This year a selected department head from each of the large functional groupings, such as safety, physical services, health and human services, etc., was given an opportunity to make a presentation. In this regard both the Public Works Director and the Sheriff provided some very good information. The Public Works Director demonstrated that aside from presenting his budget, he has a broader strategic understanding of the role of his department in the big picture. The Sheriff presented interesting data and operational considerations about the basic patrol beat structure.

In general the information was useful and interesting.

During its Wednesday session the Board listened to pleas from various not-for-profit community services organizations. These include health, social service, cultural, homeless serving, and others. Several of the organizations received augmented amounts. The San Luis Obispo Performing Arts Center (PAC), which did not file an application in accordance with the normal procedure, was awarded a onetime \$250,000 grant to create an endowment to subsidize attendance by poor children.

Note: *Cavalleria Rusticana*. The one act opera *Cavalleria Rusticana* will be presented at the PAC in October. It has magnificent beautiful music and deals with forsaken love, stabbings, and betrayal. It was an inspiration for Mario Puzzo’s *Godfather* saga. Probably not one for the County’s youngest children but some of the folks we know should relate. Listen to the link below for a sample:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIQ2D6AIys8>



Some Budget future steps:

1. Block out three days for budget review.
2. Allow each department head to give a presentation.
3. Allow the public to comment on each separate department. The current practice restricts comment to big groupings of departments, termed functions for display purposes. Thus on \$300 million worth of health, mental health, welfare, and related programs the public only gets three minutes.
4. The Board should use the performance measures to formulate questions and explore the validity of the budget requests. Compton and Mecham actually did this quite effectively in several cases where the performance measures showed declining needs and fewer services while the departments were adding staff and costs.
5. Board members and the public should be very suspicious of departments that are all doing extremely well in terms of the measures. That is, on each measure they are hitting 80%, 90%, or even 100% of the target. The measure targets either are too easy, lack significance, or suggest that the service is over budgeted.
6. About every three to four years ask staff to submit the budget detail just below that which is presented in the budget book itself (still pretty general) and to allot a longer period of time (more than three days) to go through these sheets along with the budget book. This would allow the Board to gain perspective on questions such as:
 - a. How much is each department and each division in each department spending on travel, training, conference attendance, workers comp, pension contributions, and so on.
 - b. How much pay is premium pay, such as various categories of overtime? Why is it occurring?
 - c. What are the key sources of each department's revenue? How are they doing collecting big ones such as MediCal?
 - d. How much are they each spending on technology (especially IT) and what are the quantified benefits?
 - e. How much are they spending on telephone services?
 - f. What about advertising?
 - g. What is the consultant budget in relation to the salary budget?
 - h. Over the past three years what are the top ten consulting firms used by a department in terms of contract value?

There are of scores of issues and questions. The point is that elected officials responsible for \$650 million dollars of public money should be passionately relentless in questioning all aspects

of the use of these resources. After all, the position of County Supervisor has become a full time job with an increasing salary.

Hill Reaps Credit for Econ Development Partnership: The Board unanimously directed staff to add \$200,000 of recurring annual new general fund dollars to aid the HotHouse business incubator program, which is a Cal Poly economic development project. Supervisor Mecham pointed out that the Board should have some cost benefit analysis, goals, and performance benchmarks to consider before awarding the money. The HotHouse did not submit an application per the County's normal process for not-for-profit annual requests.

The SLO HotHouse will attract and retain the brightest and most talented entrepreneurial talent to our community and turn them into our business leaders of tomorrow. The HotHouse is the final connecting of the dots between the excellence of Cal Poly and the dynamism of our local business community.

The best of the startups we incubate will grow into successful Central Coast businesses, generating the head of household jobs of tomorrow and spurring our local economy. This will build on our flourishing entrepreneurial ecosystem, which is putting SLO on the map as a place where the best and the brightest come to achieve their dreams.

As long as they are not in mining, fossil fuel production, trucking, freight railroading, or nuclear energy production and distribution, or have students who live in your neighborhood or use any water.

Representatives of the Economic Vitality Corporation (EVC) were on hand to promote the request.

The final vote adopting the budget is not until this Tuesday. Adam Hill doesn't care. Even though all his colleagues voted for funding the program and even though Supervisor Compton was one of the leaders on brokering the deal, Hill led with the press release below on the very next day. The rest of the Board isn't even acknowledged. Note that it is an official County stationary and basically states that Hill delivered the bacon - *Adam Hill Gets \$200,000 annually for Poly's HotHouse.*

The HotHouse is a great program and could hopefully incubate and nurture companies, some of which will become growing employers and add critical mass to the key economic clusters within the County and region.

CONTINUED OF THE NEXT PAGE

County of San Luis Obispo

COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, RM. D430 • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5011



Adam Hill
Supervisor District Three

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 9, 2015

FROM: Adam Hill, Supervisor District Three

CONTACT: Hannah Miller, Legislative Assistant, 781-4336

Adam Hill gets \$200,000 annually for Poly's HotHouse

At the first day of County budget hearings, Supervisor Adam Hill successfully pushed for an annual \$200,000 to the HotHouse, a small business incubator founded by Cal Poly to support students and community members alike as they create new innovations and start new business ventures.

"This is a critical engine of economic prosperity," Hill said. "To keep our community prosperous and dynamic we need young companies doing innovative work. The HotHouse is something we can all be so proud of and support."

Judy Mahan, Director of the HotHouse, called this "an absolutely crucial partnership, especially as we move into our new space."

The final approval of the funding will occur when the Board of Supervisors takes final action on the '15-16 budget next Tuesday.

For more info call Supervisor Adam Hill at 781-4336
and go to: <http://www.slobohouse.com>

The media release was sent to a variety of electronic and print news outlets.

Item 4 - Hearing to consider a resolution declaring the results of majority protest proceedings, establishing the San Luis Obispo County Tourism Marketing District (TMD) within the County of San Luis Obispo and levy of assessments. The Board voted 5/0 to approve the formation of the district, which would levy a 1% room tax on rents of all lodging businesses. The proceeds would be used to promote San Luis Obispo County as a destination tourist attraction. The district would sunset after five years if it is not renewed.

The key issue in dispute was whether to include small businesses such as single-family vacation rentals, bed and breakfasts, and tourist RV parks in the district. A large number of single-family vacation rental owners and associations wanted to be carved out. Also some of the bed and breakfasts and some of the RV parks wanted to be carved out. At first Supervisor Gibson seemed

to support carving out the vacation rentals and RV parks. He was supported by Supervisor Mecham. Hill, Compton, and Arnold did not support any carve-outs. In the end and as noted above, all the Supervisors voted to approve the formation of the district.

The protests against forming the district achieved only 17.23% of the rental value.

One of the more interesting facets of the discussion was a comment by Supervisor Gibson that in matters of taxation, there is always a group that does not wish to be taxed on a particular issue. In many cases, such as education, a broader public interest prevents carve-outs because it is deemed that all of society benefits. In this case Gibson pointed out that the benefits are very uneven and may be null for the bed and breakfasts.

Wonder what he will say at LAFCO on the issue of establishing a tax to fund the proposed PASO water management authority as it pertains to people who don't use very much water, such as cattle ranchers, owners of vacant land which is not used for anything, dry farmers, and residences, which use little water in terms of overall basin pumping?

Wonder what he will say on the same issues as the Board considers making the Paso basin moratorium permanent, implementing offset requirements, and creating other restrictions?

Gibson Gets Cake and Hill Delivers the Bacon

Actually Gibson got his cake and ate it too. He advocated for the carve-out on behalf of his district constituents but was then able to count the votes and support the district formation, which will accrue to his benefit with the big guys.

Hill had a trifecta week. He pushed and took credit for the \$200,000 Cal Poly HotHouse incubator econ development project noted above. Today he led the push for the \$250,000 contribution to the Performing Arts Center endowment. And then he led the Board in adopting the Tourism Marketing District (TMD) without carve-outs. Was he actually carried out of the Boardroom on the hoteliers' shoulders?

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, June 16, 2015 (Scheduled)

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

Item 2 - Request to approve the recommended responses to the FY 2014-15 Grand Jury report titled "We are Waiting: Access to County Provided Mental Health Services" and forward these responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by July 13, 2015.

Or

How Government Grows

The Civil Grand Jury conducted a study of the County's Behavioral Health Department and has found that the wait times for non-crisis patients to see a therapist are too long, as outlined in the quote below.

The wait time for an assessment or further appointment was cited by the Department as the most concerning statistic and local nonprofits were not surprised by the length of these delays. The Grand Jury is concerned that someone deemed to not be in a crisis or brought down from a crisis on day zero might not have an assessment for the underlying problem for up to 45 days, and then may wait an additional 14 days for a follow-up appointment for care. Within those 60 days a person's condition could escalate to a major mental health event leaving the county responsible to provide a potentially higher level of care. In a document submitted to the Board of Supervisors, the Department acknowledged "[i]ncreased wait time for psychiatric assessments and proper treatment increases risk of adverse outcomes¹⁷". Even though the state does not have a defined standard for this wait time, the county should meet its target goal of 14 days.

Since the delays are due to caseloads, the county will need more professional staff to adequately handle new and on-going clients. If recruiting and retaining psychiatrists remains difficult, the county should expand the use of psychiatric nurse practitioners, or physician's assistants if appropriate, to alleviate the burden. Another option that can aid the county's staff is evolving technology, such as the use of telepsychiatry. The higher pay rate for psychiatrists approved by the Board of Supervisors should assist with retaining qualified professionals. Since many of the management staff within the Department are licensed therapists, these individuals should absorb some caseload by handling a few cases when the therapeutic staff is overly burdened. This would also expose management to the current demands experienced by its therapeutic staff in the field.

While Civil Grand Juries in California provide a valuable service in recommending improvements, they do not typically study or recommend the financial impacts and funding methodologies implicit in their recommendations. In this case the Board of Supervisors has accepted the Jury's findings and recommendations and has included in the proposed 2015-16 County Budget a very significant increase in staffing and service contracts to reduce the wait time. As the item write-up states:

The recommend addition of 8.5 FTE in the FY 2015-16 Proposed Budget, to increase access to mental health services for adults and reduce wait times to no more than 14 days from request for services, will cost approximately \$720,000 with revenue offsetting approximately \$308,000 of this amount. The cost of recruitment incentives to facilitate hiring Staff Psychiatrists would depend on the types of incentives offered. Such incentives may not be necessary given recent hiring activity, as noted in the attached response.

This increase and a number of others are included in the County's FY 2015-16 Budget. During the Budget hearings, COLAB asked the Board to make sure that the existing staffing was fully optimized in terms of patient flow and volumes. No data was presented in this regard. Key metrics include:

- How many behavioral health clinics does the County operate?

- How many days per week are they open?
- How many treatment sessions are there per day? (that is, is there one in the morning and one in the afternoon?)
- How many patients are seen per session?
- How long is the typical patient encounter?
- How many patients does each provider (psychiatrist, psychologist, MFT and/or other therapist category) see per session, per day, per week, per month, and per year?
- What are the national and regional standards for number of patients seen per day by various types of therapists? These are published annually by the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) and other professional accreditation organizations.

This data is a normal component of off the shelf clinical management systems in the medical world and should be readily available. How can the Board of Supervisors and management accurately determine staffing level needs without seeing these normal productivity reports, which are used by everyone from the Mayo Clinic, Kaiser, and all the way down to one doc offices? After all if the Board were running a McDonalds, they would have to know how many Big Macs, Chicken Sandwiches, and Happy Meals, etc., they were selling, when they are busy, and when they are not, in order to set and schedule staffing.

Item 3 - Request to adopt recommended responses to the FY 2014-15 Grand Jury report titled “Working or Not: Challenges in enforcing Coastal Vacation Rental Regulations” and forward these responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by July 7, 2015. The Civil Grand Jury reviewed the status of the vacation rental regulations and recommended that a number of new controls be adopted by the Board, Planning Department and Auditor Controller. Fortunately, these have largely been rejected as not warranted or too cumbersome.

Item 4 - Monthly Drought Report. The drought continues as expected. It is having negative impacts on agriculture per the report:

Staff from the County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures and the University of California Cooperative Extension collaborated to monitor the effect of drought conditions to agricultural operations. Water quantity and water quality, as well as accumulated salts in the root-zone continue to drive decisions by agricultural producers.

Dr. Royce Larsen, Farm Advisor, University of California Cooperative Extension, has completed the yearly forage production sampling from several rangeland sites located throughout the

county. An overall forage loss for the county is approximately 65-70%. This is the fourth year in a row with below average forage production.

To sustain the greatly reduced number of cattle grazing throughout the county, several cattle ranchers have reported the need to haul water to fill water troughs in compensation for the lack of natural springs or dry wells that normally provide water for livestock. It is estimated that over 50% to perhaps as high as 75% of the cattle normally found grazing have been sold and/or moved out of San Luis Obispo County during 2014 and 2015 due to lack of forage and water. Early season estimates indicate vegetable growers have reduced the number of acres planted by as much as 25% to 35%. This includes a reduction in the number of crop rotations normally planted because of lack of irrigation water. This will result in less harvests, and reduced yields per acre.

Wholesale nursery operators have reported dramatic declines in sales since Governor Brown's April 25, 2015 Executive Order of 25% reductions of potable urban water usage. The public is reluctant to purchase plants that require watering. This has led to a back log of inventory of plants which eventually is lost as plants deteriorate beyond prime conditions.

Well Status:

To date, the County has received 91 responses to the supplemental survey. Of the 91 respondents, 29 (35%) report that one or more wells have gone dry, 12 (14%) are trucking in water, and 66 (79%) have heard of other wells running dry in their area. It is important to note that the survey is voluntary and as a result, responses are not representative of the county population.

But on even less data the Board found that there was an imminent threat to public health, safety, and welfare. On this basis they adopted the moratorium. Now, under the guise of the so-called Water Conservation Program, they are making the moratorium permanent. There may be 8,000 wells in the Paso Basin.

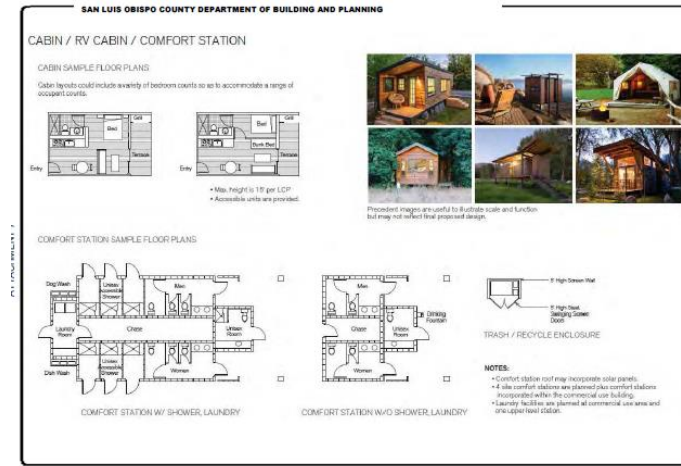
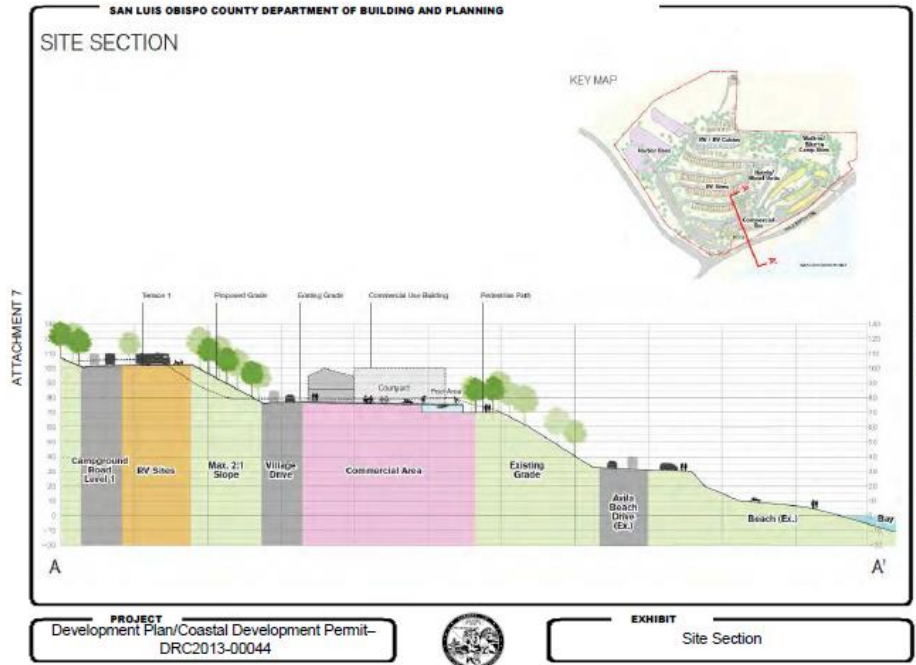
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| BUSINESS AND HEARING AGENDA ITEMS |
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Item 37 - Final Budget Adoption. The Board is expected to adopt the Budget as submitted. There has been no discussion of any reductions anywhere in the \$650 million package. Based on discussions during the hearings, it is expected that increases will be granted to some not-for-profit social service and cultural organizations.

The Board spent one day reviewing the general and special districts budget.

Item 39 - Hearing to consider an appeal by the Sierra Club of the Planning Commission's approval of Conditional Use Permit DRC2014-00015 (California Flats Solar Project) to construct, operate, and maintain a 3.3 mile access road and temporary construction staging areas near the Highway 41/46 split, to serve an approved 280-megawatt (MW) solar power facility located in unincorporated southeastern Monterey County, and consider the Final Environmental Impact Report. The Sierra Club has appealed the County's approval of an

The proposed project would develop the 32-acre Harbor Terrace site pursuant to the goals and site specific criteria set forth in the Harbor Terrace Planning Sub-Area of the San Luis Bay Area Plan. The project would include a range of low-cost overnight accommodations including 80 recreational vehicle (RV) sites, 15 RV cabins, 36 car/tent campsites, 22 walk-in/bike-in campsites, and 31 cabin/bungalow/yurt-type units. The project would also include 16,000 square feet of visitor serving commercial uses (e.g. retail general store, restaurant, meeting/conference facilities, office/lobby/reception area and/or managers residence). The project includes harbor uses (e.g. trailer boat storage, marine gear storage, harbor storage area, and a 6,000 square feet harbor building expansion area that could be used in the future only for Harbor District operations/offices. The project includes restrooms, a pool area and 48,000 square feet of parking. Additional features include on-site paths between parking areas and campsites; an accessible ramp between the commercial use and pool area and a proposed crosswalk across Avila Beach Drive; a check-in station near the primary entrance, and a trash and recycling enclosure.



Architectural renderings of the cabins. This one should be a no brainer too.

Item C-2: Joint presentation by California State Parks, California Air Resources Board (ARB) and APCD staff regarding progress in implementing dust mitigation measures required by Rule 1001. This item may be a set up to persuade the Board to select choice 4 in the item immediately below. The write-up states in part:

Staff from the District, ARB and State Parks will present to the Board and public on the collaborative process for implementing the Consent Decree Agreement; efforts to date in collecting and analyzing the scientific data needed to inform decisions on the monitoring and mitigation required by Rule 1001; the dust controls implemented this year; and the progress on the long-term plan for meeting the emission reduction requirements of the Rule.

Item C-3: Continue Hearing on Rule 1001 (Duns Dust Rule) and Discuss Additional Options Recommendation: Consideration and Board Direction.

There should be a real donnybrook at the APCD meeting as the Board continues to consider how to manage the Court of Appeals Decision, which invalidated the key enforcement provision of the dunes dust rule. The Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) has come up with a memo which offers 4 choices:

- 1. Rescind Rule 1001 and enter into a Memorandum of Agreement.*
- 2. Repeal Rule 1001 and enforce District Rule 402, Nuisance.*
- 3. Rescind Rule 1001 and Recommend the County use its authority as a property owner and/or the authority of the Public Health Officer to abate the public health risks and nuisance caused by emissions from the ODSVRA.*
- 4. Continued Implementation of Rule 1001 and the Consent Decree Agreement.*

The APCO clearly favors version 4, because it pretends that the adverse (to the APCD) Court verdict never happened.

The staff report is instructive and can be accessed at the link:

http://slocounty.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=7&event_id=1179&meta_id=303028

It gives pros and cons for each choice.

Readers should remember that the APCD Board agreed to send a letter to the EPA to see what its opinion of choice 1 above would be. “Conveniently” the APCO’s letter to the EPA is not included in the package, and therefore the public and perhaps some Board members have no idea what it said. It would make a difference how the question is asked. Coyly, the APCO states in the

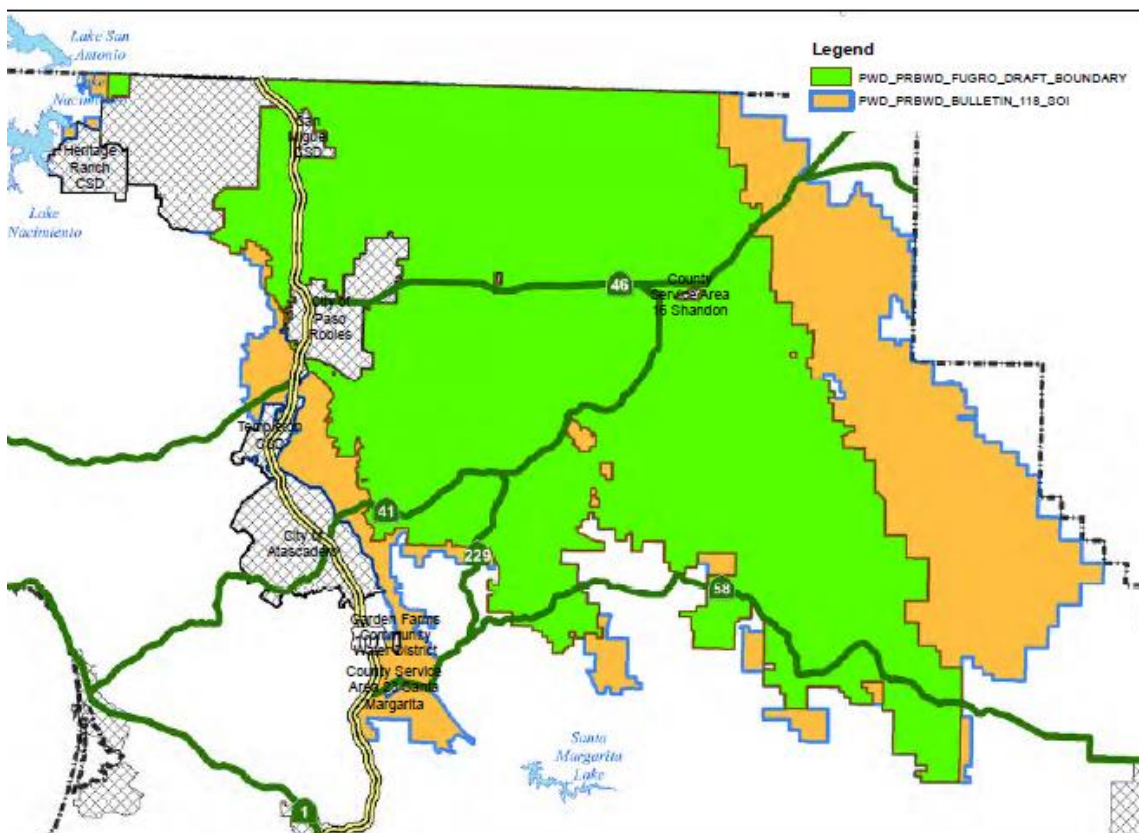
staff report that a response from the EPA is expected and may arrive in time for the meeting. We bet it will not come until just before the meeting, so that most of the APCD Board will be in the dark.

This meeting could be huge, and participation will be important.

**Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Meeting of Thursday, June 18, 2015
(Scheduled)**

A-1: Study Session: Paso Robles Basin Water District - Mr. Erik Eckdahl, State Water Resources Control Board - Mr. Gerhardt Hubner, Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency - Fugro/Bulletin 118 Boundary Discussion, Schedule and Venue Status (Recommend Receive and File - Provide Guidance Regarding the Fugro Boundary). The LAFCO will hear about a number of issues related to the Proposed Paso Water Management Authority. The write-up states that it's a study session and no action will be taken.

1. District Boundaries:



The LAFCO Executive Director recommends that the area in green ultimately be adopted as the district boundary. The larger area, which combines the green and tan, is the boundary of the Paso Basin as defined by the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for

compliance with the recently adopted Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The green area boundary is called the Fugro version after the name of the engineer who prepared it. The Green + tan area is called the State DWR Bulletin 118 boundary. The LAFCO Director states in part:

The following points should be considered with regard to the basin's boundary:

- 1) The Fugro Boundary is considered a more precise boundary based on local analysis that identifies the landowners and users of the basin more accurately. Provides for more certainty and better science with regard to what properties are included in the basin.*
- 2) Bulletin 118 is a statewide evaluation of the basins in California with most of the data gathered in the 1970s . The Fugro Boundary uses more local data analyzed by local geologic experts and reviewed by local stakeholders to re-define the basin.*
- 3) Annexation into the District would be preferred rather than detachment out of the District. Detaching from the District is an uncommon LAFCO process. Annexation is a more common process with fewer uncertainties. If DWR determines that an area needs to be managed, the property owner or District may submit an application to LAFCO for annexation.*
- 4) Detachments from the District would decrease the revenues to fund the District. A special fiscal structure that allows the District to absorb future detachments would be required.*

The Bulletin 118 boundary would include a larger area across which to spread the costs of the District and current compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. SGMA provides for a process of modifying the 118 boundary based on geologic analysis. Staff recommends that the Commission indicate that the Fugro Boundary be used as the preferred boundary in analyzing the formation of the District. The Commission retains discretion in being able to modify the Boundary in its final decision.

Note that the blue crosshatched areas on the map are to be excluded from the jurisdiction of the proposed water management authority. Some, such as Camp Roberts, are legally exempt, and some, such as the Cities of Paso Robles and Atascadero, have made it clear that they must be exempted or they will oppose the formation of the district. Clearly the Board of Supervisors members who support the district and the proponents are counting votes and want to eliminate as much opposition as possible.

Note that the text highlighted in yellow seems to say that the Bulletin 118 boundary is required for SGMA compliance and that DWR would have to approve a modified boundary. It is not clear what would happen if LAFCO approved the Fugro boundary and later the State said it did not comply. Would the County, new district, cities, special districts, and some community water systems have to go through an expensive, time consuming, and contentious annexation process?

2. “Application” Review Update:

The write up further states that:

The application submitted to LAFCO by the County is currently being reviewed by LAFCO Staff. On June 2, 2015 the County approved a contract with NBS consulting and the signature of the LAFCO Indemnification and Cost Accounting Agreement. A letter requesting additional information needed for the application to be complete will be prepared and submitted to the County. The 30-day initial staff review period ends on June 25, 2015. One item on the additional information list will be the second phase financial study being prepared by the County using NBS Consulting. This second phase will provide information about the funding mechanism that would be used to fund the District. The two options being studied are a parcel tax or property related fee. This study is scheduled to be considered by the Board of Supervisors in August. The September 17th hearing would focus on the topic of funding for the District as well as other issues.

a. Note the LAFCO Executive Officer says the County application is not complete.

It was always clear that LAFCO is not in possession of complete application from the County because there never was a complete application, and the Board of Supervisors (Hill, Mecham, and Gibson), in their zeal to ramrod the district through, never really conducted a proper and complete review before forwarding a request for approval to LAFCO. The Board actually had no idea (and could not have had an idea) about the financial impacts and feasibility of its proposed policy when it was adopted.

a. LAFCO should reject the application as incomplete and require the Board of Supervisors to prepare and submit a complete application.

b. The rhetoric about “phases” is just cover for the incomplete and improperly adopted application.

3. Schedule Train Wreck:

The LAFCO staff has updated its tentative processing schedule with a little more detail. One serious problem is that the key hearings in late August overlap the same time period as when the Board of Supervisors will be considering the so-called Water Conservation Program, which would make the moratorium permanent. Note that the schedule places key hearings in a period of the peak summer vacation season and the start of school. The key hearing on the County’s proposed permanent moratorium could be on August 18, 2015. The public will be overwhelmed with meetings and material. Perhaps this is a calculated strategy to defuse and limit public participation and opposition. The current schedule is displayed below:

Updated Schedule – June 18, 2015

| Action | Target Date | Comment |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Board Consideration of Resolution of Application | April 21, 2015 | Approved by the Board of Supervisors |
| LAFCO Staff Review-30 day Initial Review | May 26, 2015 to June 25, 2015 | Application is being reviewed |
| LAFCO Staff Analysis and Staff Report Preparation | On-going | Complete staff review and analysis of Boundary and Powers |
| Study Session: The Basin and the Resolution of Application | May 21, 2015 | Study Session-Completed |
| Study Session: DWR and Fox Canyon Groundwater Agency | June 18, 2015 | Study Session-Upcoming |
| Notice of Public Hearing: Pending Board approval of funding plan and other information | July - 2015 | 21-Day newspaper notice is required. Direct landowner-voter notice is not required, but will be completed at least 21 days in advance of the hearing |
| Staff Report - Documentation Release-Mid to Late July | July - 2015 | Staff Report and other documents |
| 1st Public Hearing – Paso Robles Event Center | August 20, 2015 | Public Hearing-5:30-10:00 p.m. Overview/Boundaries/Powers |
| 2nd Public Hearing - SLO | Sept. 17, 2015 | Public Hearing-Funding/Other Topics |
| Additional Hearings as Needed | | |

4. Presentations:

There will be two separate presentations related to the district formation proposal.

a. Mr. Erik Eckdahl, State Water Resources Control Board

Mr. Erik Eckdahl, State Water Resources Control Board Erik Ekdahl is the Program Manager for the State Water Resources Control Boards (SWRCB) Groundwater Management Unit, in the Office of Research, Planning and Performance. Mr. Ekdahl will discuss the SWRCBs role in implementing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. SGMA requires that a Groundwater Sustainability Agency be created to manage the Paso Robles Groundwater Sub-Basin. SGMA also requires that the groundwater in the Paso Robles Basin be managed under a Groundwater Sustainability Plan that is submitted to DWR for review.

b. Mr. Gerhardt Hubner, Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency

Gerhardt Hubner is a Deputy Director with the Ventura County Watershed Protection District and is responsible for the management of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency. Fox Canyon was used as a model for developing AB 2453, the legislation that provides for the Paso Robles Basin Water District. The Fox Canyon Agency was created as a special district in 1982 by legislation that was approved by the State. The five-member Board of Directors are appointees from various stakeholder groups as identified in the legislation that formed the District. The attached history from the Fox Canyon website provides a description of the district and listing of the programs/ordinances adopted by the agency. The chronology lists the specific ordinances adopted by the District throughout the years and provides an example of the types of groundwater management programs implemented by the District.

a. Did the Board of Supervisors ever tell the public that the Fox Canyon district was being used as the model back when it was endorsing AB 2453? Perhaps only some Board members knew.