

SANTA ROSA AND SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS
NATIONAL MONUMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

LOCATION: RIVERSIDE COUNTY
PERMIT ASSISTANCE CENTER
38686 El Cerrito Road
Second Floor Conference Room
Palm Desert, California

DATE AND TIME: Saturday, March 1, 2008
9:15 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

REPORTED BY: DIANE CARVER MANN, CSR
CSR NO. 6008

JOB NO. : 67005DM

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A P P E A R A N C E S

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE PRESENT:

TERRY HENDERSON, CHAIRPERSON - City of La Quinta

AL MUTH - University of California, Riverside

JIM FOOTE - Designated Federal Official, National Monument Manager

JEFF MORGAN - Local Conservation Organization, Sierra Club

BOB LYMAN - Riverside County

BUFORD CRITES - City of Palm Desert

GARY WATTS - California State Parks

BILL HAVERT - Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy

BARBARA GONZALES LYONS - Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

STEVE BORCHARD - District Manager for the California Desert District

LAURIE ROSENTHAL - District Ranger for the San Jacinto Ranger District

JOHN KALISH - Field Manager for the Palm Springs South Coast Field Office

1 PALM DESERT, CA SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2008

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3 P R O C E E D I N G S

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5 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: For the record
6 we will inform the court reporter that we do have a
7 quorum and the meeting has been convened. Is there
8 anybody else that has any introductions or general
9 comments they'd like to make? Seeing none, we'll move
10 on. The next item is approval of the Advisory
11 Committee meeting minutes from December 1st, 2007.

12 MR. CRITES: So moved.

13 MR. MUTH: Second.

14 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We have a motion
15 and a second. All in favor? Any opposition? I will
16 abstain. I was not here.

17 (Voice vote taken.)

18 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I understand and
19 Mr. Crites has informed me that I can vote on them
20 anyway, even though I wasn't here.

21 MR. CRITES: You certainly may.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: The next item is
23 the election of the Advisory Committee chair and vice
24 chair. And with that I will open nominations.

25 MR. HAVERT: Nominate Terry Henderson

1 for chair.

2 MS. LYONS: I'll second that.

3 MR. CRITES: And third.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We have a motion
5 and second. All those in favor, indicate by saying
6 "Aye."

7

8 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Any opposition?
9 Nay?

10 (Voice vote taken.)

11 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Motion has been
12 approved. Thank you. And I think we'll be discussing
13 the meeting dates as we go through the agenda here,
14 and I hope everybody would agree.

15 Next item is Advisory Committee charter,
16 the DUFO.

17 MR. FOOTE: Okay. Before we move on to
18 that, I just want to acknowledge that your new or
19 continuing chair was named Woman of the Year by the
20 Inland Empire Chapter of Women's Transportation
21 Seminars. Quite an honor. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. FOOTE: Okay. Everyone should have
24 received a copy of the charter in the mailout, as well
25 as the draft bylaws. The charter is fairly

1 self-explanatory, but I did want to highlight just a
2 few items. Item 6, Duties of the Committee, this is
3 probably good for refreshment -- for refreshing, maybe
4 refreshment as well. The duties of the committee are
5 to, of course, develop recommendations regarding the
6 preparation amendment implementation of land use
7 plans. That is the focus of the duties.

8 The committee composition, here's where the
9 new thing comes in. We now have a charter that allows
10 or that shows the committee consisting of 15 primary
11 members and 15 alternate members, which allows us,
12 when we finally get the federal register notice
13 published -- and you'll see that coming at some
14 point -- to seek nominations for both primary and
15 alternate members, and members are appointed for a
16 three-year term.

17 Another key piece of the committee
18 composition language is that only one alternate member
19 for each category representation identified above will
20 be appointed, so we'll have one primary and one
21 alternate for each of the 15 positions.

22 Item 10 refers to subgroups. The committee
23 may form subgroups to provide local level input.
24 That's a carryover from the previous charter. I think
25 the informational piece there is, we do refer to them

1 in the charter as subgroups. We have been referring
2 to the steering subcommittee as the subcommittee.
3 More appropriate would be subgroup. I believe there
4 are some legal requirements regarding convening of
5 committees and subcommittees, so we probably want to
6 adopt the subgroup.

7 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: But we're not
8 changing this committee to be a group?

9 MR. FOOTE: No. These are subgroups.
10 This is still a committee.

11 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We're a
12 committee, and we are going to have subgroups?

13 MR. FOOTE: Correct. And the last point
14 on the charter I'd like to just address is the
15 estimated number and frequency of the meetings. As I
16 said, the committee normally meets four times annually
17 but in no cases less than once. We'll be addressing
18 frequency of meetings later in the agenda.

19 Are there any questions on the charter
20 itself? There being none, I will move on to a quick
21 review of the bylaws. Now, the bylaws are something
22 that the committee decides for itself what it would
23 like to have contained in it.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Should we just
25 turn this over to Mr. Crites?

1 MR. FOOTE: We could. I also sent this
2 out to folks for review, and I also indicated in the
3 transmission letter that I had taken considerable
4 liberty in changing this. And one of the reasons is
5 that the previous iteration of the bylaws reiterated a
6 bunch of information that was in the Federal Advisory
7 Committee Act, in various regulations, and I think
8 it's preferable to not paraphrase those, for if issues
9 come up relevant to those kinds of things, it's best
10 to go back to the original document so that you're not
11 getting a piece of it but you're understanding it in
12 the entire context.

13 So what I've included here for the most
14 part are things that the committee has discretion on
15 changing, adopting, not adopting. It's the
16 committee's choice as to what these bylaws and
17 standard operating procedures say.

18 With that said, I'd just like to point out
19 a couple of things. One, the staggered-term part,
20 Section 1B, this is dealing with primary and alternate
21 committee members. So again we're back on three-year
22 terms for both. However, they're on a staggered-term
23 basis, as we have done before with five of the 15
24 positions subject to appointment and reappointment
25 each year.

1 This is where, when we get into appointing
2 alternates, the first appointment of alternates for
3 certain positions is not going to be for three years
4 in order to make the terms concurrent with the primary
5 representative. So the notice that we hope to see at
6 some point will be very specific about the length of
7 term of each of the alternate positions so that we, in
8 a few years, will get to a point where everyone will
9 have a three-year term and the primary and alternate
10 will be concurrent. And that's shown in Section 1C
11 about concurrency of terms being primary and alternate
12 members shall be concurrent.

13 There's nothing that we've ever looked at
14 or seen in existing rules or regulations that
15 addresses alternates. So this is something new, and
16 we have some discretion about when the term of the
17 alternates could be. So that's why that language is
18 in here.

19 I put in the termination-of-service piece
20 here not because we have discretion of it or the
21 committee has discretion of that, but I just wanted to
22 clarify it in the bylaws here. I think it was
23 suggested at one point that, when we have folks that
24 don't show up for certain number of time, that we
25 have the ability to terminate that person. Well, I

1 think that's probably not the case. When secretaries
2 appoint it, the secretaries get to terminate that. We
3 don't get to undo the work of the secretaries in
4 appointments.

5 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That would be
6 fun.

7 MR. FOOTE: Yeah, that would be fun.
8 But I think it's overreaching for us to think we're
9 going to undo a secretary's appointment, and that's
10 something a secretary herself or themselves would have
11 to do.

12 MR. CRITES: In an expedient fashion.

13 MR. FOOTE: Yeah, and you know how long
14 that will take.

15 MS. LYONS: And you know how long the
16 government takes.

17 MR. FOOTE: We may be into the next
18 appointment cycle before any of that would ever occur.

19 The one last or couple of pieces I also
20 want to bring up in this bylaw is -- it goes to the
21 election of chairperson, vice chairperson. I kind of
22 went out on a little limb here.

23 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah, I think
24 you did.

25 MR. FOOTE: Because there is nothing, of

1 course, that speaks directly to what is required to
2 elect those. Is a quorum required to elect a
3 chairperson? And we can change this if the committee
4 feels so. But the duties, of course, of the committee
5 are to make recommendations to the agencies, and
6 clearly a quorum is required to do that.

7 However, how the committee itself decides
8 to elect its own chair and vice chair, I think, is a
9 matter of the committee's choice. And it could simply
10 be a majority of the people present at the time. You
11 announce you're going to have an election. You put it
12 on the agenda. If you only get five people showing
13 up, the majority of those may be sufficient to elect a
14 person as opposed to holding that up until you
15 ultimately get a quorum.

16 So that's kind of a critical piece here,
17 and I'd like to certainly get some feedback from the
18 committee on whether or not that's reasonable or
19 whether they'd like to see the election go back to the
20 quorum requirement.

21 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Discussion?

22 Ladies and gentlemen, it's time for opinions.

23 MS. LYONS: Just one question on that.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yes.

25 MS. LYONS: The only thing I want to

1 make sure is that we don't get in trouble with the
2 federal side on that issue, you know? And if not --
3 because I know we will have to stay seated until a new
4 one is appointed. So the old one would still have to
5 be there until the new one is appointed. So if we
6 didn't have a quorum, I would assume that the older
7 chair or vice chair would still have to sit until we
8 had a quorum to be able to appoint new ones, which we
9 would appoint them again.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Did you get lost
11 on some of that?

12 MS. LYONS: No. You know, so they would
13 be appointed anyhow. I don't know about having
14 appointments where you don't have your full committee
15 on. That bothered me a little bit.

16 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: A quorum.

17 MS. LYONS: Yeah, a quorum, because what
18 if one of those ones who weren't there causes a stink?
19 That's the thing I worry about, is the person -- you
20 may have people who weren't there, and they say, "Well
21 that wasn't appropriate because you did not have a
22 quorum."

23 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Well, because
24 it's in our bylaws, then it's appropriate.

25 MS. LYONS: Well, is it legal

1 federal-wise? That's the only thing I question.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah. Jeff?

3 MR. MORGAN: I think this isn't really a
4 problem, because I think the federal official just
5 stays in place until this meeting where there was a
6 quorum where we could have an election. I mean, if
7 you don't have a quorum and you don't have the
8 election, people stay in place anyway until it's
9 possible. So it's probably nothing we need to worry
10 about.

11 CHAIRPERSON MUTH: Well, the only thing
12 that I would question under that logic, if you will,
13 is, by what power is this committee empowered to allow
14 the chair and co-chair to just stay in place when
15 actually their term is up? I mean --

16 MR. LYMAN: If there's not a forum,
17 there's no action anyway, so you're technically not
18 presiding over anything.

19 MS. LYONS: That's true.

20 MR. LYMAN: Right?

21 MS. LYONS: That's true.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Al.

23 MR. MUTH: I also note in the last
24 sentence of the second paragraph that you could stay
25 in power forever by postponing the elections if you

1 wish. At least that's how I read that.

2 MR. HAVERT: Second that motion. Chair
3 for life.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Are we
5 wordsmithing here and making this more complicated
6 than it needs to be?

7 MR. HAVERT: Well, Terry, I think in
8 response to Al's comment, maybe the question to Jim
9 is, what was the intent of that last sentence?

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: The intent of
11 the last sentence.

12 MR. FOOTE: I think in a situation,
13 perhaps, where you -- for some reason you know you're
14 just not going to have sufficient attendance, whatever
15 that may be, it may be the chair's prerogative to say,
16 you know, we maybe want more people. Don't have to
17 have them, but you could make a decision to do that.
18 Really the election is up to the chair to do or not
19 do.

20 Remember, this is the -- the committee is
21 empowered to really define how it wants to conduct the
22 business that it's been chartered to do, and that's
23 make recommendations. In terms of how you want to
24 organize, in other words, elections of the chair, it's
25 really not anything that's regulatory or statutory.

1 It's really up to the committee to decide how to get
2 to the recommendation.

3 MR. HAVERT: I would just propose to
4 strike the last sentence, because the chair is not
5 going to know whether people are coming to the meeting
6 or not.

7 MR. FOOTE: Okay.

8 MR. CRITES: In fact the chair can't
9 find the meeting sometimes.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: A very good
11 example of that this morning. Okay. So does that
12 conclude the discussion on that particular item before
13 we hear what else you might have added or changed or
14 incorporated?

15 MR. FOOTE: Does it conclude the
16 discussion?

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah.

18 MR. FOOTE: Okay. In Section 3 I just
19 want to highlight what the roles of the alternate
20 members are. This is an important piece too, that
21 when the primary member isn't here, the alternate has
22 the same functions as the primary, and if upon
23 resignation or termination of the primary, then the
24 alternate is considered from that point forward to be
25 the primary until there is another appointment.

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: You looked at me
2 for a comment, and I wasn't listening to you. So I'm
3 sorry. I was busy.

4 MR. FOOTE: What else is new?

5 MR. CRITES: The story of Jim's life.
6 Postpone the elections.

7 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Barbara?

8 MS. LYONS: Question on that. I'm just
9 saying that you're saying that they would then be the
10 primary until their term is up as a primary, then;
11 right? Because the primary and the alternate are at
12 the same time; right?

13 MR. FOOTE: Correct. And the key to
14 understand here is, the alternates are appointed by
15 the secretaries in the same manner that the primaries
16 are. So in the absence -- that's what I'm thinking --
17 the absence of the primary, they have all the
18 functions of the primary.

19 MS. LYONS: But then what if, say, the
20 city or tribes or any of the communities -- you know,
21 organizations that are on this board, they didn't want
22 that alternate as an actual committee member; they
23 just wanted them as an alternate? They may have
24 wanted to appoint someone else, and then they all of a
25 sudden lost somebody because of an illness or

1 something. And --

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: It's like a vice
3 president. You're stuck with who is there.

4 MS. LYONS: But if I as an organization
5 wanted to appoint someone else, being -- like here, on
6 us, I was on the council, so the council would be the
7 first person. They have staff as the second person.
8 If someone on the council left for illness, then
9 you're appointing staff to the primary position, where
10 they would want to really put another council member
11 in place.

12 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Well, they just
13 have to appoint who they would want to alternate to
14 be, knowing the alternate could then become the
15 primary.

16 MR. FOOTE: I think the clarification
17 there is to remember that it's the secretaries that do
18 the appointing, not the organization or interest.

19 MS. LYONS: I know, but we have a
20 recommendation of who we want in there.

21 MR. FOOTE: And then that process takes
22 roughly a year from the time that -- if a person were
23 to resign and we decided to immediately start the
24 process, it would take about a year, so I think that
25 would be --

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: At least a year.

2 MR. FOOTE: At least a year, yes, and

3 probably the organization would like to have somebody

4 representing them during that interim period.

5 MS. LYONS: Well, they would -- they'd

6 still represent the organization, but they would still

7 be considered the alternate. They would still be

8 considered my alternate.

9 MS. ROSENTHAL: They're acting as --

10 MS. LYONS: Acting as a delegate instead

11 of them actually being appointed, because then all of

12 a sudden you have an appointment for three years when

13 I wanted really a council member in that place instead

14 of a staff member.

15 MR. FOOTE: Okay.

16 MS. LYONS: So if you kept it still as

17 they are just acting as a primary until an appointment

18 takes place, that means I can still within that year

19 try to get my own council member in at that point. It

20 will take a year for them to get their appointment,

21 but then so they only have a two-year term. So I

22 would still have my council member as my primary

23 instead of having my staff as a primary. Well, that's

24 the concern I have.

25 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: And Barbara, I

1 hear you loud and clear. I just -- I wonder. We went
2 to this alternate for a reason, and we expect the
3 alternate to have a certain amount of dedication to
4 the organization and attend the meetings also in the
5 likelihood or the possibility of having to become the
6 primary member. And now we're just asking the
7 alternate, "You will always be an alternate, and you
8 will never be anything but an alternate unless you get
9 your own approval."

10 And I'm not sure. I just think that the
11 alternate is as important as the primary. So whoever
12 you appoint has to be looked upon that way.

13 MS. LYONS: Okay. I just have a problem
14 with that, though.

15 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. Buford.

16 MR. CRITES: You could appoint a council
17 member as your alternate. Then it's taken care of.

18 MS. LYONS: Yeah, they could. Yeah.
19 That's the problem there. If they don't want to get a
20 second person like that, they do have staff, so --

21 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: And I hear you
22 there too. Yes. Let me have Gary.

23 MR. WATTS: I have similar issues along
24 with Barbara because, you know, my seat represents two
25 different agencies. When we submit the application,

1 is there a little box to check off as primary or
2 alternate, or is there -- there is?

3 MR. FOOTE: Yes.

4 MR. WATTS: So in the event of -- say I
5 left the committee and Garrett became the member -- he
6 is an alternate now -- so whoever submits for my
7 vacancy would check either "primary" or "alternate"?
8 Would that solve that problem?

9 MR. FOOTE: Because the terms are
10 concurrent, when it came time to resubmit, then
11 Garrett could change his to primary and you could have
12 another alternate come in. You could have a new
13 primary come in, and he could continue as an
14 alternate. The options are still open when it comes
15 time for reappointment.

16 MR. WATTS: Is the process fluid enough
17 and flexible enough to accommodate both scenarios, as
18 far as what Barbara and I have lined out and what
19 Buford and Terry have indicated? Is it so rigid you
20 can't be flexible enough to switch an alternate to a
21 primary or vice versa?

22 MR. FOOTE: Would we do well to just
23 strike the sentence about "Upon resignation or
24 termination"?

25 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah. I think

1 your thoughts were good up to the last sentences.

2 MR. FOOTE: It seems to work that way,
3 doesn't it?

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yes.

5 MR. FOOTE: Yeah. I try to say one
6 thing too much.

7 MS. ROSENTHAL: That's okay. I was just
8 trying to get the same clarification as Gary. Let me
9 see if I understand this right. Somebody resigns or
10 is terminated. At that point you start the process
11 for having that -- for a primary representative from
12 that entity. So at that point you nominate either the
13 alternate or somebody else, but it's like a clean
14 slate.

15 And then if you're nominating the
16 alternate, then you can also maybe nominate an
17 alternate as well at that point. But you have that
18 choice. At that point that that person leaves, you
19 start the process for a new nomination; correct?

20 MR. FOOTE: I think it would depend on
21 timing. Given the lag of a year, you would also want
22 to consider, how close are you to the termination of
23 that position anyway, to whether you would postpone,
24 if it's only a few months, to make sure that you're
25 also bringing in the requests or the call for

1 nominations for the concurrent alternate position to
2 do it all as a package again?

3 MS. ROSENTHAL: Yeah.

4 MR. FOOTE: I think it's time sensitive.
5 We had the issue, for instance, with the Winter Park
6 Authority. We had an alternate there that the term
7 had pretty much just begun, had the resignation. Had
8 there been an alternate, then that person would have
9 functioned as the Winter Park Authority
10 representative.

11 But your point is good, Laurie. I think,
12 if you have that kind of time frame where it's still
13 two years out until the expiration of the terms and
14 you go to fill the position, now the alternate is in
15 there identified as an alternate. So do you go
16 forward and request somebody as a primary, or do you
17 resubmit the whole package so the alternate could
18 become the primary and then another alternate? It's a
19 good question.

20 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Well, let's
21 answer it now.

22 MS. LYONS: I think we would have that
23 flexibility, though, now that we striked that last
24 part.

25 MR. FOOTE: I think so. I think that

1 does give us increased flexibility.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Is everybody
3 kind of dry on the rest of that now? Are we okay?
4 Okay.

5 MR. FOOTE: The following --

6 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Let's just
7 strike the last sentence.

8 MR. FOOTE: I've stricken (as spoken)
9 the last sentence.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I'm talking
11 about the next one.

12 MR. FOOTE: I might as well
13 automatically go to striking the last sentence of each
14 paragraph. I'm going to take that as a standard
15 operating procedure from here on out.

16 This indicates that, when we have
17 attendance at a meeting by both the primary and the
18 alternate, really only the primary can make motions,
19 participate in votes; however, the alternate may
20 participate in committee discussions at the discretion
21 of the chair. So that wouldn't prohibit the alternate
22 from participating. He just could not make the motion
23 and vote at that point.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Right.

25 MR. FOOTE: I just wanted to clarify

1 that. Should I strike the last sentence in that one?

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: No. I think you
3 did well there.

4 MR. FOOTE: And the last piece where
5 alternate members cannot serve as chairperson or vice
6 chairperson unless the primary member representing the
7 same industry has resigned or has been terminated --

8 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: You're saying my
9 alternate -- if I resigned, my alternate would or
10 would not then become chair?

11 MR. FOOTE: No. Would be eligible.

12 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Would be
13 eligible. But the committee would have to reselect a
14 new chair.

15 MR. FOOTE: It would have to reselect,
16 but that person then could become eligible at that
17 point.

18 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Questions,
19 comments?

20 MS. LYONS: It's just not automatic?

21 MR. FOOTE: Correct.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I resign as a
23 committee member, but that opens the chair back to the
24 committee.

25 MS. LYONS: But you can also be

1 appointed if we want?

2 MR. FOOTE: Yes.

3 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yes. Questions,
4 comments? This is on here for action. These were
5 drafts. We've just gone over them, made some
6 corrections. I believe, as I understand it, what
7 happened there is, we eliminated the last sentence of
8 Section 2, second paragraph. "The current chairperson
9 or vice chairperson acting on behalf of the
10 chairperson may postpone such election by informing
11 the DFO in advance of the meeting," has been stricken?
12 Stricken. Struck?

13 And Section 3, Paragraph B, we also
14 eliminated, "Upon resignation or termination of the
15 primary member, the alternate member shall be
16 considered as the primary member with -- or until
17 expiration of his or her appointment." That has also
18 been stricken.

19 MR. FOOTE: Yes.

20 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: With that can I
21 have a motion to approve these bylaws and standard
22 operating procedures?

23 MR. HAVERT: So moved.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I have a motion.
25 Jeff Morgan has seconded that. All those in favor?

1 Any opposition?

2 (Voice vote taken.)

3 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Thank you. With
4 that, the motion has passed. Thank you.

5 Where are we now? "Advisory Committee
6 performance review and change of meeting frequencies
7 and format." Before we get into that discussion,
8 Laurie has a booklet that she'd like to pass around,
9 and we thought we'd go ahead and start passing that
10 now so everybody would have an opportunity to take a
11 look at it. I'll let her introduce what it is.

12 MS. ROSENTHAL: Later, when we do the
13 agency reports, I'll talk a little bit more about the
14 Corridor Management Plan for Highway 74 and 243, which
15 is now a state scenic highway, and this is a first
16 step. This is funds from the Federal National Byway
17 System.

18 But I do have an example of one from Utah
19 called -- it has quite a ring to it -- Scenic
20 Byway 12.

21 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Sounds like
22 Highway 111.

23 MS. ROSENTHAL: And so I thought, since
24 I'm at the end of the agenda, I wanted to have
25 everybody have a chance to take a look at it. The

1 first part is the Corridor Management Plan. The
2 second part is the second-tier funding, which they
3 received, which is actually the design of interpretive
4 stations, et cetera. So let me just start this going
5 around.

6 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We are now
7 multi-tasking?

8 MR. FOOTE: Yes.

9 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. Back to
10 the item as agendized.

11 MS. LYONS: Terry?

12 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Hello, Buford.

13 MR. CRITES: Hi. Would it be
14 appropriate to mention the possible amendment to the
15 charter?

16 MR. FOOTE: Yes. Good time.

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Oh, yes. Okay.
18 Thank you. Okay. I will turn this over to Jim.

19 MR. FOOTE: There is being considered
20 now as an amendment to the Mary Bono Mack bill a
21 change in what constitutes a charter for this
22 organization.

23 MR. CRITES: What constitutes a quorum.

24 MR. FOOTE: Pardon me. A quorum. Thank
25 you. Right now the current enabling legislation for

1 the Monument establishes the quorum at eight. The
2 suggestion is, it could be a majority of the appointed
3 positions. That way, where we have a resignation, a
4 termination or an unfilled position, that does not
5 work against us in terms of trying to get a quorum.

6 So again this would be a legislative change
7 and give us greater opportunity to convene a quorum,
8 which I think also the alternates appointments would
9 do as well. So I think we're heading in the right
10 direction, and I'm hoping we won't see, as time goes
11 by, any instances where we don't have a quorum
12 anymore.

13 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Discussion?

14 MR. HAVERT: Have you contacted Chris
15 Foster about this?

16 MR. FOOTE: Uh-huh.

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Any other
18 discussion on the suggested quorum language? Would
19 you repeat for me what the language is going to imply
20 is a quorum. I'm not sure I heard you correctly the
21 first time.

22 MR. FOOTE: Okay. And I haven't seen,
23 of course, the draft language at this point. But
24 the --

25 MR. CRITES: The majority of the

1 appointed positions.

2 MR. FOOTE: Yes, the majority of the
3 appointed positions.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Thank you.
5 Thank you. I'm there.

6 MR. FOOTE: Currently we have 12
7 appointed positions, so we would need seven at this
8 point instead of eight to constitute a quorum under a
9 new scenario.

10 MR. WATTS: Well, in the event of a
11 resignation, that works for the committee. In the
12 event of somebody that just doesn't show up until the
13 secretary terminates, that doesn't help.

14 MR. CRITES: No, it doesn't help.

15 MS. LYONS: Hopefully they'll have an
16 alternate, so that this should help us too.

17 MR. FOOTE: Exactly.

18 MS. ROSENTHAL: And then another thing
19 that I heard from you prior is that, even though the
20 secretary is the one that terminates somebody, there
21 could be a recommendation from this group for no-shows
22 for termination to the secretary; right?

23 MR. FOOTE: Right.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That currently
25 exists, or are we modifying some language to --

1 MR. FOOTE: No, we're not modifying
2 language. We would just pull a recommendation up
3 through the channels that a no-show --

4 MS. LYONS: It would take another year
5 to --

6 MR. FOOTE: Well, there you go, Barbara.

7 MS. LYONS: It would take another year
8 to deal with again.

9 MR. FOOTE: Very likely.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. Back to
11 the item. This item has you reporting on the change
12 of meeting frequency and format.

13 MR. FOOTE: I will refer to Buford on
14 this. But before we go into the item, as previously I
15 had acknowledged all the folks here, I just also
16 wanted to acknowledge Corrie Kates as the prospective
17 alternate for the City of Indian Wells.

18 MR. KATES: Eventually.

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That will
20 convince you to be an alternate. You understand that.
21 And if he doesn't show up, then --

22 MR. FOOTE: Typically Corrie calls me
23 once a month to find where we're at, and I tell him
24 the story, and we'll hear a little more about that
25 today.

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Folks, let's
2 talk about the meeting frequency and format. We did
3 discuss this in a subgroup.

4 MR. CRITES: A steering committee.

5 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: A steering
6 committee. Thank you. Would you like to chime in, or
7 do you want me to chat about it, or -- Bill, you were
8 there.

9 MR. HAVERT: Go ahead.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We, the steering
11 committee, reviewed some of the challenges that we've
12 had in the past. We also discussed what we believed
13 to be the very significance and importance of this
14 committee and that it does have value and it needs to
15 exist. But we feel that perhaps twice a year might --
16 Jeff, you were at the meeting too. I'm sorry.

17 MR. MORGAN: Yes.

18 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Twice a year
19 may, in fact, allow us the opportunity to hear what we
20 need to hear, participate in the system and still be a
21 very viable committee and be a viable resource for
22 Mary, if need be, and the agencies involved.

23 Anybody else want to chime in? Jeff, you
24 look like you might.

25 MR. MORGAN: Yeah. I think we decided

1 twice a year is probably enough, but the steering
2 committee can meet more often if necessary. And this
3 committee itself could call additional meetings if
4 necessary, so it's not cooking it down to an absolute
5 just two times per year. But with the current amount
6 of business we have, I think two times a year seems
7 adequate.

8 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: And you're
9 correct. We will have steering committees, and we
10 will have subgroups that will be charged with a
11 certain sense of responsibility in between our
12 meetings, so that will continue to exist. Jim will
13 have access to get information out to all of us at all
14 times. So we're not disappearing, but we're not going
15 to have to find the County building more than twice a
16 year. So is there any discussion on that?

17 MR. WATTS: Question.

18 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yes.

19 MR. WATTS: Who directs the steering
20 committee to meet and the frequency of its meetings?

21 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That would be
22 the steering committee chair.

23 MR. WATTS: Which is the same as the
24 committee chair?

25 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: No. The

1 committee chair can --

2 MR. WATTS: Are you one and the same for
3 both, is my question.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I am not the
5 chair of every steering committee.

6 MR. WATTS: Is there more than one
7 steering committee?

8 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: No. But you
9 probably brought up a good point. The steering
10 committee should be chaired by the chair. And then
11 subgroups can operate on issues -- issue-related
12 topics and not have to have a chair appointed by the
13 chair.

14 MR. WATTS: The chair, in cooperation
15 with the DFO, would decide when and if that steering
16 committee would meet?

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yes.

18 MR. WATTS: And bring back any
19 recommendations to the larger committee as a whole?

20 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Right. And as
21 Jeff said, we can convene more than twice a year if
22 need be, or as fast as he can get it in the Federal
23 Registry.

24 MR. WATTS: Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: More discussion?

1 MR. FOOTE: There was also a discussion
2 at that same meeting about some various other
3 organizations also reporting the work they were doing
4 back to this group. We had a group, such as Friends
5 of the Desert Mountains and the Coachella Valley
6 Mountains Conservancy, who are doing a lot of
7 Monument-related work, and this could be an
8 opportunity during these less frequent meetings for
9 those groups to report what progress they made on
10 Monument-related issues.

11 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Actually I think
12 that was one of the very strong suggestions, that if
13 we're going to just meet twice a year, that we take
14 that opportunity to have those other organizations
15 here and communicating with us where they are and what
16 we've been able to achieve and how we can assist them
17 and how they can assist us. So I think those would be
18 standard agenda items.

19 MR. FOOTE: Uh-huh.

20 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: There was
21 also -- unless I dreamed it, there was also discussion
22 of the possibility of changing the day again. There
23 are several members that are coming in from quite a
24 distance. This is a Saturday for them, so it's open
25 for discussion. Anybody have any input?

1 MS. LYONS: Just not on a Tuesday. Ours
2 is council meeting Tuesday.

3 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I understand.

4 MR. KATES: For the people that aren't
5 on here yet, not on a Thursday.

6 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah. We
7 understand there are going to be challenges with every
8 day, because we have had this discussion before, and
9 somehow or other we always end up back on Saturday.
10 And by the same token there are a lot of us who are
11 not happy with Saturdays.

12 MS. LYONS: I don't think any of us are
13 happy with Saturdays.

14 MR. MORGAN: There's a problem with
15 Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays because that's city
16 council meetings. Those three days are gone anyway.

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Let's keep in
18 mind we're talking about twice a year, and it's not a
19 full day's meeting. It's going to be a nine-to-12,
20 meeting so I think some of our schedules would allow
21 us some flexibility on what would normally be a
22 committed day, otherwise, when you're talking about
23 twice a year.

24 MS. LYONS: Okay. Tuesdays still
25 wouldn't be good for us because we start at nine to

1 five or nine to seven. At least nine to five.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: All right.

3 Tuesdays are out.

4 MR. KATES: Thursdays could be okay,
5 just the first and third Thursdays. The alternating
6 Thursdays would be fine.

7 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Well, the
8 Thursdays don't work for me.

9 MR. WATTS: Sounds like Monday or Friday
10 could be a good day. And I could be wrong on this,
11 but I think when we first started, the reason
12 Saturdays were picked was to allow the public to have
13 a chance, and we have not really seen the general
14 public. They're probably still driving around looking
15 for the place.

16 However, being one of those that drive a
17 long way on a normal day off, I would certainly be
18 open to moving it to a Monday or a Friday, if that's
19 the only day that works.

20 MS. LYONS: Wouldn't Monday be best,
21 though, because Friday is a day that people start
22 getting off work early and traffic starts backing up?
23 So wouldn't Monday be a better day for you guys?

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Al?

25 MR. MUTH: By the same token, some

1 people take long weekends.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We're now
3 talking twice a year.

4 MS. LYONS: And we won't hold them on a
5 three-day weekend. Make sure on that month you don't
6 hold it on a three-day weekend.

7 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah. We're
8 talking twice a year. And Bill, didn't we have a
9 discussion on -- and Buford, Jeff, wasn't there a
10 discussion on one of those meetings being related to
11 the budget?

12 MR. FOOTE: Uh-huh.

13 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Remember, we
14 said we would meet.

15 MR. HAVERT: I think that was just which
16 months of the year we would meet. We wanted to make
17 sure it related well to the federal budget.

18 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: And what
19 recommendations we would make too, so what was that?

20 MR. HAVERT: I think spring or fall.

21 MR. CRITES: Madam chair?

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yes.

23 MR. CRITES: Move that we have a spring
24 and fall meeting on an appropriate Monday.

25 MS. LYONS: And it doesn't fall towards

1 a holiday.

2 MR. HAVERT: I'll second that.

3 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Monday.

4 MR. KATES: Good job, Buford.

5 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Well, and that
6 is a good job, except that there will be probably some
7 challenges if you're just leaving the motion that way.
8 So you're leaving it up to either Jim or me to
9 determine the appropriate Monday?

10 MR. CRITES: Yeah.

11 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: And then so
12 notify the rest of you?

13 MR. CRITES: That would be it.

14 MS. LYONS: And take into consideration
15 a three-day holiday.

16 MR. MORGAN: Budget stuff often has to
17 be into the federal government by February 28 or 29th,
18 though, not particular to the government but to the
19 people who introduce this through the legislation. So
20 maybe February might be the time if there's going to
21 be budget items discussed in the meantime.

22 MR. HAVERT: Well, Jim can respond. I
23 think that what we're really striving for is the
24 points in the process where the agencies -- BLM, the
25 Forest Service -- need to provide their input up the

1 ladder through their process, one, so that we are
2 hitting that at an appropriate time of year. You can
3 give us a sense of when that month is.

4 And then the follow-up would be, once
5 deliberations are going on, things are coming to a
6 conclusion back in Washington so we can get sort of an
7 update of where things are going. And then anybody
8 who wants to take independent action from this body
9 would have an opportunity to do whatever they felt was
10 appropriate to have input in the process back there.

11 MR. FOOTE: I think on a couple of
12 fronts -- and I'll ask either John or Steve to chime
13 in on the budget side. But certainly we're coming to
14 the point here where, if there were questions about
15 how earmarks might be expended, this is about the time
16 of year we're going to get those requests to say --
17 and we have in previous years called down from the
18 Washington office -- and it would be from both Forest
19 Service and BLM side -- saying, "If you were to get
20 "X" number of dollars, how would you expend this?"

21 And in previous years we had brought this
22 before the committee, and the timing was perfect
23 because, after the committee deliberated on how we
24 thought would be best the spend the money, the call
25 came and we moved that list on up. And that seemed to

1 work pretty well, at least for the March meeting.

2 Now, I'll defer to John or Steve to talk
3 more about a general budget process about what input
4 we may have or not have as the respective spring and
5 fall seasons come around, at least from this level, on
6 anything that might go up the chain.

7 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Comment?

8 MR. BORCHARD: Well, timing-wise this is
9 also about the same time for input for the fiscal year
10 '09 preliminary target allocation, or PTA. I think it
11 would always be good to have in mind projects
12 prioritized that would be available in the event you
13 just described, Jim, should funding become
14 available -- say, current-year funding become
15 available in the third or fourth quarter of the year.

16 When that phone rings, when somebody on up
17 the financial line says, "I've got 'X' dollars, what
18 could you spend it on if it were available?" you
19 almost already have to have a priority list on the
20 shelf that the committee has kind of already given
21 feedback on, and the timing to respond back when that
22 phone call comes requires that you already have a list
23 of prioritized projects.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Right.

25 MR. BORCHARD: So I mean, that should be

1 something that's maintained year-round.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah. We have
3 it.

4 MS. ROSENTHAL: That's the communication
5 strategy; right?

6 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah.

7 MR. HAVERT: Then the other potential
8 item here is that, once the House and Senate have done
9 their bill markups, then very often it ends up going
10 to a conference committee for resolution on at least
11 some issues, on land and water conservation fund
12 appropriations, at least on that. And that's another
13 opportunity, then, for -- not this as a body
14 necessarily, but for individual entities represented
15 here to have input into that process as well. And so
16 as an information item, it would be useful to be
17 getting that to this committee at the appropriate time
18 of year. Now, you know, maybe that's in September
19 rather than October, that sort of thing.

20 So what I was going to, then, ask the maker
21 of the motion is, was it your intent that the
22 direction be to schedule two meetings a year simply at
23 the appropriate time as determined by the chair and
24 the DFO based on what's going on with budget stuff?

25 MR. CRITES: Yes, the chair and the DUFO

1 can do it.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. So it has
3 nothing do with spring and fall necessarily. We can
4 take it out of the motion. Motion amended. Who
5 amended?

6 MR. HAVERT: I did.

7 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We have a motion
8 and a second.

9 MR. WATTS: Just quickly, to Jim, these
10 would have to be published in the register; correct?

11 MR. FOOTE: Yes.

12 MR. WATTS: How much lead them to have
13 to have to settle on those dates?

14 MR. FOOTE: So they tell me, meeting
15 notices should take no longer than a couple of weeks.
16 Strictly meetings, all we're going to do is identify a
17 meeting. That goes pretty fast. Doesn't require any
18 departmental review to publish.

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: This is our
20 March meeting, so we are now looking at a follow-up
21 second meeting for this year in the fall, and Jim and
22 I will get together and determine the date of that and
23 get that out to you. I would like to have kind of
24 scheduled these March and September going into the
25 future, but it sounds like perhaps we're going to

1 leave that a little open?

2 MR. FOOTE: Okay.

3 MS. ROSENTHAL: And not make a decision
4 today?

5 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah. Okay. We
6 have a motion and a second?

7 MR. MORGAN: Just a point. With
8 these -- I mean, a list of things ready -- that's
9 something the steering committee has done in the past.
10 We've had, you know, Forest Services, BLM projects
11 prioritized. And I think if the steering committee
12 had this list, as times change we'll always be ready
13 when the fund comes.

14 And then water conservation funds money,
15 Bill has done a tremendous job this year of
16 prioritizing acquisitions. And myself and the Sierra
17 Club and the people I work with in the Sierra
18 Wilderness Society didn't bother putting out our own
19 requests. We supported this because it was so
20 appropriate.

21 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That was part of
22 our discussion, is that so many of us are involved
23 with the items we're dealing with through other
24 committees that it was kind of redundant to keep
25 meeting here. Gary?

1 MR. WATTS: As Jeff just explained,
2 would the regular MAC, then, have lost the ability to
3 oversee or have participation in updating that
4 priority list?

5 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: No. The
6 steering committee will review and keep moving the
7 priority list, but it will come to the committee for
8 approval.

9 MR. WATTS: Okay.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: You will always
11 see that.

12 MR. WATTS: Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. We have a
14 motion and a second. All those in favor? Any
15 opposition?

16 (Voice vote taken.)

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That motion has
18 passed.

19 MR. MUTH: No.

20 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I'm sorry.

21 MR. MUTH: No.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Interesting.
23 What am I going to do with you?

24 MR. MUTH: Terminate me.

25 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We don't have

1 the ability to terminate you.

2 MR. MUTH: I know.

3 MS. LYONS: That's why you said it.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: You like
5 Saturdays, ha?

6 MR. MUTH: For me it works out.

7 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. All
8 right. Well, we'll try to make the other work for you
9 too. Okay. That motion did have one vote opposed.

10 Moving on, reports, updates, presentations.
11 First one is the Advisory Committee nominations and
12 appointments. What am I doing, or are you doing?

13 MR. FOOTE: I'm doing.

14 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah. Please do
15 it.

16 MR. FOOTE: The saga continues. This
17 has been a now almost five-month episode of
18 frustration. The initial draft notice to go up
19 through the chain for publication in the Federal
20 Register -- and as you all know, it requires
21 publication of a notice in the Federal Register to
22 open the call for nominations for us to be able to
23 accept those.

24 It was back October 5th that I first
25 forwarded a draft notice based on recommendations at

1 that time that I could, in fact, call for nominations
2 for primary and alternate representatives. Despite
3 the fact that we did not have the approved charter
4 that allowed that, the thought was that, as long as
5 the appointments were made after the charter had been
6 approved, which seemed pretty safe, it was okay to do
7 so.

8 Well, that thought didn't live long, and I
9 had guidance to not do that, just submit a nomination
10 or notice for primary representatives. So that I did
11 on October 22nd, moved that notice forward. And then
12 that was going through the system, and after we had
13 the approval of the charter on December 26th, I moved
14 up a second notice to call for nominations for
15 alternates.

16 Well, it was shortly after that by a few
17 days I got a notice from the office of Federal
18 Register that our initial call for nominations for the
19 primary was rejected because it had only one
20 signature, that being mine. And under the
21 service-first agreement, it was my assumption that I
22 could represent both BLM and Forest Service in these
23 matters. And of course, it made it all the way
24 through the chain of review for two months, and then
25 it was rejected at the Federal Register office.

1 And so what happened as a consequence of
2 that, then I combined, pulled back the notice we had
3 just sent on the alternates, combined the notice to
4 call for nominations for eight primaries and 15
5 alternates -- again, combined them, sent that out on
6 January 11th. And as of yesterday, trying to follow
7 up on this, I understand it's sitting on the
8 director's desk for signature, meaning that it has not
9 still gone to the office of the Federal Register for
10 publication.

11 Hopefully that will happen soon, but this
12 has been a really long process, and I did also
13 distribute what is the typical time frame, and if you
14 look at the schedule and if that schedule for dates
15 from submission to actual appointments is at all
16 accurate, you can see that on December 16th, five of
17 the positions expire. That's 291 days away. In other
18 words those appointments will not have been made by
19 the time those next appointments expire.

20 The good side of that is, we will likely,
21 though, have appointments made before the next MAC
22 meeting in the spring. That is likely. So anyway,
23 that's been kind of the frustrating circumstance
24 regarding notices and trying to get something
25 published. Corrie hears this on a monthly basis from

1 me.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Corrie, thank
3 you for your continued interest in participation.

4 MR. KATES: Sure. As soon as I'm on or
5 as soon as I can help, whatever happens.

6 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: It does seem
7 like a significant part of the committee's business
8 each meeting is discussing this issue, and it should
9 not be what we're here for.

10 MR. FOOTE: And as soon as the
11 announcement is published and the notice is published,
12 everyone can be assured they will be notified of that.
13 And the challenge, then, of course, is, we do have a
14 number of folks that are already identified to fill
15 positions but certainly not all of them. There is a
16 number of alternate positions that we don't have
17 identification for that we're still holding out on the
18 local builder or developer individual. We don't have
19 a person identified for that position.

20 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I think going to
21 twice a year we might be able to have some
22 increased --

23 MR. FOOTE: Okay.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Do you have an
25 alternate appointed or suggested?

1 MR. MUTH: We suggested one.

2 MR. FOOTE: Yes.

3 MR. MUTH: Did that person accept?

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Did that
5 person's name go in?

6 MR. FOOTE: Well, we haven't opened the
7 call, so we can't accept any applications yet. But
8 when that happens, we will move that forward.

9 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Tell me again
10 why we haven't opened the call.

11 MS. LYONS: Because it hasn't been
12 published yet. It has to be published first with the
13 Federal Register before we can ask each of the cities
14 and organizations and tribe to submit their names. I
15 know that.

16 MR. FOOTE: Yes, you know that well.

17 MS. LYONS: I know the whole scenario.
18 I love the one where at the last minute they found out
19 you have to have more than one signature. They do
20 that to us all the time.

21 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Moving on to --
22 the next item is the new Monument trails map and
23 brochure.

24 MR. FOOTE: Yes. On the brochure we're
25 on the verge of going to the printer at this point.

1 Just this last week we made some revisions to what
2 folks had seen before. We met with the Jones Agency
3 folks last week. Clearly there was agreement that the
4 weakest part of our draft brochure was the cover, and
5 since then they have made some modifications. In fact
6 I happened to see that modification on Thursday but
7 did not have a copy and have not been able to get a
8 copy of that yet -- but dramatically different, much
9 improved. And I think this is a result of working
10 with creative folks who have expertise in this regard.
11 So the little delay there is certainly well worth the
12 wait.

13 On the trails map, the next step is simply
14 working on layout with Palm Springs Life. Things are
15 moving a little slow there, but we're hoping and we're
16 trying to get scheduled dates to where Alice Bond, who
17 is the lead on the Wilderness Society, comes down for
18 a day and both she and I will sit with Palm Springs
19 Life folks for a day and, in fact, push this through
20 as quick as we can get all the layout issues resolved
21 and get this moving forward.

22 We have a tentative deadline. There is
23 some discussion with having an event with Mary Bono
24 Mack to potentially combine two things. One is a
25 media event acknowledging the completion of the

1 Cahuilla Tewanet deck replacement, which is a project
2 accomplished with FY06 earmarked funds that came to us
3 as a result of the congresswoman's efforts and also to
4 roll out the new Monument brochure and trails map. So
5 we're striving to get that done, obviously, before
6 this event. And by "done," we mean actually printed
7 and available for distribution. So that's our target.

8 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I didn't
9 understand what the target was. I mean --

10 MR. FOOTE: It would be the
11 congresswoman event.

12 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I understand
13 that, but are we talking six months from now or 30
14 days from now?

15 MR. FOOTE: End of March or early April.

16 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. That's --

17 MR. FOOTE: So that's our target.

18 MR. MORGAN: Quick question, do we get
19 another review before you go and print 10- or 20,000
20 of these?

21 MR. CRITES: No.

22 MR. FOOTE: No, not at this point. I
23 think we've gone through the map plenty of times. The
24 text has been out there for review. We've got
25 feedback on that. We've made decisions on what that

1 will be, and now it's simply a matter of the layout,
2 and I think it's going to be a great product.

3 Again this is one of those situations
4 where, when you have folks such as Palm Springs Life
5 who are doing this out of the kindness of your heart,
6 as you will, you can't force them to the table like a
7 contractor you could to establish deadlines that we
8 try to fit this out of necessity into their schedule
9 to make this happen. And they've been very willing to
10 work with us and move this forward.

11 It's a little difficult at times to find
12 that spare time, but we have a deadline. We're going
13 to move on that, and I know folks are getting a little
14 nervous. And if an event gets scheduled, the anxiety
15 will increase and the pressure to complete that, I
16 think, will be sufficient to get it done.

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I did also run
18 into Jones Agency yesterday at another function and
19 expressed what I thought what is perhaps not quite the
20 success with the film that I had hoped there would be
21 and found out that, in fact, it is very successful.
22 They are selling upwards of 300 a month, which is over
23 last year by 25 percent or something. And they're
24 just absolutely delighted with the product.

25 It is out there. It is being shown. It's

1 on several different continuing rolling shows in
2 places, and he was very excited about it. And it just
3 was, I thought, wonderful news, because I had not
4 heard anything before. And I shared with him that I
5 would share that with you this morning in case you
6 folks don't know that the time and effort and dollars
7 that were put into that and the beauty of the final
8 product is not sitting on a shelf someplace and
9 collecting dust. It is active, and it is being
10 reviewed, and the tourism agency is using it in some
11 of their products and showing it at trade shows. So I
12 thought that was very good news.

13 MR. FOOTE: I think we can expect more
14 publicity for the Monument, certainly, with the
15 brochure. Palm Springs Life intends to put that as an
16 insert in one of the upcoming issues, and that will be
17 framed around Friends of the Desert Mountains'
18 marketing piece as well.

19 And one of the photographic elements we've
20 been successful, I think, in moving forward -- and
21 Ruth saw that cover the other day as well as I did for
22 the first time -- and that is that integration of
23 graphic design of the Monument piece with the Friends
24 of the Desert Mountains, who is a primary fundraising
25 component. And so that, when the Friends go to raise

1 money for the Monument submit their materials along
2 with ours, they're very much related, and I think that
3 can lead to great success in the fundraising side.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Anybody have any
5 input on any of these discussions or comments?

6 MR. MORGAN: Did you come up with
7 quantities to print yet?

8 MR. FOOTE: We did. I can't recite
9 those at this point. It was working within the
10 available budget. And since the trails map is
11 designed to produce revenues that will go to
12 reprinting, then we're looking at probably a fewer
13 number of those, more of the brochures, because as
14 monies come in on the trails map, then we can keep
15 going back to the printer with dollars and getting
16 more and more copies.

17 But there are, as with printing, always
18 those break points to where costs increase or
19 decrease, depending on which way you're going in the
20 numbers. And so the number we've chosen is reflecting
21 where those break points are.

22 MR. LYMAN: Jim, the brochures that are
23 coming out, are they also going to be in some sort of
24 an e-file or electronic format? Every one of the
25 jurisdictions has websites, and if we were to link out

1 to the websites, I think that would be a positive,
2 even with the trail maps, just because, as we do all
3 that, it just seems a benefit to get it out there.

4 MR. FOOTE: I agree. We'll look into
5 that. Certainly because of costs that we -- there's a
6 limit as to how many hard copies we could print. And
7 typically we don't want these just to get picked up by
8 folks and as they go out the door, they deposit it in
9 the trash can. That's not our intent. But I think
10 part of the electronic product would conserve some of
11 the hard copies, because people could freely get
12 those, get the information they need.

13 However, there is still going to be, I
14 think, that desire for the hard copy because of the
15 quality, the quality of the pictures, the glossy
16 paper. It's a very beautiful brochure, wonderful
17 pictures, and I think folks will really want a copy.

18 MR. LYMAN: I just think the access is
19 better. That way, for instance, Supervisor Wilson has
20 a fourth-district website for the County of Riverside.
21 The County has multiple websites. Friends of the
22 Desert have it. Desert USA has it, all those kinds of
23 things. It would seem to be at a no-cost benefit.

24 MR. FOOTE: Absolutely, and it does
25 reach out further to beyond the local area, that

1 people across the country would be able to just see
2 this. And I think that's a big benefit, so we'll
3 definitely pursue that, Bob.

4 MR. MORGAN: It should go on all the
5 major conservation organizations' and support groups'
6 websites, you know, Conservation System Alliance and
7 Wilderness Society and all of those.

8 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Sure. Any
9 further comments on that item?

10 MR. MORGAN: How much is the amount?

11 MR. FOOTE: I think we're settling
12 on 695.

13 MR. MORGAN: That's cheap.

14 MR. FOOTE: Yes, it is, and this is on
15 the waterproof, rip-proof paper. It is a good price.

16 MR. MORGAN: Five bucks less than the
17 competition.

18 MR. FOOTE: That's right.

19 MR. KATES: I know I can't really give
20 any input. But on the electronic version, that would
21 be a fantastic idea. Do you have any budget to do
22 that, because I think the agencies would love to have
23 an electronic one to put on their websites, if there's
24 funding issues.

25 MR. FOOTE: We'd have to contact the

1 various agencies to see if there are funding issues.

2 I don't have an idea about what would be required.

3 MR. KATES: If there's money issues,
4 most of the agencies will have an I.T. person on board
5 that would be able to create the electronic version of
6 this so there could be a link and create the image,
7 whatever that image would be, so it could be put
8 electronically.

9 So if it's a funding issue, you know, by
10 all means, call me at the County, call Indian Wells.
11 We all have I.T. people that could together
12 collectively create the electronic image. That could
13 be done.

14 MR. FOOTE: Thank you. I'll keep that
15 in mind. Right now the versions I've seen were, I
16 think, simply sent as PDF files of the entire
17 brochure, both sides. The one piece we'll want to
18 change, from what I've seen, though, is -- because the
19 product is a folded product, so when you look at one
20 side, half of it's right side up, half of it's upside
21 down. And that's a piece, as we develop a web
22 product, we'll need work on that to make sure people
23 aren't going to have to turn their monitors upside
24 down.

25 MR. KATES: Yesterday I attended a

1 meeting on web-based brochures, actually.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Louder.

3 MR. KATES: I attended a meeting for
4 web-based brochures, because we're looking into doing
5 one for Indian Wells. And you click, the page flips
6 so everything is right side up. So it brings up your
7 images for you. It links.

8 MR. FOOTE: You're my contact guy.

9 MR. KATES: It should be web based.
10 It's where everybody is going. It will get outside
11 the region, and that's what we want.

12 MR. FOOTE: I'm writing down you as my
13 primary contact on this.

14 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Next item on the
15 agenda is the Monument communications strategy,
16 formerly known as the business plan.

17 THE REPORTER: Is this a good time to
18 take a break? I need to take a break.

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: At this time we
20 will take a five-minute break.

21 (Brief recess was taken.)

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. We have
23 reconvened. Thank you all. At this time we'll move
24 on to the business portion item.

25 MR. FOOTE: This is just real quick,

1 because I don't want to revisit what occurred at the
2 December meeting. Doug Herrema was here, provided a
3 very lengthy Power Point presentation about the status
4 and where the communication strategy, AKA business
5 plan, was going. So suffice it to say at this point
6 in time we need a few more modifications to some of
7 the project descriptions, some of the costs associated
8 with that, potentially some modification or revising
9 of the text.

10 But the key piece right now is working with
11 the Jones Agency, again, to look at that, the graphic
12 standards that we're going to be developing for all
13 Monument-related brochures, booklets, signs, exhibits,
14 those kinds of things. So we pulled all -- everything
15 looks cohesive, and the communication strategy as a
16 marketing piece is critical, that it has that
17 consistency with our primary fundraiser being Friends
18 of the Desert Mountains. So those two pieces will
19 look pretty much similar -- well, they'll look
20 similar. They won't be identical, but they'll look
21 similar. So we're still waiting on that.

22 As I indicated, we met with the Jones
23 Agency this last week and are looking to move that
24 process forward. And that's about it for the
25 communications strategy.

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Does anybody
2 have any questions on that document? I understand
3 there was quite a discussion at the last meeting
4 regarding that.

5 MR. FOOTE: Yes.

6 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: So everybody
7 knows where we are and what we're doing there?

8 MR. FOOTE: It's reported in the
9 minutes.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. At this
11 time we are scheduled for a Dunn Road status.
12 However, there has been an issue that has arisen --
13 arisen. I don't know what's wrong with me with, this
14 "arise" and "arisen" thing, arose -- that the DUFO has
15 brought to my attention.

16 MR. FOOTE: See what you started.

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: And we may want
18 to take action, and because I do believe that this is
19 an item that we should participate in, I will ask for
20 concurrence that we can add this to the agenda as an
21 urgency issue as it came up after the agenda was
22 printed, and that gives us the legal ability to go
23 ahead and have a discussion and take action.

24 If I could get a motion for that.

25 MR. MORGAN: What is the item?

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: The item is --
2 it's a windmill discussion that Jim has recently been
3 involved in. Jim, are you going to participate in
4 what I'm trying to say here at all, or do you want me
5 to flounder along the way?

6 MR. FOOTE: Everybody likes to see me
7 dangle on the hook, so I thought I'd return the favor.
8 But this is in regards to the Cabazon Wind Energy LLC
9 proposal relative to BLM. It's a right-of-way
10 application to cross public lands to access private
11 lands to develop windmills on those private lands.
12 The project is within the Monument boundary in part,
13 partially outside.

14 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We're just
15 trying to establish what the item is, so that is the
16 item.

17 MR. HAVERT: You have your motion.

18 MR. MORGAN: Second.

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: There has been a
20 motion and a second to approve putting this item on
21 the agenda. All those in favor? Any opposed? Any
22 opposition?

23 (Voice vote taken.)

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That motion has
25 been approved, and it would appear that we are ready

1 to have that.

2 MR. LYMAN: John, pull down those
3 shades.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That's much
5 better. Can you elevate it at all? Or just move that
6 chair. Ruth.

7 MR. FOOTE: How about the bird watcher's
8 book? Is that okay? Can everybody see that?

9 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Ruth, could you
10 maybe possibly maybe sit on one of these over here?

11 MS. WATLING: Absolutely.

12 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: You still have a
13 good view from there.

14 MR. FOOTE: There we go.

15 MS. HENDERSON: That's good.

16 MR. FOOTE: Are we ready to proceed?

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Please.

18 MR. FOOTE: As I indicated, this is a
19 proposal by Cabazon Wind Energy LLC to construct
20 turbines on private lands that occur within the
21 Monument boundary. BLM is engaged at this time to
22 receive a right-of-way application to cross those
23 public lands.

24 As I indicated here, right-of-way
25 application would be amended. Right now the only

1 thing on the right-of-way application -- and we'll get
2 into this further -- is a request for a grant for
3 roads and the maintenance of those roads. It has
4 nothing to do with -- does not define any power lines
5 or anything else. We expect that would require an
6 amendment at this point in order to make this work.
7 But anyway, the County is the lead agency on the
8 permit issuance under the -- for the private land
9 issue.

10 Just to -- well, I should just go along
11 here and start to show this. And I have a couple of
12 slides that highlight this. Got a handy-dandy pointer
13 here. Just to orient folks, this is Interstate 10
14 coming out here. This is Highway 111 coming off down
15 here. This is Snow Creek road coming off -- actually
16 this is the railroad track. This Highway 111 coming
17 off the interstate. So here's the junction of 111 and
18 the interstate.

19 The railroad is here. Snow Creek Road
20 coming off of Highway 111 right down here to the
21 village of Snow Creek. This is commonly known as
22 Fingle's Finger, the ridge coming up higher. The
23 Monument boundary, which I may not be able to see
24 clearly, it's in green. It follows the highway here,
25 the railroad line along the toe of the slope here.

1 It's a green line that heads out this way. The green
2 line here is Forest Service land.

3 All the yellow dots indicate where -- at
4 least at the time we received an initial proposal,
5 these are wind turbine sites. The black lines are
6 roads. You can see where they cross yellow land.
7 That's where they're asking for right-of-way right
8 here, right here, over here. You also notice that
9 they're very close to some of the public lands as well
10 as here. Setback requirements or waivers are required
11 for that. The Pacific Crest Trail.

12 Let me go to the next slide. This dotted
13 line going right up adjacent to the turbines turns
14 here, goes under the interstate.

15 MR. HAVERT: Jim?

16 MR. FOOTE: Yes.

17 MR. HAVERT: Just point out there's some
18 other public lands and conserved land in here that
19 your map isn't showing.

20 MR. FOOTE: This was what was formerly
21 known as the Lazar acquisition. Friends of the Desert
22 Mountains acquired that and since have moved that to
23 BLM. So this whole piece is public land. You'll
24 notice the proponent had identified these as potential
25 wind turbine sites. Under BLM's policy, within a

1 National Monument wind turbine development is not to
2 be on public lands.

3 MR. HAVERT: Go back to the other slide.
4 There's also that square at the bottom center. That
5 belongs to the University of California Reserve
6 System. There's that sort of an "L" to the right, if
7 you envision there, and off to the right that's
8 conservancy land.

9 MR. FOOTE: Uh-huh. Good. Thanks,
10 Bill.

11 MR. MORGAN: And the Forest Service land
12 is actually also the wilderness boundary.

13 MR. FOOTE: Correct. Just to paint the
14 picture a little bit, what does complicate this a bit
15 is, right now, as I understand it, under the County's
16 general plan, the project is inconsistent with that
17 plan, so it requires an amendment to that plan for the
18 project to be installed.

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Did you say it
20 required?

21 MR. FOOTE: It requires.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. Requires.

23 MR. FOOTE: It requires. That has still
24 not occurred. As of this last week the project was
25 still being amended and revised. The proponent has

1 indicated this last week that they were adding another
2 couple of turbines up here and would be approaching
3 Forest Service for a waiver on a setback at this
4 location.

5 Also to kind of show you -- and you'll see
6 photos of this. Just to, again, give you a picture,
7 there's a 500KB power transmission line that comes up
8 here, and I just want to point that out because you
9 you'll see that in photos that show the transmission
10 line. All the wind turbines would be north, or
11 downslope, of that transmission line, just to orient
12 you as we go through this.

13 Again this is just a closer view, again,
14 showing the Pacific Crest Trail, its proximity to
15 these wind turbines. Next slide, just showing the
16 other side, how it's closer up here. And as I
17 mentioned, just this last week the proponent was
18 suggesting that another couple of turbines would be
19 added up here and some other revisions here.

20 And this is just a generalized route
21 alignment. A more specific route alignment would be
22 forthcoming because of grading requirements in the
23 slope. That is a row in that configuration that could
24 not be constructed.

25 MR. MORGAN: Comment, the turbines

1 are -- the highest ones are at an elevation of over
2 4,000 feet, which is a heck of a long way up the side
3 of Mt. San Jacinto.

4 MR. FOOTE: Each of these -- as the
5 proponent indicated, we're looking at the height of
6 turbine from the bottom to the top of the tip is
7 somewhere in the vicinity of 410 feet, very large
8 turbines.

9 This is a view from the overpass at
10 Whitewater where the bridge crosses the interstate.
11 This is the ridge upon which some of the turbines
12 would be built, as well as in this flat area out in
13 front of the ridge.

14 This is another view of the ridge from
15 Highway 111 right about where Tipton Road comes in.
16 Again up this ridge here is what we're looking at for
17 construction, as well as in the foreground. And
18 getting progressively closer at a little different
19 angle, same ridge heading up here.

20 At this point where I am on the road, most
21 of the turbines would be behind the picture, so they
22 would not be out in this piece. They would be over
23 here. This is part of the view that would be affected
24 by the installation of turbines. Obviously it's the
25 view of Mt. San Jacinto, and Snow Creek Village is

1 right in here.

2 MR. BORCHARD: Jim, can you go back to
3 that picture and point out where the turbines would
4 be.

5 MR. FOOTE: Essentially the turbines
6 from this point are out of the picture. You'd have to
7 be further to the north for this view to be
8 obstructed, but this is a representational photo of
9 what view would be compromised.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Where is Snow
11 Creek Village?

12 MR. FOOTE: Snow Creek Village is right
13 up here.

14 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: So it's kind of
15 just over the green line there, the trees, I assume?

16 MR. FOOTE: Yeah. You can see some
17 trees back in here. That's the village.

18 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay.

19 MR. FOOTE: As you get up to where you
20 enter the village, the Pacific Crest, the National
21 Scenic Trail comes into view. This is the trail
22 heading out here. This is the ridge that the turbines
23 would be built on as well as the flat land down in
24 here.

25 I mentioned I would show you a photo of the

1 transmission line. Interestingly enough, that --
2 transmission lines, if they're not skylined because of
3 latticework structure, are not real visible,
4 surprisingly. They don't jump out at you unless
5 you're right there. This is kind of case in point.
6 You can see the lines, but it's very difficult to see
7 where the line itself goes.

8 Here you see the line coming up. You can
9 see some skylined transmission towers right here, here
10 and here. The wind towers would be all, as I
11 mentioned, downslope of that. For setback reasons,
12 they can't get too close, but they're also all
13 downhill down here.

14 MR. WATTS: Is that looking west?

15 MR. FOOTE: Yes, and Mt. San Gorgonio
16 over here.

17 MR. MORGAN: See that bump on the ridge?
18 They go up beyond that.

19 MR. FOOTE: Yeah. The crossing is up
20 here, and so what happens -- they come up here, and
21 this is even a little bit of change in the plan.
22 They're having to turn the turbines a little ways to
23 the west, if you will, to ensure that they have
24 adequate setback from the towers.

25 Again here is another view of the

1 transmission towers that goes up over the hill. All
2 of the turbines would be to this side of these
3 transmission towers, which does mean they might be up
4 on this side as well, up to these higher points, as
5 long as there is sufficient distance from the
6 transmission line.

7 MR. WATTS: Do you know the height of
8 those towers?

9 MR. FOOTE: No, I don't. Do you have an
10 idea, John, about what's typical?

11 MR. KALISH: Yeah. Between 130, 180
12 feet, depending on what they're doing.

13 MR. FOOTE: Okay. Again these turbines
14 would be over 400 feet. This is just to give you a
15 sense, again, from Snow Creek Road looking to the
16 northeast, of what visual effect that wind turbines
17 would have. This is Whitewater Hill here. These ones
18 with the white poles are typically what we would see
19 in this project versus this other style, the lattice
20 style here. We're going to see these white poles.

21 So this is just to give you a sense of
22 how -- what effect that a wind turbine development may
23 have on the visual resources, which is part of the
24 analysis as we proceed through the project.

25 John, do you want to add anything to that?

1 This is, I think, the last slide of the program.

2 MR. KALISH: Yeah. Right now we're just
3 going through the process with the County to determine
4 how we're going to interface a CEQA and an EPA process
5 in analyzing this project proposal. But as Jim said,
6 the application, although it's been submitted, it has
7 not been approved yet because it is not complete.
8 There is a lot more information that needs to come
9 with the application with regards to the need for
10 setbacks, as well as all the ancillary facilities, the
11 communication lines that go from their central command
12 center out to each one of the turbines, as well as all
13 of the electrical collection lines that come out of
14 each one of the turbines and back to the substation.
15 So there's a lot more detail that needs to be
16 submitted as far as this overall project proposal.

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Bill.

18 MR. HAVERT: I was just going to make a
19 couple of observations. In this area the Conservancy,
20 BLM, the Friends of the Desert Mountains have over the
21 years spent many, many millions of dollars acquiring
22 land to protect the scenic resources of the area, of
23 the Monument, to help protect the right-of-way for the
24 Pacific Crest Trail to establish or protect a wildlife
25 movement corridor that goes right under the freeway at

1 the north end of that one point, Fingle, at the lower
2 end where the power line or the turbines are proposed,
3 and also to protect endangered species habitat which
4 exists below the toe of the slope in that area.

5 There's at least two endangered species that occur in
6 that area.

7 So I think from that perspective all of
8 that prior investment would suffer from this
9 development in terms of its impacts on the visual
10 resources in terms of its impacts on the lower areas
11 and on endangered species wildlife moving through
12 there, the Pacific Crest Trail through that area.

13 Anyway, we've identified all of those as
14 issues that should be addressed in the EIR that the
15 County would require for the project. And also we
16 propose that it should be a joint EIR/EIS, since there
17 is a clear federal component to the project as well.

18 So I don't know if it's appropriate for,
19 you know, this body to provide input to the BLM at
20 this point. I would propose that the MAC go on record
21 as advising BLM that this project would have
22 significant effects on the resources that the Monument
23 was established to project and it would be
24 inconsistent with the management plan for the
25 Monument.

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Thank you for
2 your comments. We'll hear from anybody else who
3 wishes to speak.

4 MR. MUTH: I actually concur with Bill.
5 I've been with the Coachella Valley Mountains
6 Conservancy through all the discussion on the Lazar
7 property through -- I've been on the Science Advisory
8 Committee for the Multiple Species Habitat
9 Conservation Plan. This area is extremely important
10 for connectivity of wildlife. This has been
11 identified as one of the -- the corridors that is a
12 conservation priority in the state. And biologically
13 I don't think you can say anything good about this
14 proposal.

15 But on other grounds, you know, at the
16 Mountains Conservancy, we spent an awful lot of your
17 money, public money, to purchase this land with the
18 objectives that Bill just mentioned. And as far as I
19 am personally concerned, we have a moral obligation to
20 stick to those commitments. And you know, I just
21 cannot see any way that, as a member of the Science
22 Advisory Committee and the Mountains Conservancy, that
23 I could ever in good conscience vote for anything like
24 this or support it in any way.

25 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Thank you for

1 your comments. Jeff?

2 MR. MORGAN: Yeah. I'm speaking on
3 behalf of the Sierra Club at this point and also on my
4 own behalf. Sierra has a policy of renewable wind
5 energy in appropriate locations at the site being
6 given consideration. In other words only put these
7 things where they are appropriate.

8 We have determined that this is not an
9 appropriate location, and we have made similar
10 comments on the notice to the County as well as Bill
11 said they had made regarding the similar issues,
12 wildlife, visual, connectivity. And I think this body
13 should come out and oppose the development of this
14 site in such a manner.

15 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Thank you for
16 your comments. Bob, do you have anything?

17 MR. LYMAN: I think there's a couple of
18 issues. But on top of it there's also the Coachella
19 Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan.
20 The County had just, as of last Tuesday, adopted the
21 take policy for that plan, which allows only eight
22 percent of it in a conservation area with any one
23 project.

24 What we've learned in previous wind turbine
25 projects is that, when they begin to construct the

1 roads and those types of things, the damage is almost
2 irreparable and they bring in very, very large
3 equipment. And to put it in perspective, the new
4 turbines that you see on the north of I-10 are 330
5 feet from ground to tip of propeller. These are 410
6 feet, and the foundations that they are proposing are
7 60- and 70-feet deep. It is difficult. I can't be a
8 proponent, I can't be an opponent because I am part of
9 the process, but it's not a good thing.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Do you want to
11 chime in?

12 MR. WATTS: Yeah, real briefly. State
13 Parks has not seen anything yet on the project. We
14 expect that we will, being an adjacent landowner. But
15 clearly from the top of Mt. San Jacinto, with the
16 commanding views that it has, this would be something
17 that we would definitely want to see an analysis on to
18 see how it affects the view. Granted, you can see
19 everything up there, I-10 and everything else that has
20 been done. But these would be additional impacts that
21 would need to be carefully evaluated and considered
22 how they impact that experience on top of the peak.

23 And concurrently with that, it's also the
24 highest point in the Monument, so there's big concerns
25 as far as that goes. So I don't see any way I could

1 say anything other than what's been said around the
2 table so far.

3 MR. HAVERT: One brief comment to add.
4 This is the gateway to the National Monument for the
5 gazillions of people that come from the L.A. area
6 heading into Coachella Valley. And so this is the
7 first thing that people see of the Monument as well as
8 of the Coachella Valley as a whole. And running the
9 turbines up the ridgeline would do irreparable damage
10 to the --

11 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Aren't they
12 already seeing wind turbines?

13 MR. HAVERT: Not on the side of the
14 hills. I think that's the difference.

15 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: But they've
16 already driven through an area of wind turbines?

17 MR. HAVERT: Yes. And then what they
18 see, in contrast to what's on the valley floor, is
19 they see this expanse of natural desert and
20 mountainside that literally runs from below toe of
21 slope in the Snow Creek area, where millions have been
22 spent to protect resources there. So you have an
23 unbroken expanse from desert floor to 10,800 feet on
24 San Jacinto with nothing marring that vista, and this
25 would change that.

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Corrie, I think
2 you had a comment.

3 MR. KATES: I just want to make sure
4 that the applicant, whoever is applying for what's
5 being reviewed by the County -- I notice in the
6 photographs it does not show scaleable representation
7 of photo simulations. The technology is there to show
8 every single windmill that they could build out to be
9 on the photo simulations for the environmental
10 analysis, because that will be true impact. I'm not
11 sure if it's been seen or not. But they haven't
12 submitted that. Definitely as a developer they don't
13 show those things because it shows negative impact.

14 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Generally, I
15 think, as we move through development stages, those
16 become common. I think Jim went out and took these
17 photos. I suspect that the County will be requiring
18 those. I'm sorry, Jeff.

19 MR. MORGAN: One other comment. With
20 the wind-energy conversion system, which this is one
21 of, the developers like to say all it affects is the
22 part that the windmill sits on and the road. But in
23 actual fact what does occur, the whole site, this
24 being 2,000 acres, becomes an industrial site. It has
25 roads. It has equipment, houses or whatever you call

1 them, cabins. They have turn-around spots. They have
2 service trucks driving up and down every day. All
3 wildlife disappears from within an area where there is
4 a wind-energy system.

5 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Al?

6 MR. MUTH: This is why we need
7 participation from the municipalities. This is the
8 entrance to the Coachella Valley, but I think Palm
9 Springs thinks it's their entrance. That's the first
10 introduction to the city, who are more politically --

11 Following up what Jeff said, when you make
12 a disturbance to an area like this, that's an
13 irretrievable commitment of natural resources for the
14 next several hundred years or longer. And when the
15 federal subsidies run out, a lot of these guys walk
16 away. I've seen it before.

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Go ahead.

18 MR. MUTH: And then we're stuck with it,
19 so that's another reason that this is so
20 objectionable.

21 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Bill?

22 MR. HAVERT: We're the Advisory
23 Committee for the National Monument, so I guess we
24 want to separate out the two pieces of this. One is
25 there is private land involved, and the County has a

1 process to deal with that. There will be an
2 environmental impact report, hopefully a joint
3 document with the federal government on that, and
4 we'll all as individuals and entities have an
5 opportunity to participate in that process.

6 As the MAC, what we're concerned about is
7 the BLM piece of this on which there is the proposed
8 right-of-way. So that is within the National
9 Monument. And in my view, the Monument legislation is
10 quite clear that BLM land within the Monument is not
11 to be withdrawn for other purposes. It's not to be
12 allowed to be used for mining, et cetera, et cetera,
13 et cetera so that the intent of the Monument was to
14 preserve the resources on the BLM and the Forest
15 Service land in their natural state, to protect those
16 resources. So that's the piece that we should focus
17 on today.

18 And in that view or in that vein, I would
19 suggest that it is appropriate for the MAC to provide
20 that input to BLM that, in the MAC's view, issuing a
21 right-of-way on that land would be inconsistent with
22 the Monument legislation and with the land management
23 plan that this body oversaw the development of and is
24 now responsible to provide input on the
25 implementation.

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Thank you for
2 your comments. Jim?

3 MR. FOOTE: If I can clarify that to
4 some degree, because these questions have been asked
5 at higher levels at Washington office levels very
6 specific to this planning effort. And clearly the
7 legislation and current law suggests that any private
8 land that's landlocked by public lands, there will be
9 reasonable access given to those private lands. The
10 legislation for the Monument is clear on that. That's
11 also established elsewhere.

12 The complicating factor here is -- and I
13 think this is maybe where the Advisory Committee can
14 come in -- is, looking at interpreting that, that BLM
15 will continue to process applications to provide
16 access to those private lands where the projects on
17 those private lands are consistent with the local land
18 use plan. Right now it's not consistent, and so that
19 puts us in kind of an awkward situation to some
20 degree.

21 The proponent is certainly looking to put
22 together a project that links amending the plan, the
23 County's plan, with the project approval as opposed to
24 segregating them, making one decision first on, will
25 it, in fact, amend the plan and then processing the

1 application. By joining them, as it stands right now,
2 we have an application for right-of-way to a project
3 that's inconsistent with the County plan.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We'll just tell
5 them to come back at the appropriate time.

6 MR. FOOTE: This is where the Monument
7 Advisory Committee could perhaps weigh in and suggest
8 how BLM might want to look at that particular issue of
9 whether or not we engaged with the County on a joint
10 document when we don't have assurance or we have an
11 inconsistent plan right now with the County piece.
12 This is what we're exploring now with the County and
13 the proponent.

14 How do we proceed from here? That hasn't
15 been resolved yet. But we know that the existing
16 situation is, the project is inconsistent with the
17 County plan, yet we have a right-of-way application to
18 be amended that's before us.

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Buford?

20 MR. CRITES: Sure sounds awfully simple.
21 The answer is, "No, until you have something
22 consistent."

23 MR. FOOTE: Well, that can be a
24 recommendation of this body.

25 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah. If I

1 could, I see it somewhat the same as what I said.
2 Tell them to come back when it's an appropriate
3 application. Right now it's not even an appropriate
4 application.

5 The problem with that answer -- even though
6 I support that, the problem with that is, if you're on
7 the other side of the aisle here, when we go to an
8 agency for something and they stonewall us with a
9 blanket "no" and they don't want to work with you to
10 try to work through the issues to resolve your
11 problem, we get pretty ticked off when we see it from
12 our side. Now here we're prepared to say just put
13 your feet in the sand, and the answer is "no."

14 MR. CRITES: I'll be real simple in
15 response to that. If you came to National Monument
16 with that kind of request, you would be wrong and
17 ought not get anything but "no." And you can be
18 ticked off all day. The answer is "no."

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: And that's a
20 philosophical "yes" or "no." But your position could
21 perhaps have merit and it still is wrong, and that
22 is -- yeah.

23 MR. CRITES: No.

24 MR. MUTH: But Terry, you're not saying
25 absolutely, "no." You're saying "No, not at this

1 time."

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Come back when
3 it's appropriate.

4 MR. CRITES: Yeah. No.

5 MR. MUTH: Whether they get exercised
6 about it, that's not our problem.

7 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I said I support
8 the answer, and that would be my recommendation, is
9 that the MAC recommend to, or the whatever our
10 terminology that we use -- to the BLM, that there is
11 no legal requirement here to process that application
12 and --

13 MR. FOOTE: I'll defer to John for the
14 expert side of the rights-of-way issues. John is much
15 more versed in rights-of-way than I am.

16 MR. KALISH: Well, on the downside of
17 what you're talking about is, how far is that CEQA
18 process that the County is going to go through will
19 get. And potentially, when the County makes the
20 decision as far as changing their designation of that
21 area, then are we, from an environmental analysis
22 process, playing catch-up and potentially really
23 dealing with inconsistencies between our NEPA and CEQA
24 document?

25 So that's been a discussion we've had also

1 is, is it better to go in with the County right on the
2 ground floor of this process with a joint NEPA/CEQA
3 document and move that through the environmental
4 review where we, along with the County, have much
5 greater opportunity to point out impacts and bring in
6 our part of the process so then we would -- you know,
7 if the County moves ahead with a separate process and
8 gets that out in front of our NEPA process.

9 So there's really two points to the
10 discussion of, is it better for us to just be in this
11 from the ground floor up, or is it better to take the
12 other tact and say we're not going to process the
13 application until there is consistency with the County
14 designation out in this area?

15 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Well, but even
16 if -- whatever is being processed through the County,
17 you would have participation in those documents as far
18 as public input and comment on the documents that
19 would have to be addressed. I'm not sure I understand
20 why your position is a less position if you aren't
21 also trying to deal with the --

22 MR. KALISH: Well, take VRM, our visual
23 resource analysis. I mean, BLM has its own
24 established guidelines as far as how we analyze
25 impacts on view sheds of certain projects. And, of

1 course, under NEPA we would be analyzing the entire
2 project. We wouldn't say this impacts just our own
3 federal lands. So from that standpoint, it's
4 really -- I think really from an overall environmental
5 analysis standpoint, it would be to our agency's
6 advantage to kind of be in there from the ground floor
7 on in presenting our side and our regulatory
8 requirements and our normal process and procedure. So
9 that's just one example that comes to mind. Maybe Jim
10 has others.

11 But we've been going through this debate
12 internally as to, from an overall standpoint, do we
13 want to kind of jump in from the ground floor up and
14 really, you know, have a full participation in the
15 environmental review process, or do we want to wait
16 and let this County process move forward and maybe
17 find ourselves kind of backed into a corner
18 potentially from an overall standpoint?

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Gary, did you
20 have something?

21 MR. WATTS: Just real quick. Jim, it's
22 probably not germane to the overall big picture, but
23 is the only reasonable access to the private property
24 across BLM, or are there other alternatives?

25 MR. FOOTE: Well, as I understand the

1 project -- a couple of issues. One, from a project --
2 and this is in the proponent's -- it's a proponent
3 response. They look at access to the entire project,
4 apparently, first. And apparently there is access to
5 the project from this side. This is already, of
6 course, a permitted facility out here. This is where
7 that big wind energy development is.

8 This here is what they're characterizing at
9 this point is the secondary or tertiary access for
10 financial situations. To finance a project,
11 apparently this secondary access is required.
12 However, you can't make that case for this row of
13 turbines here without -- clearly this piece is
14 absolutely required to be able to access this. So
15 there is no alternative access to get the full project
16 in.

17 In terms of partial -- because the question
18 one might ask is, well, can they just develop part of
19 the project, not the complete thing? Apparently not,
20 because the way the agreement is with the power
21 companies that they have to be able to produce "X"
22 number of megawatts in order to join into the line.
23 And to do that, they're going to require the 50
24 turbine or 50-plus turbine project in its entirety to
25 meet that requirement. So it sounds like, to me, from

1 the proponent's perspective, what they're saying, it's
2 all or nothing, that you can't just do this, that you
3 have to do this and this.

4 MR. WATTS: And that last section there
5 is physically impossible to reach from any other point
6 except across BLM line?

7 MR. FOOTE: They have yet to identify
8 any other feasible access to get up here other than to
9 go up the ridge.

10 MR. WATTS: Can you require them to do
11 that in your analysis for right-of-way?

12 MR. FOOTE: We look at alternative
13 access as an alternative, saying they need to exhaust
14 those possibilities. We need to know if, in fact,
15 there is another way to get there.

16 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Just a sec,
17 Barbara.

18 MS. LYONS: The only comment was the one
19 you were just talking about, but the other issue is
20 the County. Right now you're saying it's not allowed
21 through the zoning right now?

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Right.

23 MS. LYONS: Right. Now it's not allowed
24 through zoning. So we're not saying, "No, because
25 it's not allowed through zoning," when it won't really

1 help as much if the County decides they'll change
2 their zone, if they go through the process and say,
3 "It's not allowable now, but we're going to change the
4 zone and allow it to go forward."

5 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Then it comes
6 back to, they come back and reapply for this
7 right-of-way.

8 MS. LYONS: They're trying to do it at
9 the same time.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah.

11 MS. LYONS: If they do it at the same
12 time and we're just saying, "No, it's not allowable.
13 They're doing it at the same time," the County can
14 say, "Well, yeah, but we're going to allow it and
15 still process it forward." And then, see, we're not
16 really given our reasons why this project is not
17 viable for that area.

18 If we just automatic, "No, it's not a good
19 project because the zone is not there," I think we
20 have more than enough than viable natural resources
21 and aesthetic scenic reasons why we wouldn't want this
22 project there.

23 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Buford.

24 MR. CRITES: But legally we can't
25 comment on those issues because those are not issues

1 having to do with lands that are governed by the
2 National Monument legislation.

3 MS. LYONS: But to go through the BLM
4 land, that comment still would be in effect, though.
5 I mean, our concerns would still be there for even the
6 BLM land, wouldn't it be?

7 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Well, no. Our
8 concerns are whether or not the BLM should issue a
9 right-of-way permit, whatever process they use to get
10 to the end. And we would start that process, and then
11 you'd go through, because it's inconsistent with what
12 the County is doing. So legally right there, that's
13 black and white, and we shouldn't go any further with
14 it. But what we're hearing is that we may lose out on
15 some opportunity to double track at the same time and
16 get all of the environmental concerns in.

17 MR. CRITES: Go, Bob.

18 MR. LYMAN: First of all, CEQA tells you
19 you have to mitigate to a level of non-significance.
20 If somebody says, "No, you can't get there," that
21 basically stops the CEQA process. It's as simple as
22 that. You can go every which way around it. If you
23 can't get to it, you either do that, or you have to
24 put proposed alternatives.

25 The problem being with that is, as you go

1 through this, first of all, when they describe how the
2 wind-energy process works, they're selling you a real
3 bill of goods. That becomes a portfolio that gets
4 dealt on the stock market, and each turbine is worth
5 "X" amount of dollars at the stock market at the time
6 they transact that portfolio. So if they have ten,
7 it's worth "X" dollars. If they have 20, it's worth
8 "X" times two. It's a portfolio that actually moves.
9 So as you look at those kinds of things, keep that in
10 mind. But if they can't get there, it stops the
11 process. It's as simple as that.

12 MR. CRITES: Madam chairman? I would
13 move that we offer to Bureau of Land Management the
14 Monument Advisory Committee's recommendation that they
15 do not proceed in analyzing an application that is
16 inconsistent with current general plans.

17 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Is there a
18 second on that?

19 MR. MUTH: Second.

20 MR. MORGAN: Just a second. I have a
21 comment.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Al, that was you
23 that seconded?

24 MR. MORGAN: My comment is that the
25 County can stop this if it wants by refusing to change

1 the general plan because the general plan says
2 basically no wind turbines within the National
3 Monument, and there's a strike-out and red line and
4 whatever that says -- it changes it from lands within
5 the National Monument to federal land within the
6 National Monument and inserts private land as not
7 being part of the general plan. The County can stop
8 this right-of-way.

9 MR. CRITES: That's a different issue.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That's a
11 different issue. We have a motion and a second. All
12 those in favor of the motion? Any opposition?
13 Abstention?

14 (Voice vote taken.)

15 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: That motion
16 carries unanimously.

17 MR. LYMAN: One abstention, madam
18 chairman.

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Thank you.
20 There is one abstention by Mr. Lyman. Lyman or Leman?

21 MR. LYMAN: Lyman.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Thank you. We
23 will now move to the update on the Dune Road --
24 Dunn Road.

25 MS. LYONS: How about public comments?

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Did I --

2 MS. LYONS: Eleven o'clock we were still
3 in discussions.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We passed that
5 time. Sorry about that. The agenda at 11 o'clock
6 calls for public comments. We have gone past that
7 time, so we'll move back to that. Is there anybody
8 from the public here who wishes to make a comment?
9 Seeing none -- well, I know that Gayle is going to
10 speak in a little bit.

11 MS. CADY: Okay.

12 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Do you want to
13 make a public comment too?

14 MS. CADY: No.

15 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: You're on the
16 agenda. We haven't gotten there yet.

17 MS. CADY: Thank you. I'm sorry.

18 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We are now going
19 to move back to the Dunn Road.

20 MR. FOOTE: This is going to be fairly
21 brief because we, as you know, have dealt with the
22 Dunn Road for a number of years and brought issues
23 before the MAC a number of times. This is just an
24 update that a letter was sent by the Monument steering
25 subcommittee on September 27th, 2006 to six agencies

1 to really ascertain their interest in capability for
2 assistance in funding in or providing services to
3 repair Dunn Road.

4 And so far the responses have been as
5 follows: The Agua Caliente band of Cahuilla Indians
6 concur with the efforts to maintain and repair Dunn
7 Road for limited administrative purposes. The tribe
8 also state that because authorization to use private
9 land portions of the road coming from Cathedral City
10 Cove would likely be difficult to secure that the
11 Pinon Flats entrance would be a functional
12 alternative. The response, however, did not address
13 assistance in funding or providing services. I know
14 Jeff will probably want to make a comment on this
15 particular one after I finish.

16 Riverside County Flood Control and Water
17 Conservation District, which operates and maintains
18 four radio-reporting rain gauges that are accessed via
19 the Dunn Road responded that they have a vested
20 interest in maintaining a Dunn Road access and would
21 welcome a further meeting to discuss a repair of the
22 road; however they also indicated that reliable access
23 from the Pinon area would meet their needs.

24 Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy
25 indicated that, in order to fulfill its conservation

1 mission and appropriately monitor and manage lands it
2 owns in the Palm Canyon area, access to those lands
3 via the Dunn Road is important. Further, if access
4 from the Cathedral City end is not possible, access
5 from the south of the Pinon area would suffice.

6 Relative to financial contributions, the Conservancy
7 would not be able to contribute funds for repair and
8 maintenance.

9 Desert Search and Rescue, which is
10 associated with the Riverside County Sheriff's
11 Department, indicated that due to lack of use in
12 recent years for search-and-rescue purposes, it would
13 not financially support or otherwise contribute to
14 repairs and maintenance of the road.

15 The two entities that we did not hear from,
16 those being the City of Palm Springs and the Palm
17 Springs Mounted Police Search and Rescue -- well, they
18 did not respond.

19 At this point, of course, the Dunn Road
20 falls completely within the City of Palm Springs. We
21 still do intend to meet with the City staff to
22 ascertain their position relative to repair and
23 maintenance. Jeff, you may want to make a comment
24 about the letter to Sierra Club from the tribe.

25 MR. MORGAN: Yes. We received -- we

1 commented on the Habitat Conservation Plan, and
2 they -- our comment was regarding the Dunn Road, and
3 it's washed out, doesn't get used anymore. And we
4 received a letter back from the planning department at
5 the tribe saying they no longer require access to
6 their lands via Dunn Road. I provided you a copy of
7 that letter for the file, and I guess the tribe may
8 have conflicting ideas about the Dunn Road. Someone
9 says one thing; someone says another thing.

10 Just a further comment that no one has
11 driven on the Dunn Road for three years, and it
12 doesn't seem to have affected anything very much for
13 lack of being able to drive on it. So there's not
14 much point for Dunn Road's existence through the
15 Bighorn Sheep Habitat.

16 We have no problems with the Dunn Road down
17 as far as the orchard. We think that should be a
18 public road to give access to the National Monument,
19 for hiking and recreation, horseback and other
20 recreational uses. We have no problem with repairing
21 Dunn Road down as far as the orchard. It's just when
22 you get going further to the north, you get into the
23 Peninsular Bighorn Sheep habitat, which are making a
24 stunning recovery since the road is no longer being
25 used.

1 MR. FOOTE: That concludes my report,
2 unless there's further discussion.

3 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Anybody have any
4 questions or comments? Thank you. At this time we're
5 going to move on to presentations. And Gayle Cady is
6 here to talk about the link into trails and
7 connectivity to the Monument. Gayle, we are running a
8 little late, so I hope we can keep your report -- do
9 you have an estimate of how long you might be?

10 MS. CADY: I'll try and keep it as brief
11 as I can, Terry. I really don't know. I haven't
12 really practiced.

13 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Right. We still
14 have several other reports that we need to get in
15 before noon, and it is now 11:20, so can we call it
16 maybe ten minutes at this point and see how you're
17 doing?

18 MS. CADY: Sure. First of all, I wasn't
19 sure how many copies to make, so I am a little short,
20 but I do want to pass out a couple of things so that
21 you can follow along. Maybe you can share.

22 MR. LYMAN: How many copies do you need?

23 MS. CADY: There's 13 of you. I've made
24 nine.

25 MR. CRITES: We can share.

1 MS. CADY: As long as we're short of
2 time. I mean, most of this you folks are probably
3 aware of it.

4 My name is Gayle Cady. I'm an equestrian
5 person. I also like to hike, but my passion is riding
6 the horses in the mountains, as well as flat lands.
7 And what I've done, I've made a little composite of
8 maps and things for you to look at.

9 The first one is a map that shows the Lake
10 Cahuilla area as well as the dike going south. It
11 also reflects the Travertine Development Project not
12 yet built. It references the Boo Hoff Trail, which is
13 basically a circle about the center view, and the Boo
14 Hoff is in orange.

15 You'll notice it says "Extension," a
16 "'V' extension with a tail." That particular area has
17 been disputed by various agencies throughout the
18 community. Some say the left-hand part of that "V" is
19 not part of the trail. It's been on the County maps
20 for a number of years, so some folks say it is part.
21 But at any rate we're going to leave it on this map
22 for now so that I can reference to it.

23 And then there's a little tail that comes
24 on the end of that "V," as you'll see in orange. Now,
25 what wasn't done in the past is, there was no

1 connectivity on this trail to hook up to anything. It
2 just sort of stopped so you had to turn around and
3 head back the same way. And one of the things that
4 we're all trying to do is have connectivity with our
5 trail systems.

6 And so I came up with an idea of going
7 around the toe of the slide, which if you're not all
8 familiar with the slide, it's that little finger area
9 here at the base where you see the broken line.
10 That's the Martinez Rock Slide Avalanche. That's the
11 base of the toe of the slide.

12 Previously the Travertine Development
13 Corporation was going to put their golf course up
14 against that toe of the slide and prevent anybody from
15 viewing this historical site. So, like I said, I came
16 up with the idea, and I did get some assistance from
17 CVAG, and they created this map for me so I could show
18 the broken lines.

19 And what I've done is shown a broken line
20 along the toe of the slide. I go directly east to the
21 dike. There is a red line following the dike, which
22 represents the Coachella Valley Recreation Park
23 District Trail. Then if you continue down, you'll see
24 more broken line, and that's to the end of the dike.

25 The reason that I have another "V" here

1 with a broken line is so that, rather than go back the
2 same way you came, if you're hiking or riding your
3 horse, you could either make a circle or you could go
4 back on the dike, and you've got a little bit of
5 different view by riding in a little bit of a
6 different place. It's not a big difference, but it is
7 a different way to have a trail.

8 The second page is a copy of the trail as
9 it appears, I believe, on the BLM map. And you'll
10 notice -- you'll see the Boo Hoff Trail. You'll
11 notice there's no "V" anymore. The left arm of that
12 "V" is omitted; okay? That's the part that's in
13 dispute that we had been told was never an authorized
14 trail.

15 So just with that purpose, we're going to
16 follow -- this dotted line of demarkation is the new
17 proposed trail extension to the Boo Hoff, and this
18 would take you to the dike and also to the Coachella
19 Valley Recreation Parks District Trail.

20 The next page is that same map, and you'll
21 notice I put the "V" back on. I put the left arm back
22 on that "V," and I also extended and put another arm
23 at the bottom so that we can go to the end of the dike
24 like on the very first map on the first page. And
25 again the reason that I did this is so that we could

1 have more area for us to hike and ride our horses
2 without having to go back on the same exact path.

3 The next page represents pretty much the
4 base of the toe of the slide, and I believe you all
5 have a color map today on this one, and what this
6 is -- you'll notice where it says "slide" on the
7 bottom under black, and then it says "slide" above the
8 black. The red line represents the trail and the base
9 of the toe of the slide. I just recently was informed
10 that this new line of demarkation has been included in
11 the bill that is now before the legislation that was
12 created from all of our efforts and put before
13 legislation by Mary Bono and Barbara Boxer.

14 So I'm ecstatic that this is on board,
15 going to Congress for approval as being part of our
16 Monument. This will now realign the Monument border
17 south of Lake Cahuilla and around the toe of the base
18 of the Martinez Rock Slide Avalanche.

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Do we know about
20 this?

21 MS. CADY: For those of you who don't
22 know about the avalanche, this is basically a
23 phenomenon that happened -- we are not sure when -- a
24 gazillion years ago and the whole mountain just
25 literally collapsed and broke away from the rest of

1 the mountain, and it came down to the canyon and kind
2 of swooned around. It was like on a cushion of air at
3 warp speed.

4 And if you go to Avenue 62 and you look
5 west and south, you can see this toe of the slide.
6 The terrain is much different than the rest of the
7 view. It's an historic site. There's only like seven
8 of them recorded on the planet, and ours is the second
9 largest. There's two in the western hemisphere. The
10 other, by chance, is in the San Bernardino area.

11 The last page -- oh, no. Let's see. The
12 next page is a copy of the Wilderness Bill that Mary
13 Bono has presented, the HR3682, and I believe that
14 this is the bill before Congress that includes the
15 Monument lines; okay? And I wanted to include that so
16 you could see that.

17 The last page, this is the Coral Mountain
18 Interpretive Center that basically is on Avenue 58 and
19 Jefferson. This is a project that is not yet built.
20 I'm not sure if they've even broken ground or had an
21 opportunity to do so. Im not sure why or what the
22 ramifications are about this. This involves all of us
23 but not any specific organization that I serve on at
24 this time.

25 The reason I put this here is because this

1 is another part of the connectivity issue that we all
2 need to address and be interested in and communicate
3 about, because when you go to the Cove in La Quinta
4 and you start on the beautiful trails they've created
5 and you want to get to Lake Cahuilla and/or you want
6 to go further south or up in the mountains, the
7 interpretive center is going to be one of the places
8 that's going to create more trails for us to follow
9 and hike and ride. So this is another entity of the
10 connectivity process that we should be thinking about
11 and working on.

12 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: City staff is
13 working with them. This is the Park and Rec. District
14 project?

15 MS. CADY: Correct.

16 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: It's far from
17 being funded.

18 MS. CADY: Right.

19 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: It has a lot of
20 issues. City staff is working with them, and we're
21 dealing with the trails issue, so you know --

22 MS. CADY: I know, Terry. I'm not
23 saying that things aren't being done. Just for those
24 of us in the room that may not be fully aware of what
25 this --

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: He came and did
2 a presentation before us. The Park and Rec. District
3 brought their project -- do you remember? -- it was
4 about a year and a half ago, I think.

5 MR. CRITES: Yeah.

6 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: They brought
7 this before this board, and in fact, we recommended
8 that he go talk to some of the other organizations
9 that he had never talked to.

10 MS. CADY: It's all about communication.

11 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah.

12 MS. CADY: The reason I came here today,
13 I wanted to express my appreciation for all the effort
14 and the work that you have done. I'm ecstatic about
15 the new alignment of the Monument because I've been
16 working on that particular area for about four or five
17 years. And to have this actually happen in my
18 lifetime is a real event for me.

19 The second thing is, I wanted to stress the
20 need for further community involvement on our part and
21 also to make the community more knowledgeable of our
22 joint efforts in what we're trying to accomplish. The
23 public at large has no idea what's going on in the
24 trails and the Monument and preservation and
25 wilderness. And I know that we all try, and I know

1 it's maybe not priority, but it's important because if
2 they don't know, they're the not going to participate.
3 And then that's just not -- it's not going to work.

4 The other is a request, and the request
5 that I have is to not just consider the connectivity
6 of La Quinta area, the Boo Hoff, the Coral Mountain
7 area and the interpretive center, the trail continuing
8 south along the dikes, but I also would like all of
9 you to think about -- and I'm sure you have, so I'm
10 just going to bring it up. I'd like to see some trail
11 expansion further south. I'd like to see some
12 connectivity to hook up with Martinez canyon.

13 Now, I've spoken with some old-timers in
14 the community, an I know there are bunches of trails.
15 Some are Indians. Some are just from people that have
16 been here since forever. But it's something that
17 would be great. Martinez Canyon is a great place to
18 ride horses in. It's a great place to hike, if you
19 haven't been there, and it would be awesome if we
20 could figure out a way to get there simply. That's
21 it. I thank you for your time.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Gayle, thank you
23 very much for coming. You are certainly dedicated to
24 issue.

25 MS. CADY: I'm passionate about riding

1 horses in the mountains.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We understand
3 that.

4 MS. CADY: Oh, one more thing I didn't
5 mention. La Quinta has done flat-land trails too.
6 And that's another thing you can hook up to. I want
7 to give credit to La Quinta. They are doing a
8 marvelous job for hiking and riding horses.

9 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Bill.

10 MR. HAVERT: Just a quick comment. And
11 Gayle maybe aware of this already, but multiple
12 species HCP does show a conceptual trail corridor that
13 would go all the way down to Martinez.

14 MS. CADY: Really?

15 MR. HAVERT: Yeah. There isn't a known
16 route, and so it's simply a corridor to preserve the
17 potential to site a trail when somebody figures out
18 where and how to do it. And then when you get down
19 close to Martinez, the Friends and the Conservancy and
20 BLM have all been working on ways to ensure that from
21 Avenue 66, which is the nearest paved road, that there
22 is a clear public access alignment to get into
23 Martinez Canyon.

24 And that's all wilderness, but there is a
25 cherry-stem dirt road that goes into Martinez, but

1 right now it does cross some private lands in part.
2 And so there has been efforts to acquire that and
3 also, through the County's policies, to establish a
4 right-of-way down a section line, if that becomes the
5 only way to do it.

6 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. Thank
7 you.

8 MS. CADY: Thank you for sharing that,
9 Bill. Anybody have any questions? Okay. Thank you,
10 folks.

11 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Thank you for
12 joining us for a while this morning, Gayle, and for
13 the information that you brought and your input.

14 MS. CADY: My pleasure.

15 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. Moving
16 on. Report, Friends of the Desert Mountains.

17 MR. FOOTE: I'll just do a quick update
18 on that and then defer to Buford or Bill if they want
19 to add additionally to that. But congratulations,
20 certainly, to the Friends of the Desert Mountains for
21 organizing two wonderful and successful events in
22 February at the Monument Visitor's Center.

23 On February 1st the Friends recognized
24 \$250,000 the contribution by Southern California
25 Edison to support Monument programs. The second event

1 on February 16th was the Annual Wildflower Celebration
2 with over a thousand people attending. It was clearly
3 the best public event for the Monument we've had to
4 date. It was fascinating and wonderfully organized
5 and carried out. And if Bill or Buford want to add
6 anything to that?

7 MR. HAVERT: Well, on the acquisitions
8 side, the Friends have acquired 912 acres recently
9 with a grant from the Conservancy. Part of that is
10 the lower part of Palm Canyon where Andreas Hills is,
11 and part of it is upper area Springcrest. In addition
12 the Friends acquired another 8.9 acres in the
13 Springcrest area and have had appraisals done on all
14 of the remaining private lands along Highway 74 in
15 what would be that scenic corridor. So we're looking
16 at additional potential acquisitions.

17 They also are in the process of working
18 with the landowner of 480 acres down in the Santa Rosa
19 Mountains Wilderness and hope to have that in escrow
20 shortly. That's the acquisitions side. And in terms
21 of brochures and that sort of thing, there is a -- as
22 part of the Edison grant funding, there was a birding
23 trail map that is at the printers now, and it actually
24 features a larger area than the Monument. There are
25 ten stops all together, three of which are in the

1 Monument. That will be available shortly.

2 There is a pocket naturalist's guide
3 specifically to the Monument that is in the design
4 stage, also funded with the Edison grant and hopefully
5 will go to the printers in a few months. And then
6 several other educational interpretive brochures about
7 the Monument or booklets about the Monument are in the
8 drawing stage as well.

9 What else, Buford?

10 MR. CRITES: The Edison money is part of
11 a three-year \$3 million fundraising effort of which
12 about a third would go to acquisition and probably
13 about a third to Monument programs. And so Edison has
14 contributed a quarter of a million. We've so far had
15 over another hundred thousand from various other local
16 organizations with 30,000 as minimum contributions
17 from each of those organizations and a number of other
18 ones on the books. And so we're hoping to get three
19 million in three years and use that for tidying up a
20 lot of the Monument things that otherwise just simply
21 won't ever get done.

22 Along with that, not in the Monument, I
23 think this spring we will see a groundbreaking for a
24 connector trail from Willis Palms, which is the palm
25 oasis on the west side of the San Andreas Fault. When

1 you turn off of Ramon and go up Thousand Palms Canyon,
2 there is a palm oasis on this side. And so right now
3 there is no trail from that oasis over the top of
4 those ridge lines and down into what we normally think
5 of as the Thousand Palms Oasis structures through
6 there.

7 And so there's a two-and-a-half-mile trail
8 that's been laid out, and we have a budget for that,
9 and we're doing some looking at monies for the
10 building of that. And we think we can do a
11 groundbreaking this spring for that. It will have
12 absolutely stunning views because it takes you right
13 up on a peak of the Indio Hills and gives you
14 everything, you know, a nice 360.

15 And in the lands that were just purchased
16 with a grant from the Conservancy in Palm Springs,
17 which is at the back corner of Andreas Hills, there
18 will be -- and part of that is on BLM land, and part
19 of it is to be on land that's owned by the Friends --
20 a trail that connects to existing trails, the Thielman
21 and the --

22 MR. FOOTE: Garstin.

23 MR. CRITES: Garstin Trail. And that
24 connector trail, which is about two miles in length,
25 will be named for Mayor Frank Bogart, who for whatever

1 reason -- we've done a lot of neat things for a lot of
2 people in the valley, and we've just not accomplished
3 that. So a Frank Bogart Trail, not a street.

4 He tells a wonderful story, as a quick side
5 note. Palm Springs has a policy. You can't name
6 anything for someone who is living, and so when --

7 MR. HAVERT: My request has been made.

8 MR. CRITES: So when they came up with
9 the new subdivision development Andreas Hills and it
10 came in as Bogart Trail, they immediately were asked
11 about why they were doing this, and they were told
12 that the word "Bogart" in Cahuilla means an early and
13 exceptionally plentiful spring. So to the street,
14 Bogart Trail is an old Cahuilla term, but the trail
15 Frank Bogart will be an old mayor term. So anyhow
16 those are other things from the Friends.

17 MR. HAVERT: I forgot one. One other
18 acquisition that proposed a couple of months ago down
19 in La Quinta in part of this area that Gayle was
20 presenting was a hundred acres in Section 5 that was
21 funded in part by federal money, in part by state
22 money and in part by a nice grant from the City of
23 La Quinta, which I think sort of was maybe the first
24 that the City has participated in, in acquisition in
25 the National Monument.

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: In the National
2 Monument. Well, I don't know. We have a lot of land
3 up there, but we acquired that before it was a
4 National Monument.

5 MR. HAVERT: So anyway, it was very
6 gracious and helpful of the City to participate in
7 that acquisition, because it was a key piece of a
8 larger funding package that made the whole thing
9 happen.

10 MR. CRITES: And Bill indirectly
11 referenced, but the next time you drive up Highway 74
12 just before you get to the old abandoned gas station
13 at Springcrest (ck)on the right-hand side, the Palm
14 Canyon side of Highway 74, there is that famous piece
15 of property that many of us in here know called the
16 Mueller property. It has the great big sign, "For
17 Sale," and it's all been bulldozed illegally onto
18 Forest Service land. That closed two days ago. That
19 is now public land. That will be the site of the
20 future for the trailhead for going down into Palm
21 Canyon.

22 A contentious issue, and an equally
23 contentious person is now free to go be contentious
24 somewhere else. So after a remarkably Byzantine
25 process, that land has now been purchased, and so it

1 will be welcome for public recreation and use.

2 MR. FOOTE: Buford, just one other quick
3 update. The Friends are conducting a number of
4 successful programs. One of the outstanding ones is
5 the Thursday morning hikes, which has been popular
6 beyond belief at this point in time. Unfortunately it
7 was yesterday the vote closed, but under the Desert
8 Sun's Best in the Valley thing, if you went to the
9 recreation, hikes section, for the first time the
10 visitor's center is acknowledged there, and you can
11 vote for it. I voted for it yesterday, so this could
12 become one of the Best of the Valley sites for hiking
13 and recreation. In large part the credit goes to the
14 Friends and Scott Segal for initiating those Thursday
15 morning hike programs, enormously successful.

16 And also we're, of course, continuing the
17 Healthy Initiative for Kids in the Environment program
18 that reaches out to the fourth graders with classroom
19 and outdoor education sessions. We are coming to the
20 conclusion of those pretty quickly. It's been a
21 really busy spring in that program, and that continues
22 to be highly successful.

23 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. Thank you
24 very much. It's you guys's turn now. Moving on,
25 we're up to the reports from the other BLM and USFS

1 agency managers.

2 MS. ROSENTHAL: Do you want us to go
3 first?

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Do you want to
5 draw straws? Ladies first.

6 MS. ROSENTHAL: Just two things. I'll
7 try to be quick so we can get out of here. We, the
8 National Forest, received \$500,000 from land and water
9 conservation funds to be used for land acquisition in
10 the Monument. Now, we were very surprised to get
11 this, and we were trying to figure out, where did this
12 500,000 -- you know, this is, I guess, a Bono earmark
13 but couldn't figure out --

14 MR. CRITES: A supplemental enhancement
15 of revenue.

16 MS. ROSENTHAL: Scratch that from the
17 record, please.

18 MR. MORGAN: From a member request.

19 MS. ROSENTHAL: What he said. One-time
20 fund. And what we figured out was, it was probably
21 that, and in 2009 our priority was for Section 13 of
22 Palm Canyon. And so anyway, the bottom line is that
23 this is going to be used for that purpose.

24 And I'm going to pass this map out, and
25 this is a little picture that goes with it so you can

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1 see where it is. Some of the characteristics of this
2 property -- and Bill, please feel free to add
3 whatever, and Buford, whatever else you'd like to.
4 It's completely surrounded by National Forest. Palm
5 Canyon is classified in our Forest Plan as potential
6 wild and scenic river status.

7 The Palm Canyon trail traverses the site,
8 which descends into Indian Canyons, and it is within
9 designated Peninsular Bighorn Sheep habitat and
10 potential gray vireo habitat and within the view shed
11 of Highway 74 and Pacific Crest Trail. So we're
12 thinking about putting some turbines on there. No.

13 So I just wanted to let you all know about
14 that. And Bill or Buford, anything you'd like to add
15 about that property, any --

16 MR. HAVERT: Just one thing. This is a
17 good example of how a lot of cooperation works. The
18 Friends originally purchased that property, so it's
19 referred to as preacquired, with a grant from the
20 Conservancy so that, under the way the federal process
21 works now, really either BLM or the Forest Service,
22 they can only buy land that's instantly ready to go.
23 So it almost always means that somebody has to go in
24 and do the deal, and then they can, in turn, sell it
25 on to BLM or the Forest Service in this case, and then

1 that allows those funds to be able to be rolled over
2 and used again to go buy something else and complete
3 the cycle.

4 MS. ROSENTHAL: Right.

5 MR. FOOTE: Very good.

6 MR. CRITES: On Monday Bill and I will
7 be going down the --

8 MR. HAVERT: Dunn Road and then Dutch
9 Charlie Canyon and Palm Canyon Trail to take the
10 Forest Service realty folks to see the property that
11 they are buying.

12 MR. MORGAN: Just a comment. The
13 timeliness of these things -- last year during the
14 budget debacle, the federal government couldn't come
15 up with a budget, so they went into kind of a
16 continuation. And that allowed the member-request
17 period to be extended for a short period of time.
18 When we found out that that member-request period had
19 been extended, a couple of quick phone calls allowed
20 this to be placed as a member request, and it went
21 through the process, and it ended up being signed by
22 the president.

23 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Good.

24 MR. MORGAN: So that's the timeliness.
25 You have to keep your eye on what's happening.

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Right. Laurie?

2 MS. ROSENTHAL: And secondly you all had
3 a chance to see an example of a Corridor Management
4 Plan. For those of you who have been around on the
5 MAC for four or five years at least, you might recall
6 way back in about 2002 or so, there was a presentation
7 ongoing forward with the Corridor Management Plan at
8 that time. This was a grant that some Forest Service
9 Enterprise teams did. And at that it wasn't granted.
10 And then another group from the Forest Service
11 Enterprise team reapplied, and this time it was
12 granted.

13 At that time, the first time, we heard a
14 lot of issues about safety. And what we said at the
15 time and still goes is, we can make this Corridor
16 Management Plan whatever we want, and I'm thinking
17 that one of the highlights needs to be the safety
18 issues. Now, remember this is Highway 74 to 243.
19 See, it encompasses the Monument but has areas that
20 are not in the Monument as well.

21 But my understanding is that it takes
22 almost a year to get the money from the time that the
23 decision is made. See we're probably thinking that
24 the \$200,000 will come to this Forest Service
25 Enterprise team sometime before our next Monument

1 Advisory Committee. As you saw in there, it included
2 an inventory of all the different resources. It
3 included a safety plan in there, one of the chapters,
4 tourism development plan, et cetera, et cetera.

5 So you know, we really have a lot of
6 control over what is included in this and what our
7 issues are and what our emphasis is going to be. And
8 so my recommendation is that there might be some
9 people here that might be interested -- and maybe it's
10 just the steering committee with a few extra people,
11 but just like we did with Monument Communication
12 Strategy, we had some folks here that got together and
13 moved it forward like a steering committee for that
14 project.

15 My recommendation -- and Terry, you know,
16 you might want to ask the group -- would be that there
17 would be a standing group -- this is really a public
18 plan. I mean, it comes from all of you. And because
19 the safety is so important, I'm also thinking Caltrans
20 needs to be a huge player in this plan.

21 But what happened with that Highway 12 is
22 that they received this money. They did the Corridor
23 Management Plan. As a result, then they received more
24 money to do interpretive designs along the byway and
25 on and on. And it's just become this amazing thing

1 that all the communities on the byway are now
2 interacting. They have a byway committee right now
3 that continues on because the grants can come every
4 year. But even if we as a result of this --

5 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Is the plan that
6 we're talking about for us, is that going to be put
7 together through this committee, or is there an
8 existing -- sounded to me like you have already a
9 working group.

10 MS. ROSENTHAL: No. There is no working
11 group. There is no anything. This enterprise team
12 that will be receiving the money, they will write
13 this, but they will write this according to what the
14 what the public wants in it. So it's a totally
15 grass-roots effort.

16 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I see. So the
17 public is obviously -- I mean, if I say, "Okay. Do
18 you want to be on the committee, and you?" that's two.
19 And you're going to go out and get other members of
20 this committee from maybe Pinon and other areas;
21 right?

22 MS. ROSENTHAL: Correct. And MAC would
23 be a representative.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: We would just be
25 a part of a whole.

1 MS. ROSENTHAL: Yeah, that's right.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Do we have
3 somebody that really has the time and some interest
4 and some knowledge of this area that would like to
5 serve on this committee? Don't everybody raise your
6 hand at one time.

7 MR. CRITES: It's the opportunity to
8 serve with Caltrans.

9 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I work with
10 Caltrans all the time.

11 MR. CRITES: There's a volunteer.

12 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: No. I will see
13 to it that Caltrans is at the meetings.

14 MS. ROSENTHAL: That is the most
15 important thing.

16 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I will get
17 participation from Caltrans on this committee, but I
18 don't have time to take another committee. I suspect
19 Ruth is going to be on it.

20 MS. WATLING: Probably.

21 MS. ROSENTHAL: Or Barbara.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: And Corrie?

23 MR. KATES: I don't know if I can. Can
24 I?

25 MR. CRITES: Yeah.

1 MS. LYONS: Alternates.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: He is not an
3 alternate yet, but you can as a member of the
4 community, for Pete's sake.

5 MR. FOOTE: Any community member can
6 serve on subgroups and subcommittees at any point.
7 It's just with concurrence of the DFO and the chair.
8 That's it.

9 MR. KATES: Sure.

10 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: What about --
11 Bob, because of the County involvement, can you do
12 that? All right. Yeah. Okay. All right. Thank
13 you. How does the turnout look up there?

14 MS. ROSENTHAL: It's gorgeous.

15 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Is it? I have
16 not been up.

17 MR. FOOTE: I have some photos.

18 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Do you have some
19 photos?

20 MR. FOOTE: Yes. I'm going to wind up
21 with some photos.

22 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: You have some
23 photos?

24 MS. WATLING: It's beautiful. No
25 graffiti.

1 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: It's beautiful
2 what?

3 MS. WATLING: No graffiti.

4 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Have you seen
5 it?

6 MR. CRITES: The graffiti coating they
7 put on it is already falling off. They put big signs
8 up saying, "Only put trash in trash cans," which, of
9 course, they have none of. So there's a giant sign
10 talking about that, which means people are littering
11 it already, so --

12 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Well, people are
13 not littering because the signs are up, and the trash
14 cans are not there not just because Caltrans didn't
15 put them there but because the public probably stole
16 them.

17 MR. CRITES: No. They never put them
18 there to start with.

19 MR. FOOTE: I'll address this in about
20 two minutes.

21 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Okay. Laurie,
22 are you done?

23 MS. ROSENTHAL: I'm done. It is a wrap.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: John.

25 MR. KALISH: I did bring some photos,

1 but in the interest of time -- it's up to the group --
2 I can either talk about them or we can load them on
3 and show them.

4 MR. FOOTE: We can do this quickly.

5 MR. CRITES: Show them.

6 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I may have to
7 scoot out. I have another meeting.

8 MS. ROSENTHAL: I have to catch a plane.

9 MR. KALISH: While the laptop is warming
10 up, about 14 months ago the associate field manager
11 position that we have was vacated by myself, actually,
12 and so for the last 14 months, we -- other than for
13 the couple of months where we had people detailed in,
14 we kind of went without that critical position. But
15 fortunately, we have now filled the position with a
16 woman out of the BLM state office in Utah, Holly
17 Roberts.

18 In fact she reported this past Monday, and
19 she would have been here, but she's in the process of
20 trying to find a house and trying to move in and all
21 that sort of stuff. So I'm going to look forward to
22 all of you meeting her. She's worked for the BLM
23 since the early '80s, started in on the Arizona Strip
24 District and then for at least a decade worked as the
25 planning environmental coordinator for the Utah state

1 office for BLM and the last four years has been an
2 assistant field manager in the Salt Lake District.

3 So she comes with lots of experience, and
4 looking forward to having her on board assisting in
5 Monument issues, assisting Jim and, of course,
6 assisting all of the field office.

7 As far as overall projects office-wide,
8 right now our workload is very extensive. For
9 example, of course, wind energy is a big emphasis.
10 And right now we have 19 wind-energy applications that
11 are on file that we're in the process of sorting
12 through. The majority of these applications are out
13 east of here, out I-10 in the Desert Center area, all
14 the way up through Rice Valley and on over toward
15 Blythe, up into the Midland area, and then one
16 application, even, at the north end of the Riverside
17 Mountains.

18 The majority of these applications are in
19 the process of being perfected. However we do have a
20 notice of intent that's moving through the process, a
21 Federal Register notice on two of the projects to
22 start our environmental review of the solar projects.
23 And those are located right out between Desert Center
24 and Eagle Mountain.

25 Then, of course, we're still heavily

1 involved in electrical transmissions with our
2 transmission lines, the three that are out
3 Interstate 10. We did approve the Blythe energy 230KB
4 transmission line, which very likely they'll initiate
5 construction upon our completion of our review of the
6 construction plan fairly soon. So that line goes from
7 Blythe to the Julian Pines pumping station located
8 near Desert Center.

9 We also finished up the Desert Southwest
10 500KB project from Blythe to the Devers substation,
11 and we're still working on the Devers, the Palo
12 Verdes, two transmission lines, an Edison project that
13 goes all the way from the Harquahala Valley over in
14 Arizona all the way to the Devers substation, and then
15 actually it would involve a second line that would
16 parallel the line that Jim showed earlier around
17 Fingle's Finger, the Devers Valley 500KB line that
18 goes up on the forest and drops back down over to the
19 valley substation in Romoland.

20 But the big project that we will be
21 involved in very shortly in a huge way is the L.A.
22 Department of Water and Power's green path, a 500KB
23 project, which -- right now the alignments we've seen
24 starts at this Devers substation, goes up through the
25 big Morongo Preserve, through Yucca Valley, up over

1 Pioneer Town, across Pipes Canyon, kind of wraps its
2 way through Landers and all the way to Victorville and
3 then down the Cajon Pass to the bottom of the hill.
4 So you'll be hearing a lot more about that. It will
5 be our version of the Sunrise Power Link, I think, as
6 far as overall controversy.

7 In January we had a tour that involved two
8 individuals out of Washington, Carl Roundtree, which
9 is an old BLM-er, used to work in this state up in our
10 state office. He is now the BLM's budget officer. So
11 Carl holds the purse strings for the entire BLM, so we
12 like to be very nice to Carl.

13 And then Scott Dalzell, who, if you just
14 kind of run through these photos -- we started down
15 the border, and Scott Dalzell is that individual
16 there. He is a staffer for the Senate Appropriations
17 Committee that handles appropriations for the
18 Department of the Interior.

19 And some of you might know our associate
20 state director is Jim Adams right there. We'll just
21 run through these photos, and they start down on the
22 boarder on Otai Mountain and looking down into Mexico.
23 And actually as we were standing there, some customers
24 started to come up the hill.

25 But anyway, beautiful views from Otai,

1 looking over toward San Diego and the ocean. We'll
2 just kind of move right there. Dealt with a lot of
3 fire issues down there, Harris fire and budget needs
4 and border issues and a need for additional funds and
5 appropriations. Roll right through these. And we'll
6 get -- okay.

7 Then the next day both Bill Havert and
8 Buford Crites assisted us greatly in really making a
9 case to both Carl Roundtree and to Scott Dalzell on
10 funding issues and needs tied into our programs. And
11 we really focused in on the National Monument, both
12 from a land-acquisition standpoint, but from an
13 overall management standpoint.

14 Started out in the morning at Cahuilla
15 Tewanet, moved over toward Pinon Fire Station that we
16 jointly manage or jointly staff with the County,
17 talked about our potential five-year plan to move out
18 of that facility and find a new location in a much
19 better site up in Pinon and the advantages of the
20 whole collaborative effort. We do have our BLM direct
21 protection area up there, so the fire station is very
22 critical for our fire program.

23 And then from the Monument standpoint, we
24 ended up down at the visitors center, and of course
25 everyone is intently listening to Jim here, our

1 Monument manager.

2 MR. FOOTE: Look at the sun reflecting
3 off that head.

4 MR. KALISH: You can see Scott Dalzell
5 and Carl Roundtree, Jim, talking about various funding
6 issues and programs and collaboration and just all the
7 tremendous value that the Monument provides.

8 And then lastly, everyone was treated to a
9 very nice interpretive walk and talk by Mr. Crites.
10 So in the overall -- I think that's the last slide for
11 that. Right. The overall feedback that we have
12 gotten from both Carl Roundtree and Scott Dalzell is
13 that they were very impressed with our programs and
14 the issues, the collaborative nature and how we're
15 able to leverage funds and really keep our -- do you
16 want to kind of get that.

17 MR. FOOTE: You have some more?

18 MR. KALISH: Yeah. We'll just go
19 through just a couple of more slides. Go to, yeah,
20 the upper left-hand corner.

21 MR. FOOTE: Oh, the Babai.

22 MR. KALISH: Sure. We can kind of run
23 through the photos.

24 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Yeah, please.
25 We're running down on time here, guys.

1 MR. KALISH: Real fast. Just from an
2 overall management standpoint, we're going to be
3 getting involved in some management issues. We do
4 have a trespass corral within the Monument on BLM
5 lands. It's actually right above the Saint Margaret's
6 Church and right below the cross. It's an issue.

7 We've approached the landowner, the
8 adjacent land owners, the individual responsible for
9 this. And so we're just working through the process
10 of kind of resolving this. And there is going to be,
11 over time, a number of other land management
12 trespass-type issues that we do intend to get involved
13 in that have been around for a long time, and our hope
14 is just to resolve them and get them cleaned up. So
15 just to kind of introduce you into just one land
16 management issue that we're involved in.

17 So any questions?

18 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: Any questions?
19 Thank you. Sounds like you've been busy.

20 MR. FOOTE: I'm going to wrap up quickly
21 with a few photos. We talked about the Vista Point
22 and the Cahuilla Tewanet decks. And let me just show
23 you -- oh, there it is. These are the two Vista Point
24 projects on Highway 74, Cahuilla Tewanet and Coachella
25 Valley Vista Point project. We'll start up at the

1 high point.

2 The deck has just been completed, and this
3 is a deck where funding has come from F.Y. 2006
4 earmarked funds through the efforts of the
5 congresswoman. What's that? Okay. I'm told not
6 earmarked. Whatever term Buford used before, we'll
7 continue to refer to that. We will do a search and
8 replace.

9 This project replaced what was an old,
10 worn-out redwood deck that was in sad shape. The
11 nails were coming up. And this is the fiberglass
12 materials replacement for wood. Very nice project.
13 It's scaled down a little bit more, which actually
14 enhances safety, because it encroached the deck.
15 There are no points on the deck where somebody could
16 be hidden from view. In conjunction with the project
17 the walkway was sealed as well as the parking lot.

18 What we have next on the plate is to
19 replace the interpretive panels. These have been up
20 in play for about 12 years. The weathering has been
21 significant. Typically the fiberglass-embedded panels
22 will endure the weather or not endure the weather.
23 The fiberglass actually comes through the surface.
24 These are the type, if you put your hand on it, you're
25 likely to pick up fiberglass particles in your hand.

1 We actually do have money for this project
2 largely from the contributed funds from the Agua
3 Caliente. So we'll be deciding how best to move with
4 this, whether we want to go with a contract, but we
5 still want to decide, what is the best way to
6 interpret this site? Obviously, as time goes on,
7 improvements in interpretation are developed, new ways
8 of interpreting sites come on board, so we want to
9 make sure we look at all.

10 Down to Vista Point, this is Coachella
11 Valley Vista Point. This is an overlook at the new
12 site. Those that recall the old site would remember
13 there was no wall. Parking lot stripes were kind of
14 faded. As part of working with Caltrans to improve
15 the safety enhancements, there were warning lights as
16 you approached the site. I didn't time this so you
17 could actually see the light lit, but it's a blinking
18 light that is run off a solar panel. This is
19 Coachella Valley Vista Point.

20 Remember that one of the driving forces
21 here was for the State to meet 80/80 requirements, and
22 that it did through the reconstruction of this site.
23 Also provided bicycle racks. I've ridden up this once
24 years ago, and I would never do it again. The
25 conflicts with traffic are just too numerous.

1 This is that Highway 74 safety sign that I
2 think somewhere may have been involved with who are
3 here. This was developed years ago, and as you
4 recall, when I presented this project to the Monument
5 Advisory Committee, it was just that week I learned
6 that they were redeveloping the site and it had, in
7 fact, issued the contract, because they called and
8 asked for this sign, which we happened to have sitting
9 in our ware yard that had been there for several
10 years.

11 And this is the sign itself that's mounted
12 in the rocks. If you want, I'll give you a moment to
13 just read it. This sign was developed, say, four --
14 at least four years ago, maybe five years ago.

15 This is the issue Buford was raising about
16 the sign, suggesting that people should throw their
17 trash in a litter can, yet there are no litter cans,
18 and Caltrans did not put them there.

19 The good story that's associated with this
20 is, I assigned our recreation technician, who is under
21 Service First, the Forest Service employee, to stop
22 here on a regular basis to deal with trash and
23 graffiti. And as I asked him the other day or two
24 days ago, "Well, how has that been going?" he said,
25 "Well, Caltrans is doing a pretty good job of keeping

1 ahead on trash and graffiti."

2 And he kind of does a little more work to
3 continue to pick up the trash and graffiti. So
4 they're doing a pretty good job of keeping the site
5 clean. I think that, in conjunction with our help, is
6 working out.

7 MR. WATTS: So Jim, are you encouraging
8 putting rattle snakes in trash cans?

9 MR. FOOTE: That's the message, Gary.

10 MR. WATTS: Maybe I am's jumping ahead
11 of you, but is there any kind of display or message or
12 other graphics relating to the National Monument
13 itself?

14 MR. FOOTE: Other than that brass sign,
15 not at this point. One of the things we're waiting to
16 see what happens is, how bad does this kind of thing
17 get? Historically this site has been tagged for a
18 long time, so we want to be cognizant of the type of
19 materials, whatever it is we put there, that we're
20 going to have to put something that is easily cleaned
21 up from tagging and other types of vandalism.

22 MR. BORCHARD: That electrocutes someone
23 right through the paint spray and kills them on the
24 spot.

25 MR. FOOTE: This is sophisticated.

1 They're actually putting stencils on.

2 CHAIRPERSON HENDERSON: I have to leave.
3 I'm sorry. I thought that we would wrap by noon. The
4 vice chair will take over until the conclusion of the
5 meeting. My apologies. This is what I wanted to see,
6 and I've got to go.

7 MR. FOOTE: Okay. Thanks, Terry.
8 There's one other issue I need to talk about you, but
9 I'll get ahold of you.

10 MS. LYONS: That's on a rock.

11 MR. FOOTE: This is on a wall.

12 MS. LYONS: What's it made of?

13 MR. FOOTE: This is the top of the wall,
14 and if you go back to -- you can see, this is the
15 instruct of the wall with kind of stone. The very top
16 of it is concrete, and when they constructed this,
17 they coated this rock surface, including the concrete
18 top of the plastic-like surface to ease cleaning.
19 Well, unfortunately that plastic coating immediately
20 pulled off, and people encouraged it off the surface
21 as well.

22 So the challenge, as we go through time, is
23 when people put graffiti on the top, it's no longer on
24 the plastic surface; it's actually on the concrete,
25 which makes removal more difficult. But they've still

1 been doing a pretty good job of that.

2 Now for something completely different, as
3 Monty Python would say, here's Buford doing a little
4 work up there to remove graffiti up in the Indian
5 Hills and finished off by Bill Havert. Your folks at
6 work, your Monument Advisory Committee at work.

7 MR. HAVERT: What about the DUFO?

8 MR. FOOTE: The DUFO -- I did not have
9 the photo, so the DUFO was out there as well.

10 MS. LYONS: Cleaning up too?

11 MR. FOOTE: This is to show you what
12 exists of our Monument sign on Highway 111 as you're
13 proceeding towards Palm Springs.

14 MS. LYONS: Was that the wind that did
15 that, or what happened?

16 MR. FOOTE: So, no. I believe it's
17 from --

18 MS. LYONS: Vandals?

19 MR. FOOTE: Either a vehicle hit this,
20 or it was taken down. It's interesting that the
21 pieces to the post there are but the sign is gone. So
22 I don't know what happened, if this was hit. In a way
23 it doesn't look like it; in some ways it looks like it
24 was pulled over.

25 And this is an interesting piece that maybe

1 somebody can shed some light who knows more about
2 breakaway sign posts than I. You can see the two
3 sides of this and this is on both cases -- are sawn,
4 and the other two sides are broken. Is it a design
5 feature, breakaway sign post of this magnitude to
6 actually cut those in when they assemble what is a
7 hollow post? I don't know.

8 MR. CRITES: I know Caltrans has
9 requirements. I haven't seen it sawn, but I put up a
10 sign along the highway, and they came and drilled
11 holes in it as a break-off feature. Where it was hit,
12 the structural integrity was reduced to the point that
13 it would snap off, and that's per their requirements.

14 MR. FOOTE: I was thinking that's a
15 possibility here because, if somebody actually stole
16 the sign and thought they wanted to cut it down, then
17 the other sides would probably cut, not just these
18 interior ones, and the other side is broken. So
19 anyway, that's the state of our Monument sign coming
20 into the valley. And that was it.

21 MR. WATTS: What did that sign weigh,
22 about 800 pounds?

23 MR. FOOTE: It wasn't light, and so
24 you've got to wonder about that.

25 Just a couple of last finish-up items here.

1 I also handed out a piece on beetle warfare. For
2 those that were at the last Monument Advisory
3 Committee, Buford requested that we copy this and
4 distribute it. This is from the High Country News,
5 and it talks about -- well, I'll just let Buford speak
6 about the article itself. And we have another one
7 we're going to follow up with.

8 MR. CRITES: Yeah. I thought you might
9 be interested. This is the new biological control for
10 tamarisks. It's actually being used now. It's a
11 beetle from Gastnortastan or somewhere over in that
12 particular area.

13 And the latest issue of Cal Ethic (phonetic
14 spelling), which is the invasive plant council, has a
15 really nice -- called bio control 101, an introductory
16 article about how they do bio control now in terms of
17 exotic weeds and stuff. And so Jim has been kind
18 enough. He'll copy that and send that around as well.
19 Interesting stuff, and it's just nice to see we have
20 new tools in the arsenal for a tough plant to control.

21 MR. FOOTE: One final matter. I did
22 also pass out a handout on the F.Y. '09 budget for
23 BLM. This, of course, is the president's budget,
24 shows generally a decrease in the overall BLM budget,
25 however, one of the priorities of NLCS areas, national

1 monuments, national conservation areas. So as a
2 priority, I would expect that overall, even those
3 budgets going down, we may well see either level
4 funding or perhaps increases on the NLCS side.

5 But again, this is the president's request.
6 There's a lot of ground to cover between now and F.Y.
7 '09 before anything is finally resolved by Congress.
8 That's it for me.

9 MR. MUTH: Okay. That brings us to
10 meeting review, motions, actions, future agenda items.
11 Are there any?

12 MR. WATTS: Al, I don't really have one
13 there, but just one real quick brief statement on
14 Mt. San Jacinto as it relates to the State budget
15 crisis. Many of you may have seen that
16 Mt. San Jacinto has been included in the list of 48
17 state parks that are proposed to be closed by the
18 governor's budget. And it's misleading, because they
19 did not intend to close the entire park for obvious
20 reasons. It's pretty hard to do. At this point for
21 clarification, the only one to be closed would be the
22 campground within the city of Idyllwild.

23 Interestingly, during the discussions I
24 brought up the problem of closing a park within the
25 National Monument, and that was really not a big

1 R E P O R T E R ' S C E R T I F I C A T E

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3 I, DIANE CARVER MANN, a certified shorthand
4 reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages
5 comprise a full, true and correct transcription of the
6 proceedings had and the testimony taken at the hearing
7 in the hereinbefore-entitled matter of Meeting of the
8 Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument
9 Advisory Committee Meeting.

10 Dated this 2nd day of April, 2008 at Chino,
11 California.

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DIANE CARVER MANN, CSR NO. 6008

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