

**EASTERN SANDOVAL CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**13 November 2023**  
**4:00 PM**

- A. Call to order.** President George Franzen called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.
- B. Roll Call.** The following Directors were present, representing a quorum: George Franzen, Wayne Gaede, Jim Harre, Virginia Jordan, Rich Reif, and Jean Roberts. Tony Hull and Jacques Ramey were absent.
- C. Minutes:** Minutes from the October meeting were approved.
- D. Introduction of Guests:** Chris Daul; Phil Messuri, who organizes the ESCA Adopt-a-Highway effort; and Mary-Rose de Valladares, Land Protection Trust (LPT) Chair.
- E. Monthly Reports**
- Treasurer's Report:** Wayne Gaede reported a balance for ESCA in US Bank as of October 31 of \$38,847.17. Income for the month included \$375 in dues and \$0.16 interest. Expenses were bank fees of \$12.69. At US Eagle, ESCA had a balance at the end of October of \$200. Income for the month was \$0.06 in interest, and expenses were \$30 in bank fees. The total of ESCA's accounts at both institutions was \$39,017.23.  
  
The US Bank balance for LPT as of October 31 was \$32,302.70, which included income of \$0.13 interest. The US Eagle account balance for LPT at the end of October was \$200. Income for the month was \$0.06 in interest, and expenses were \$30 in bank fees. The total of LPT's accounts at both institutions was \$32,472.89.  
  
Wayne reported that he closed the US Eagle checking accounts for ESCA and LPT because of the surprise bank fees, and the money was transferred to the two respective money market accounts.  
  
Wayne reported on certificate of deposit (CD) options at US Eagle that would earn more interest for both ESCA and LPT. Wayne made a motion that we move \$35,000 from ESCA's account at US Bank and \$30,000 from LPT's account at US Bank and invest the two amounts in 12-month CDs at 4 percent interest at US Eagle. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  - IT Report:** Jim Harre reported that ESCA gained two new members and 14 renewals since the last meeting. ESCA now has 33 joint members and 46 standard members, for a total of 112 votes.
  - Land Protection Trust (LPT) Report:** Mary-Rose reminded the board that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) public meeting is scheduled for November 14, 5:30-7:30, at the Placitas Community Library. BLM officials will hear public comments and explain the process for the

proposed administrative withdrawal of the Buffalo Tract and related parcels from gravel mining. George and other board members, as well as Sandy Johnson from Las Placitas Association will arrive early to set up a table in the lobby to encourage meeting participants to sign letters of support for the administrative withdrawal. Copies of the standard letter will be given to others in the community, such as real estate professionals and the Chamber of Commerce, for their help in garnering more signatures.

**F. Old Business:**

1. Annual Meeting: For the annual meeting on Dec. 3, 4-6 pm, in the Gracie Lee Room of the library, Rich will bring wine and George will bring snacks for the social hour. Guest speakers will be County Commissioner Katherine Bruch and a representative from the Placitas Vulcan mine. Jean will draft an invitation notice that Jim will send to the ESCA membership. OPEN -- Board

**G. New Business:**

1. District Directors: George suggested that we may want to consider making all Director positions At Large rather than by District, to improve our ability to attract volunteers to the positions. We will discuss this further at a future meeting. –OPEN--Board

**H. Open Discussion:**

1. Signpost article: Jean reported that the article submitted to the Signpost four weeks ago was never published, even though the publisher/editor acknowledged receipt and said she would print it. No one replied to Jean's subsequent email asking why the article did not run.
2. Campers on the BLM: Virginia brought up the problem of campers on the BLM near Sundance Mesa and La Mesa. George reported that the current crop of campers had moved on, and that ESCA could look at addressing this situation if it occurs, after the Buffalo Tract administrative withdrawal question is finalized.

1. **Adjournment**: The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

**Next meeting: 4:00 pm, December 11, 2023, at the Placitas Community Library.**