

Avila Valley Advisory Council (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo, CA

PO Box 65

Avila Beach, CA 93424

Date 02/06/2023

www.avac-avila.org

1. **Call to Order:** by the chair, Steve Benedict, for regular meeting at 6:00 PM, via Zoom.
Role call (present): Mary El Hansen, Mary Matakovich, Jim Hartig, Carol Hayden, Julia, Kirt Collins, Ken Thompson, Steve Benedict, Michael Clayton, Curtis Cole, John Janowicz, Bob Pusanik (alt), Sheri Robesky (alt), Bill Crewe (alt),
Quorum was established.
2. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - There are no minutes from January AVAC meeting, as the meeting was cancelled.
 - December 2022 minutes were addressed, motion made for acceptance as written and approved.
3. **Chair's Comments:**
 - Steve Benedict mentioned the AVAC calendar for 2023, noting changes in dates in February and November.
 - Old business to elect the slate of 2023 officers that was discussed in December 2022. Jim Hartig presented the same officers as in 2022. A motion was made to accept this slate of officers and approved.
4. **Public Comment:**
 - No written public comment.
 - Several comment about power outage of two days, questioning cause and what is being done.
5. **Treasurer's Report: Denise Allen was unable to report:**
 - No report.
6. **County and Local Agency Reports:**
 - A. **Sheriff: Sgt. Abbas reports**
 - No Report.
 - B. **Highway Patrol: Captain Greg Klingenberg reports:**
 - No DUI or collisions in and around Avila in January.
 - January 9th incident where person went around road closure signs posted on Avila Beach Drive, entered deep water, was washed away and succumbed.
 - Numerous closures on the 9th. On normal day, Highway Patrol Dispatch Center receives 100-150 911 calls, on busy days, over 200 calls. On January 9, 2023, the Dispatcher received 542 calls.
 - Normally, Active incidents are about 20 per day, on the 9th, 182 active incidents.
 - Northbound 101 closed on the 9th.
 - Cal Trans had their yard on Higuera and Madonna flood, limiting access to signs, cones, and other equipment to address the requested CHP closures.
 - **Eric Daniels** used this timing of materials to discuss PG&E's response to the storm.

- Long-term Outage caused by fallen tree in Avila Valley which required repair to infrastructure. Much of the Avila Valley was flooded, causing saturation. Multiple road closures and intense flooding around the main power pole bringing electricity to Avila. made access to the damaged location impossible. Large amounts of debris also hampered access.
- PG&E has responsibility to maintain vegetation along easements and works with property owners to maintain the brush to allow PG&E to manage those trees. Altogether there are about 5 million trees within the service area.
- An outage footprint map was shared via email indicating the areas affected.

C. Cal Fire: Battalion Chief Paul Lee reports:

- Cal Fire receives 45 calls for service, 14 for medical related. On January 9, 2022 Cal Fire received 248 calls, whereas on a busy summer day, they may receive 45-60 calls.
- 7 People were stranded at the San Luis Bay Resort were assisted.
- Evacuation of KOA when large pine tree fell across exit route taking a wall with it. Cal Fire assisted evacuation to higher ground.
- A woman driver drowned in the area of The Sycamore Springs Resort. The car was completely submerged. Rescue swimmers, in about 8 feet of water, broke the windshield, pulled the woman to shore, but despite immediate medical attention, she was pronounced deceased.
- All agencies praised for outstanding work.
- Damage assessments to fire roads continue.
- Controlled fire burns are out of the question at this time. Some planned burns will continue in upper Squire Canyon and Davis Canyon.
- Reminder to dispose of old pharmacy meds at local pharmacy.
- A question was posed regarding the large amount of debris in the creek, and if Cal Fire, or state agencies, provided grants for clearance? Not usually was the reply.

D. Planning: Nicole Ellis/Susan Strachan reports:

Update 1: The February 2023 project list has been updated to reflect project status updates. Where updates were made, the various spreadsheet cells have been highlighted in yellow. The following projects have been updated:

- C-SUB2022-00005- (item 3 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “Applicant resubmitted materials for re-review on 1/5/23. 1/20/23 County provided second information hold letter to applicant. Applicant resubmitted materials for third round re-review on 1/24/23. County is reviewing resubmitted materials.”
- C-SUB2022-00006- (item 4 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “Applicant resubmitted revised parcel map on per Info Hold letter on 12/27/22. 2nd Info Hold Letter sent”
- C-DRC2021-00029 (has been converted to new case C-SUB2022-00001) (item 7 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “1/23/23 applicant resubmitted materials for Public Works re-referral review. 1/27/23 project referral was routed to Public Works. Planning Staff to begin Environmental review/determination and drafting hearing materials. Planning Commission date pending.”

- DRC2018-00067 – ABR- (item 17 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “As of 1/3/23 the County Planning Department received 40 written comments and record of 10 verbal comments which have been saved to the record to be included in the EIR review. Update: As of 1/31/23 the County Planning Department has received 50 written comments and record of 10 verbal comments which have been saved to the record to be included in the EIR review. SWCA, the EIR consultant, is reviewing and organizing the comments received and is working with the applicant and agent and County on finalizing the Project Description. The County is also documenting effects of the recent storm event(s) related to flooding and evacuation routes.”
- DRC2020-00212- Cote- (previously item 13 on the January 2023 version of the Active/In Process list)- has been relocated to number 22 on the APPROVED/DENIED/WITHDRAWN PROJECTS list and Project Updates has been revised to reflect “Project was considered during the December 16, 2022 Planning Department Hearing (PDH) in which the project was approved. Project has cleared the appeal periods (local and coastal) and the PDH action is deemed final.”

Update 2: During the December 2022 AVAC meeting, the County Planning Division asked for input from the Council and Subcommittee groups regarding the **format** in which information is shared within the AVAC monthly project spreadsheets (which are shared in PDF format). The County received comments with recommendations and preferences, as follows, which will be incorporated into the March 2023 Planning updates.

- The County will begin to Archive the “Approved/Denied/Withdrawn Projects” (and will not include this section of the list in the monthly Project Spreadsheet). Only if projects have moved into the “Approved/Denied/Withdrawn Projects” category will this list be provided to the group.
- The projects within the “ACTIVE/IN PROCESS AVILA PLANNING & BUILDING PROJECTS” table will be organized into subcommittee sections/groups with the newest projects appearing at the top and the older projects occurring at the end of each subcommittee section/group.
 - Font size will be increased.
 - Columns will remain.
 - A map will not be created.

Susan Strachan provided an updated report on Diablo.

- PG&E is currently pursuing two tracts, one for extended operations SB846 and the other decommissioning. SB846 offers a path toward extension of services not a done deal. Therefore, EIR for decommissioning continues to move forward. EIR should be available for 60-day public comments at the end of April.
- On County and Planning Department webpage under Diablo Canyon is a copy of the notice of the California Natural Resources Agency and on Diablo Canyon Engagement Panel webpage. Times and agendas for meetings are on County and DCEP websites.

E. Public Works: John Waddell reports:

- Pictures of damage around the County were presented.
- Hydraulic engineer presented storm assessments, as well as, San Luis Creek.
- Interactive. Web site map shows road closures and bridge damage. 10 roads closed.
- 1,300 service calls with maximum of 60 road closures at one time. 200 damaged roads. Worked with County agencies closely. Several years of repairs anticipated.

- Bridges damaged from debris.
- Coverts overwhelmed and damaged. Now being repaired.
- Graphs were shown of the effects of rains and tides on storm.
- Much of storm damage due to debris, especially after low-flow seasons of past years. Large amount of culvert debris.
- Ken Thompson asked about ability of hiring additional help emergently and Nick stated multiple agencies and Men’s Colony, as well as contractors are available.
- Kirt Collins brought to attention the large undergrowth and fallen trees in the creek and past efforts to clean this. Could that happen in the future?
- Homeless encampments along SLC are part of San Luis City Limits, and are an ongoing problem, especially in this flood plane. Supervisor Ortiz-Legg will address in her comment section.

F. County Parks: Nick Franco reports:

- Santa Margarita Lake (SML) and Lopez Lake (LL) sustained damage. SML reached 108% of capacity, flooded significantly, and damaged electrical equipment underwater, requiring replacement. Docks and Marina Store underwater. Now reopened for most service.
- Lopez Lake significant infrastructure damage of wastewater line. Day services are open but not overnight camping until wastewater repairs are complete.
- Coastal Access Ways took a beating and require repairs.
- In Avila, Cave Landing was closed due concern as to slides. Not a lot of damage and now mostly open.
- Bob Jones trail physical damage was minimal requiring some asphalt and shoulder repairs. Work continues on large debris that washed down. Trail is now open but will experience periodic closures as crews remove downed trees and debris. County Parks does not own SLC, just the trails.
- San Luis City owns trail from San Luis to end of city limits and deals with homeless issues there.
- Steve Benedict asked about BJT Extension progress. Right of way acquisition phase, appraisals being done, with final designs. Hope in the spring to make offers and negotiate with people for right of way, so the construction can begin.

G. Port San Luis: Suzy Watkins-Harbor Director reports:

- January 5, 2022 storm with high tide and surge flooded Harford parking lot and waves breaking under and through Avila pier.
- Fatality on ABD was member of local fishing community.
- No catastrophic damage to infrastructure and did not have boats on the beach.
- Some piles from Harford and Avila Piers were washed out, mostly already damaged and scheduled for replacement. Planking at the end of Avila Pier damaged as well. Beach chairs damaged and much storm debris to clear.
- Damage was limited due to excellent preparation by crews throughout the year, as well as, three days of preparation in anticipation of storm impact.
- Thanks to partner agencies and coordination.
- A question about recycling containers was addressed and explained that they are seasonal and currently a lower priority due to acute storm management.
- Question concerning responsibility for dredging the creek? Creek not dredged, as flow pushes silt out. More silt before storm due to past low flow years.
- Graffiti on the bridge new and will be looked at and addressed as usual.

H. SLOCOG Presentation: James Worthy reports:

- Long range transportation plan 2023 (RTP). Must meet standards for state and local funding. Must be reported every four years but takes two years to plan.
- Four Elements for RTP:
 - **Policy Element:** infrastructure, mobility, economy, safety, healthy communities, environment, and fiscal responsibility.
 - **Financial Element:** 3.1 billion dollars available for transportation investments thru year 2045.
 - **Action Element:** Many projects will remain unfunded for the next 23 years. Shortfalls will persist across all transportation sectors. SLO County receives no regional, guaranteed, funding source, taken from taxes and tourist taxes.
 - **Sustainable Community Strategy Element:** how to prepare for additional 44 thousand new people, 18 thousand new homes and 18 thousand new jobs.
- Accepting comments on the plans until April 6, 2023. Board meeting planned in SLO and Arroyo Grande. Email comments to jworthy@slogog.org.
- **Web site information on the plan :** slocog.org/2023rtp. Also on AVAC website.
- 2015 SLOCOG put forth **measure J**, which would have provided 35 million dollars a year for improvements. It failed by 450 votes to pass out of 120,000 total votes.

I. County Supervisor: Supervisor Dawn Ortiz-Legg reports: Steve Benedict presents:

- Working on study to address First Street flooding.
- Street scape places maintenance planning in downtown area.
- Public Works Facebook page has information and online form to request road maintenance.
- An Offshore Wind feasibility study on where on the Central Coast could we put a clean-wind port facility to support offshore wind.
- BOS 1st tier priorities identified by the board will be to focus on and address homelessness, behavioral health services, and housing. Public safety and operating the county in a legally and fiscally responsible manner are ongoing priorities that will continue to be of the utmost importance.
- Working to settle lawsuit on redistricting.
- 1,256 families served at the Recovery Center at the Vets Hall.
- Bob Pusanik asked about AVAC's comments for Avila Plan. No response for several months. Supervisor Ortiz-Legg will look into this.

7. Old Business

- Discussed earlier.

8. New Business:

- Discussed earlier.

9. Community Liaisons:

- Avila Beach Civic Association: Mary Matakovich reports:
 - Thanks to Supervisor Ortiz-Legg for The Delayed Holiday Dog Parade that took place on the promenade in Avila Beach.

- **Avila Beach Foundation: Rick Cohen reports:**
 - Nothing new to report.

- **PG&E / Diablo Canyon: Susan Strachan/Eric Daniels reports:**
 - Presented earlier report on storm and PG&E's response.
 - 10,000 miles of undergrounding in ten years that company purposed. In planning stages, cost 2.5 to 3.75 million dollars per mile.
 - PG&E revising plan for storage to accommodate either extended operations or decommissioning and expects that to be completed end of April 2023.
 - Tom Jones reports: NRC relicensing decision has two tracts. One to reinstate our application or require new application. They are requiring a new application.
 - Timing of exemptions requires 5 years, we are inside two years. Presidents set by NRC for policy changes for fundamental energy policies in California.
 - AVAC requested a set seat on DCEP. They are not offered. Recruitment process for 30 days is starting, so apply if interested.
 - On the 10th of February public meeting on license extension.
 - DCISC for operations will meet next week.
 - Leese application from California state filed for breakwater, intake and discharge structures filed, adjusting for DCISC will new timeline.

10. AVAC Committees:

- a. **Land Use:**
 - No report.

- b. **Diablo Canyon: Ken Thompson reports:**
 - DCISC will be having meetings at The Lighthouse Suits on the 15th & 16th. Agendas posted on subject matter. Also Zoom address.

- c. **Port: Mary Matakovich reports:**
 - No report.

- d. **Avila Beach: Mary Matakovich reports:**
 - Resubmitted letter to planning on the Garris project concerning perimeter fencing plan and landscaping.
 - Motion to approve letter made and carried.

- e. **San Luis Bay Estates: Curtis Cole reports:**
 - Appreciation from County to allow extra time for AVAC and SLBE letter.
 - Recovery of flooding on golf course, Avila Village, and Mallard Green noted.

- f. **Avila Valley: Julia Hartzell reports:**
 - No report

- g. **See Canyon: Denise Allen reports:**
 - No report

h. Squire Canyon: Kirt Collins reports:

- The proposed project is to subdivide one (1) parcel (APN 076-271-058) into three (3) parcels for a future single-family residence on parcel 3. Using existing access from Squire Canyon road. A well has been drilled. AVAC has no issues with the project.
- Motion to approve letter made and carried.

i. Ad Hoc APU (Avila Plan update): Jim Hartig reports:

- No report.

11. Next Meeting Date:

- March 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

12. Adjourn:

- 7:59 PM.