

## **SPECIAL COMMUNITY MEETING**

**9:30AM July 16, 1994**

The meeting was convened at 9:30AM. The subject of this meeting was the pumping of deep wells in the Mendenhall Valley proposed by the Mendenhall family in conjunction with the Vista Irrigation District, the City of Escondido, and the outside firm known as SAMDA. Tom Burton, Chairman of the PMPO Water Committee, introduced Michael Coleman of The Coleman Planning Group, consultant for the Vista Irrigation District, who was attending, but not presenting at the meeting, and Brian Mooney of Brian F. Mooney Associates, PMPO's environmental consultant, who presented a report on this project. Copies of Brian Mooney's letter to Michael Coleman on the environmental review for the Mendenhall Ranch Project, the PMPO Special Meeting notice, and David and Pat Mendenhall's letter to their neighbors in response to this notice were made available to those who were interested. Extensive discussion, questions, and public comments occurred during and after Brian Mooney's presentation. Before the meeting was adjourned, those attending voted nearly unanimously (only one individual was opposed) in favor of further study, including an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), before additional well drilling was done in Mendenhall Valley.

## **Minutes of the Palomar Mountain Planning Organization Meeting      July 16, 1994**

**Board Members Present:** Terri Bailey, Katie Beishline, Thomas Burton, Robert Carlyle, Halcie Clark, Thomas Fortney, Elizabeth Getzoff (alternate), Bruce Graves, Russell Litchfield, Bill Meyer, John Moriarity, John Tainer, Joseph Weeks.

**Mendenhall Ranch Project:** Tom Burton reported that the Water Committee had authorized Brian Mooney to send his letter of July 1, 1994, concerning the environmental review for the Mendenhall Ranch Project, to Mr. Michael Coleman of The Coleman Planning Group, consultant for the Vista Irrigation District. The approved expenditure of \$1500 for this project was exceeded. After discussion of the estimated costs (\$10,000 for the first 4 months) of hiring Brian Mooney Associates to lobby on behalf of the PMPO, the Board approved a motion to pay Brian Mooney Associates the \$2700 payment for work done to date (including attendance at the preceding Special Meeting), and to approve the notice of this meeting that had previously been sent by the Water Committee to Palomar Mountain General Delivery.

Tom Burton agreed to write a friendly letter to David and Pat Mendenhall reporting on the meeting today, expressing the community's concern, and stating that the PMPO Board continues to have an open mind on the proposed project.

John Tainer proposed contacting Dr. David Huntley, the ground water hydrology expert from San Diego State University, to request that he review for the PMPO the materials distributed by the Vista Irrigation District concerning SAMDA Inc.'s studies of the Mendenhall Ranch Project. The PMPO Board approved a motion authorizing the expenditure of a few \$100 to have Dr. Huntley write a preliminary letter expressing his concerns regarding the proposed pumping tests, and, if and when invited to a presentation by the Vista Irrigation District, to ask Brian Mooney and Dave Huntley to be "our eyes and ears" at this meeting.

Katie Beishline proposed that research on the impact of deep wells on other aquifers would be helpful. Joe Weeks mentioned that KPBS had recently aired a program entitled "A Thirsty World", reporting on water use in Florida. Brian Mooney will get a copy of this video. The meeting was adjourned.