The regularly scheduled meeting of the San Diego Association of Governments Borders Committee was called to order at 12:42 p.m. by Borders Committee Chair Patricia McCoy (South County). The attendance sheet for the meeting is attached.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

   a. Joint Meeting of the Borders Committee and the Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities – June 17, 2005.

       Action: Councilmember Heebner (Solana Beach) made the motion and Supervisor Cox (County of San Diego) seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the Joint Meeting of the Borders Committee and Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities meeting on June 17, 2005. One Committee member abstained.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

   Juan Pujol, a San Diego resident, commented that funding for rail and transit security is not a priority in San Diego. He added that terrorism is a serious issue and the San Diego region can’t afford to wait for a terrorist attack in order to take action. The public should be alerted and preventative measures need to be taken as soon as possible.

   Staff commented that there was a meeting held with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Planning Department. OCTA is interested in collaborating with SANDAG on a number of issues. These issues include the I-5 Corridor and some of the rail projects. Staff suggested that a joint meeting be held with the OCTA Planning Department at the Borders Committee meeting this October. OCTA representatives indicated that they would be willing to come to San Diego for the meeting.
CONSENT (3)

3. 2005 BINATIONAL WORKSHOPS UPDATE (APPROVE)

The COBRO is making recommendations for approval of the location and dates for the two SANDAG Binational workshops this Fall.

Action: Supervisor Cox made the motion and Vice Mayor Harris-Ebert (San Marcos) seconded the motion to approve Consent Item 3.

REPORTS

4. PRESENTATION OF THE 8TH GOOD NEIGHBOR ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS (INFORMATION)

Chair McCoy introduced Mayor Diane Rose, from the City of Imperial Beach, a member of the President’s Good Neighbor Environmental Board. The Good Neighbor Environmental Board is an Independent federal advisory committee.

Mayor Diane Rose presented to the Borders Committee the 8th Report of the President’s Good Neighbor Environmental Board (GNEB). She distributed a copy of the most recent PowerPoint presentation from the GNEB’s last meeting along with a press release. The mission of the GNEB is to advise the President and Congress of the United States on good neighbor practices along the U.S. border with Mexico. The GNEB works closely with CONSEJO, the GNEB’s Mexican counterpart. The GNEB has made three recommendations: (1) to clarify current responsibilities held by U.S.-Mexico border-region institutions responsible for managing its water resources, identify jurisdictional gaps and overlaps, interpret its mission to reflect changing circumstances, and leverage opportunities for stronger cross-institutional collaboration; (2) develop and sign formal U.S.-Mexico border-region water resources data agreements. Such agreements should support the collection, analysis and sharing of compatible data across a wide range of uses so that border-region water resources can be more effectively managed; and (3) implement a five-year U.S.-Mexico border-region integrated water resources planning process, using a stakeholder-driven watershed approach, address immediate concerns in critical areas while pursuing collaborative longer-term strategies. The last element of the report relates to the tribal perspective. Mayor Rose noted that the report is an incredible resource and urged all Committee members to read it. She added that the 9th report will be released soon and should also be of interest to the Borders Committee.

Chairwoman Slater-Price (County of San Diego) asked if this data has been presented to the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA). Mayor Rose responded that this information has not yet been presented to the SDCWA and it is a good idea to do so.
Chair McCoy noted that this report is user-friendly, having been printed in both Spanish and English.

**Action:** The Committee received this item for information.

5. **TRIBAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE (INFORMATION/DISCUSSION)**

Staff provided the Committee with an overview of its work regarding tribal involvement in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update. There is an opportunity to include tribal transportation-related information in this next comprehensive RTP update and to identify a set of mutual issues that should be addressed as part of this process. This report provides a summary of the RTP update process and relevant tribal transportation studies and other activities for Borders Committee information and consideration. It will be mutually beneficial to both SANDAG and the tribal governments to analyze how best to collaborate in the planning and programming of regional transportation infrastructure that affect tribal nations. Tribal involvement in the RTP update includes partnerships with the RTA and the SCTCA; incorporation of tribal land use and transportation information; and would identify mutual issues. As part of this process, staff would develop an issues paper for discussion at the Summit. Next steps are to complete the tribal transportation studies, work with the tribal nations on the findings of those studies, develop a tribal issues paper which incorporates their perspective, and plan and convene a tribal summit between elected tribal leaders and the SANDAG Board of Directors.

Councilmember Monroe (Coronado) indicated that he was impressed with all the work that the County had done when the Borders Committee originally started its efforts with the tribal governments. He asked how the Borders Committee is coordinating its efforts with the County's efforts.

Staff responded that the County is working with the Tribal Governments regarding the land use authority they have. SANDAG is working with the Tribal Governments based on the RTP and how to enhance the transportation side. Land use and transportation effect each other; both efforts compliment each other. The Tribal Liaisons from the County and SANDAG meet regularly to exchange information.

Chairwoman Slater-Price mentioned that the County is interested in having the County and SANDAG collaborate on bringing the tribes into the regional planning process. When the issue of tribe was first mentioned the County tribal liaison came to share the County's experience with government to government relations with the tribes. The County is not a land use authority for the tribes, but tribal lands are adjacent to unincorporated areas for which the County is the land use authority. The County has been working for more than four years on developing relations with the tribes and working on land use issues, but tribal enterprises also affect the roadways. This should be a two-part process in which we continue to deal with land use and environmental issues, but if tribes are conversant in the overall plans for the region through involvement in SANDAG then when there is an investment to make those dollars can be maximized. They have been very forthcoming in providing funding for road improvements, but their efforts would be maximized if they were part of this process. Rather than trying to resolve this issue one piece at a time, it would be better to coordinate efforts and have both agencies working together.
Councilmember Monroe commented that this briefing should be given to the Transportation Committee so they are aware of what is taking place. Staff replied that this item can be placed on a future Transportation Committee meeting agenda.

Supervisor Cox stated that the County's focus has been with a number of the reservations along the SR 76 Corridor and its improvements, which would be covered under the RTP. He added that he has enjoyed the cooperation that the County has received from those tribes.

Action: The Committee received this item for information.

6. UPDATE ON THE TRIBAL SUMMIT (DISCUSSION)

Diane McHenry, standing in for Kevin Siva, Chair of the Reservation Transportation Authority (RTA), stated that the RTA would like to request the Borders Committee put together an interagency task force to assist in planning the Tribal Summit.

Chair McCoy referred this item to staff for comment.

Staff recommended that the Borders Committee accept the RTA's request and assist in the preparation of the Tribal Summit.

Action: The Committee directed staff to facilitate the creation of a planning task force for the Tribal Summit.

7. TRIBAL PRIORITIES FOR BORDERS COMMITTEE WORK PLAN FY 2006 (DISCUSSION)

Chairman Smith, representing the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA), noted that various tribes have been working with the County on several roads in the County, providing mitigation funding to make road improvements. Caltrans has initiated a study on operational improvement for SR76 in which Pala and several other tribes are participating. This is an excellent example of how tribes can collaborate with local and regional transportation agencies for the mutual benefit of all interested parties. Chairman Smith indicated that he is canvassing the tribes in the County to determine their priority areas and to encourage the other tribes in the County to participate with SANDAG and bring their issues forward. He commented that the presence of the SCTCA as an advisor on the Borders Committee is a great start and that he is encouraged by this new relationship. He added that the other area in which the SCTCA would like the Borders Committee to focus related to tribes during this coming fiscal year is representation. He would like to suggest that a bi-lateral working group or task force be formed to address/examine this issue in depth.

Chair McCoy commented that is a good idea and should be forwarded to the Executive Committee for discussion.

Staff noted that the Executive Committee is the appropriate group to discuss this issue.
Chairwoman Slater-Price suggested that tribal staff with expertise in technical areas relevant to the agenda items might want to participate in these meetings. For example, tribes have EPA officers that might want to attend when there is an environmental issue.

Chairman Smith stated that all tribes have their own EPA officers that deal with environmental issues in their respective nations, but he would discuss with the SCTCA ways in which tribal planning staff might become involved in the meetings.

Chairwoman Slater-Price mentioned the idea that because of their remoteness, perhaps an Internet-based networking mechanism could be developed that would allow for tribal staff from all of the reservations to participate in specific meetings via the Internet without having to come into downtown.

Chairwoman McCoy commented that Chairwoman Slater-Price’s comment just shows how complex tribal involvement is and that we need to work diligently to address tribal participation with innovative solutions. It is a complex issue and will require special attention.

**Action:** The Committee received this item for information.

8. **SEWAGE ISSUES ALONG THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER**

Chair McCoy welcomed Assemblymember Lori Saldaña to the meeting and thanked her for attending. She offered her to make any necessary comments and also noted that this item was recommended to the Committee by Councilmember Frank Tierney, from the City of Coronado.

A. **THE SAN DIEGO COASTAL OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM (SDCOOS) (INFORMATION)**

Dr. Eric Terrill, provided the Committee with an overview of the San Diego Coastal Ocean Observing System (SDCOOS) work on providing up-to-date water quality data for the border coastal area and the rest of the San Diego coastal region.

Chairwoman McCoy acknowledged Imperial Beach Councilmember Mayda Winter for bringing this project to fruition. She added that Councilmember Debbie Cook, from Huntington Beach, was also helpful in this effort.

Councilmember Cook (Huntington Beach) asked if there are any submarine canyons that add to the sewage. Dr. Terrill stated that there are submarine canyons all along the California Coast. What their impacts are to the respective regions are just beginning to be known.

Councilmember Tierney (Coronado) asked if the contamination is increasing in general. Dr. Terrill stated that it is not known if there is an increase due to a trend or if there is a situation of the more they look, the more they find.

Councilmember Tierney asked for the elaboration on dump zones. Dr. Terrill stated that right now, it hasn’t been determined what impact the dump zones have on the
area yet. He added what is lacking right now is the ability to do any forensic testing.

Chairwoman Slater-Price asked what the cold-water study affect has on the sea bed. Dr. Terrill replied that theory has been suggested as a hypothesis and was used as a conclusion at Huntington Beach. However, it has not yet been determined. The appropriate type of plume type of study has not yet been done.

B. STATUS REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL BORDER SEWAGE (DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION)

Carlos Peña, representing the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) provided the Committee with a status report on international border sewage. The IBWC has both a U.S. and Mexican section. There are many IBWC offices, most of which are located at the project sites. One of the IBWC’s main concerns is the maintenance of the boundary between U.S. and Mexico. The IBWC has many areas of jurisdiction and provides data of the water quality coming from the U.S. to Mexico, as well as solid waste issues. The Canyon Collector collects water coming across the border and directs it to the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant. Once of the issues of the Treatment Plant is that it is not compliant with the Clean Water Act. Public meetings have been held and a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Clean Water Act Compliance has been created. The next steps are to sign the Record of Decision by October 1, 2005, award the contract by December 19, 2005, and achieve compliance with applicable standards by December 2008.

Councilmember Monroe asked if the project is funded. Mr. Pena stated that project is currently earmarked to be funded.

Assemblymember Saldaña asked if the funds have been appropriated by Congress. Mr Peña replied that to date, the funds have not been appropriated by Congress.

Chair McCoy noted that the State Department has already signed on with the IBWC on this project. Mr. Peña mentioned, however, there have been no contracts signed with any companies yet.

Elsa Saxod, representing the City of San Diego, commented that this is a very important issue and is a border priority. She mentioned that this issue goes before the San Diego City Council every two weeks. She added that she will continue to monitor this issue and will continue to work with the IBWC to come to a resolution.

Councilmember Tierney stated that he was disturbed by a statement listed in the report. This is a very broad, multi-faceted, issue and there needs to be more of the key players on board, including the Mexican government, to determine what issues can be dealt with financially. He expressed hope that all parties involved can hash this out.
Mr. Peña noted that there have been many organizations working together to get the appropriate persons together to move forward on this issue. When this project is completed, it will provide an additional 34 Million Gallons per Day (MGD) of secondary treated sewage.

Councilmember Allan (La Mesa) asked what the bottom line is. He questioned how can a contract be awarded if Mexico is not involved. Mr. Peña assured him that the appropriate individuals are involved in the process that will make this issue take place.

Councilmember Monroe stated that his understanding is that this project is on the eastern side of Tijuana, which appears to be more of an improvement than a solution because there is a western side of Tijuana that also needs attention. Mr. Peña replied that even though the treatment plant is on the eastern side of Tijuana, it will also address the issues on the western side of the border. He added that Japanese satellite plants will also be used to address this issue.

Councilmember Winter, co-Chair of the Citizens Forum of the IBWC, stated that the financing of this plant is being provided by the contractor and will be reimbursed in full. The estimated project cost is $600 million. Part of the problem was the development of the Tijuana Master Plan. In that plan, everything is necessary to include re-piping major portions of the city.

Mr. Espinosa, from Comisión Internacional de Límites y Aguas (CILA) which is IBWC’s counterpart in Mexico, declined making any additional comments indicating that this is an internal process but agreed to make comments in the future.

Assemblymember Saldaña noted that the State of California is responsible for permitting this area. She questioned how compliance can be enforced in a treatment plant that is partially in a sovereign nation. She commented that the federal government has wasted more money on this project than she would like to discuss and noted that she has nothing good to say about this project. She mentioned that this is a disturbing situation when the Federal Government is short on funding. She indicated that she does not see this project as a solution to the problem. Until there is compliance in the United States, there will be no more funds allocated to this project. In her opinion, she doesn’t see any assurance in the proposal that there will be any improvements achieved or in compliances being met. One of her major concerns is that the way in which this proposal was approved did not allow eligible firms to compete for the project. The firm that has been designated as a sole source has no established experience in this type of project.

Chair McCoy doubted that SANDAG has a solution to this problem. She requested regular reports from the IBWC as the plan moves forward. Mr. Peña indicated that he would be willing to come back periodically with updates.

Chair McCoy stated that she understands the Assemblymember’s frustrations and noted that people in the region have been working on this project over the past 30
years. She requested that Mr. Espinosa come back when he can report to the Committee.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting of the Borders Committee will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, September 23, 2005, at the SANDAG Offices in the Board Room.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair McCoy adjourned the meeting at 2:22 p.m.
### CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE
BORDERS COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 22, 2005
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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<td>Patricia McCoy (Chair)</td>
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<td>City of Del Mar</td>
<td>Crystal Crawford</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>City of Solana Beach</td>
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<td>Greg Cox</td>
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<td>Pam Slater-Price</td>
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#### ADVISORY/LIAISON MEMBERS

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<td>COBRO</td>
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<td>Dr. Paul Ganster</td>
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<td>Elsa Saxod</td>
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<td>Pala</td>
<td>Robert Smith</td>
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<td>Luis Cabrera Cuaron</td>
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<td>Deputy Consul</td>
<td>Ricardo Pineda</td>
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