Call to Order – Roll Call

Quorum having been established, Chair Lundin called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Commissioners present:  Michael Lundin (Chair), Jan Johnson (Vice Chair), Charles Catino, Anita Kellman, Jim Mazzocco0, Victor Rivera

Commissioner absent:  Peter Chesson (out of the country) and Enrique Serna.

Staff present:  Chris Cawein, Steve Anderson, Kerry Baldwin, Joe Barr, George Kuck, Joy Mehulka, Robert Vaughn, Ann Khambholja, Greg Tucker

Guests:  John M. Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
         Juanita Garcia-Sieger, Assistant to Mr. John M. Bernal
         Nancy Cole, Project Management Office and Southern AZ APWA President
         Bob Richardson, Principal, RAR Productions

Those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners Barker and Drzazgowski arrived at 9:09 a.m.

Mr. John M. Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works, reported on the internal selection (county only) of the interim deputy director for the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation (NRPR) and Mr. Chris Cawein was selected and will serve in that capacity until the permanent director is appointed.  He also reported on the progress of the recruitment process for the permanent director of NRPR, and encouraged the representation from the Parks and Recreation Commission during the interview process.  Chair Lundin, for the record, stated that the commission will work with Chris Cawein during his term as interim director.  Chris Cawein commented on staff’s for their dedication in getting their work responsibilities done.

Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the July 12, 2013 minutes.  Commissioners Mazzocco and Drzazgowski seconded the motion.  The motion passed.

Call to the Public:  No response.

Commission Discussion/Action Request

2013 APWA Award

Nancy Cole, from the Pima County Project Management Office and the president of the Southern Arizona American Public Works Association, announced that the Canoa Preserve
Community Park in Green Valley (aka: BAJA Park) as one of the winners in the category of Structures—less than $5 million and received the Public Works Project of the Year Award from the American Public Works Association (APWA) Arizona Chapter. She presented the plaque to Chris Cawein on behalf of NRPR.

Nancy presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Commissioner Catino in recognition of the public and private collaborative effort to complete the development of the Canoa Preserve Community Park on time and within budget. Commissioner Catino commented that Mark Anderson should also be recognized for his contribution to the project. Nancy assured him that recognition is in place.

Parks and Recreation Commission Secretary Position

Commissioner Catino made a motion to remove the secretary position from the commission’s slate of officers. Commissioner Barker seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Pima County Smoking Ban:

George Kuck reported that county administration received a complaint about smoking at the Mehl Park dog facility and directed staff to present the issue to the Parks and Recreation Commission to initiate a no smoking ban within the off leash dog parks.

Bob Richardson, a user of the Mehl Park dog facility, thanked the commission for their service. The following are his concerns about the dog park at Mehl Park: exposure and sensitivity to the second-hand smoke at the dog park; there is no disposal option for cigarette butts; and there is no “No Smoking” sign at the dog park’s gate. He stated that he does not advocate a smoking ban around the park; however, he requests the commission’s consideration to install trash receptacles and a no smoking sign at the dog park gate.

Discussion ensued regarding the provisions of the county smoking ban policy. George Kuck reported that the little league groups using county sports facility have imposed, on their own initiative, a no smoking ban around the play fields. The following were suggested—if a smoking ban amendment is adopted, the policy should also include the playground and other open areas; seek legal advice from the County Attorney’s Office regarding policy verbiage; staff to conduct further research from agencies, other than the city of Tucson, to obtain extensive information on the issue. Staff’s concern: who would enforce the policy and how would the policy be enforced, especially in open space areas. It was suggested that the item be further discussed at a future meeting.

Commissioner Catino, seconded by Commissioner Kellman, made a motion to continue discussion of the item to the next meeting. The motion passed.

Commissioners Report

Commissioner Kellman announced that there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 28, 2013 of the Beat Cancer Boot Camp research room at Brandi Fenton Memorial Park. She invited everyone. She reiterated that the boot camp continues to gain recognition internationally, as indicated in a London newspaper.
Commissioner Catino does not have a report other than the earlier statement during Nancy Cole's presentation. Before the meeting is adjourned, he stated that on October 19-20, 2013, the BAJA group will have a fund-raising event for the Wounded Warriors.

Division Update Reports - Highlights from all division reports:

NRPR is one of the first agencies to convert to the new Pima County Web site.

On August 6, 2013, the Board of Supervisors approved the transfer of A7 Ranch stewardship to Reddington Livestock L.L.P.

A resolution supporting the reintroduction of the Desert Big Horn sheep into the Santa Catalina Mountain is on the Board of Supervisors August 19, 2013 agenda.

The details on the Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordinating Committee and its coordination effort, including NRPR and Flood Control, can be viewed at www.buffelgrass.org. Arizona’s buffelgrass control coordination is not nearly the scale of California’s.

An intergovernmental agreement between Pima County and the University of Arizona is being negotiated regarding Roger Road Treatment Plant Re-use Plan.

It was clarified that the baseball fields being converted into two year-round soccer fields are different from a previous request from another group for year-round softball fields.

Special task force is negotiating with George Proctor for a short-term loan of his memorabilia for display at the historic Hacienda de la Canoa.

Note: Commissioner Mazzocco left at 9:50 a.m.

Future Agenda Items:

Approval of the August 9, 2013 Minutes
Smoking Ban Policy

Call to the Public: No response.

Adjournment:

Motioned and seconded the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.