

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Mona Miyasato
County Executive Officer



105 East Anapamu Street, Room 406
Santa Barbara, California 93101
805-568-3400 • Fax 805-568-3414
www.countyofsb.org

Executive Office

September 8, 2015

Vincent Armenta, Tribal Chair
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
P. O. Box 517
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Dear Chairman Armenta,

On August 26, 2015, I sent a letter informing you of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors action of August 25, 2015, authorizing discussions with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians on Fee-to-Trust and other matters of concern. The minutes documenting this action are attached.

In my August 26 letter, I suggested the date of September 11, 2015 for an initial meeting between the Tribe and the County. While I did not receive a formal response to this letter, it is my understanding that Tribal Representative, Sam Cohen, spoke to my Assistant CEO Terri Nisich, and indicated that September 11 would not work. In order to continue to pursue a meeting date, Ms. Nisich provided additional dates to Mr. Cohen via email on September 1, 2015. The dates provide were: Wednesday, September 16, 1 to 5 PM, Thursday, September 17, 1 to 5PM, and Wednesday, September 23, 9AM to noon. As of Friday, September 4, 2015, the County had not received confirmation of a meeting date nor suggestions for an alternate meeting date.

I respectfully request that you review the dates offered, and confirm the Tribe's availability, at your earliest opportunity. As you are aware, per the Board of Supervisor's direction, the discussions between the Tribe and the County are subject to the Brown Act, and therefore require appropriate planning, coordination of materials, and notification to the public.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding a date for the initial meeting by September 10, 2015. Should you have questions please do not hesitate to contact me or Terri Nisich at any time at (805)568-3400.

Sincerely,

Mona Miyasato
County Executive Officer

Attachment: August 25, 2015 Minute Order

cc: Members of the Board of Supervisors
Congresswoman Lois Capps, California 24th Congressional District
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Diane Feinstein
Thomas Walters, Walters and Associates
Terri Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer

Members of Subcommittee on Indian Insular and Alaska Native Affairs:

The Honorable Don Young, Chairman
Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515/Fax: (202) 225-7094

The Honorable Raul Ruiz, Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
1329 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515/Fax: (202) 225-7094

The Honorable Dan Benishek
U.S. House of Representatives
514 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515/Fax: (202) 225-4710

The Honorable Paul Gosar
U.S. House of Representatives
504 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515/Fax: (202) 226-9739

The Honorable Jeff Denham
U.S. House of Representatives
1730 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515/Fax: (202) 225-3402

The Honorable Paul Cook
U.S. House of Representatives
1222 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515/Fax: (202) 225-6498

The Honorable Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen
U.S. House of Representatives
1339 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515/Fax: (202) 225-8757

The Honorable Madeleine Bordallo
2441 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
Fax: (202) 226-0341

The Honorable Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
U.S. House of Representatives
423 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Fax: (202) 226-4249

The Honorable Pedro Pierluisi
U.S. House of Representatives
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Fax: (202) 225-2154

The Honorable Norma Judith Torres
U.S. House of Representatives
516 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Fax: (202) 225-8671

The Honorable Rob Bishop
U.S. House of Representatives
123 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Fax: (202) 225-5857

The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
U.S. House of Representatives
322 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Fax: (530) 534-7800 – Orville Office

The Honorable Raul Grijalva, Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
1329 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Fax: (202) 225-1541



County of Santa Barbara

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minute Order

August 25, 2015

Present: 5 - Supervisor Carbajal, Supervisor Wolf, Supervisor Farr, Supervisor Adam, and Supervisor Lavagnino

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

File Reference No. 15-00670

RE: HEARING - Consider recommendations regarding HR 1157 (La Malfa) and the June 17, 2015 hearing by the House Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs, as follows: (EST. TIME: 2 HRS.)

a) Receive and file report on status of HR1157 (Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians Land Transfer Act of 2015, sponsored by Representative LaMalfa) and the outcome of the June 17, 2015 hearing of the House Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs;

b) Provide direction to the County Executive Officer regarding further discussions with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians regarding Camp 4;

c) Provide direction to the County Executive Officer regarding the request by the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians for government to government consultations for the purposes of the Tribe taking the Mooney (APN 143-242-001/2) and Escobar (APN 143-252-001/2) properties into trust; and

d) Determine pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) that the above actions are not a project subject to CEQA review.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION: POLICY

Received and filed staff presentation and conducted public hearing.

A motion was made by Supervisor Farr, seconded by Supervisor Adam, that this matter be Acted on as follows:

a) Received and filed.

b) and c) The Board of Supervisors appointed an ad-hoc subcommittee consisting of Supervisor Farr and Supervisor Adam for the purpose of engaging the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians in discussions related to land use and financial matters of mutual concern that include but are not limited to the Waiver of Sovereign Immunity, Santa Ynez Valley properties of interest inclusive of the Camp 4, Mooney, Escobar and 350 acre "Triangle" properties and other general topics between the County and the Tribe as appropriate. Directed staff to draft a letter inviting the Tribe to participate in this process and requesting the appointment of two tribal members from the Tribal Business Committee. Further directed that appropriate County staff participate including County Counsel, that the ad-hoc committee meetings be conducted pursuant to the Brown Act and open to the public, and that they are held in a neutral location to encourage participation by Tribal and Non-Tribal individuals.

Directed staff to provide initial comments to the Bureau of Indian Affairs regarding the Escobar and Mooney properties to preserve the County's status in that Fee-to-Trust process.

d) Approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Supervisor Carbajal, Supervisor Wolf, Supervisor Farr, Supervisor Adam,
and Supervisor Lavagnino