2019 CCRC Spring Meeting

April 18, 2019

Blaire Ranch, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

Agency Panel Responses from Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District: Susan Weidemann and Michael Jurich.

Agency Panel Questions

1. What are the biggest challenges your agency faces related to improving the sustainability of the grazing program (not ecological sustainability, but sustainability of the grazing program itself)?
2. What has your agency already done, or what steps would you like to take, to sustain the grazing program and support livestock production?
3. What processes are you using to change the grazing program and improve its sustainability?

The below bullet points were recorded by Larry Ford recorded summarized here by Devii Rao.

* They graze 11,000 acres
* Grazing program started in 2008
* They try to accommodate ranchers. For example, they
  + Reimburse for predation, if it can be verified
  + Pay grazing lessee just like they would another vendor to do infrastructure work – if the work is under $50,000 they do not have to go out for competitive bid.

**STEPS TAKEN**

* Recognize historical grazing
* Review agency policies
* Meetings with stakeholders
* More communication
  + Ride with rancher
  + Develop a relationship