

# Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District

## Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2022

## Meeting Location

City of Coachella Corporate Yard  
53462 Enterprise Way  
Coachella, CA 92236

**1. Call to Order, Determination of a Quorum Introductions**

Meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

Directors Present: President Ruben Arias, Vice-President Blaine Carian, Directors Don Ackley, Director Alonzo, Director De Lara

No one from the public was in attendance

**2. Pledge of Allegiance:** President Arias led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Approval of Agenda:** District Manager noted that there was a handout regarding Item 8-5.

**4. Public Comment:** No Public Comment.

**5. Consent Calendar:**

Motion made by Director Ackley to approve the Consent Calendar; seconded by Vice-President Carian. Motion passed 4-0.

5-1: Meeting Minutes for February 2022 – Motion was made by Vice President Carian to approve the minutes, seconded by Director Alonzo. Motion passed 5-0.

5-2: Financial Report for February 2022 – President Arias questions the rental income, and the Board was informed that the tenants are behind on their rent, one of the tenants is significantly behind. Director De Lara made a motion to approve; seconded by Vice-President Carian. Motion passed 5-0.

**6. Correspondence:**

6-1: There was a Public Records Request received from Transparent California, requesting financial information on wages, benefits, stipends, overtime income and benefits for staff. Directors were informed that the information has been provided with the assistance of the accounting consultant.

7. **Reports**

7-1: NRCS Report – Nothing was provided by the USDA.

8. **Discussion Items and Old Business**

Updates were provided for the following:

8-1: Learning Garden – The Directors discussed the length of time it's taking to carry-out the project.

8-2: Office Space / Furniture / Phone – The Directors suggested that more research get done if furniture needs to be purchased through California Prison Industry Authority. The Board of Directors gave permission for the purchase of a cell phone for the District.

8-3: New Employee update – Inland RCD and Coachella Valley RCD will be

8-4: Credit Card – The Directors would like the credit limit for the District credit card to be reduced from \$10,000 to \$3,000.

8-5: Desert Healthcare District Invoice – An invoice from the DHD was received in the amount of \$175,000

8-6: Inland Urban Forest Council – The IUFC is looking for members for their board. The Directors were encouraged to inform anyone that may be interested.

9. **Board Action and Discussion Items:**

9-1: Discussion to collaborate with the Coachella Valley Irrigated Lands Coalition in their outreach efforts with Spanish-speaking and underserved farmers to meet the requirements of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program in the Coachella Valley.

*Motion was made by Vice-President Carian to collaborate with the CVILC; seconded by Director Juan De Lara. A spending limit of \$1,500 was included. Motion passed 5-0.*

9-2: Consideration to have allow the District Directors and Manager to attend the California Special District Association Annual Conference in Palm Desert, CA, at \$650 for each attendee.

*Motion was made to allow the Director to attend the Conference. President Arias and Director De Lara voiced their interest in attending.*

9-3: Consideration to support AB 1902 (Aguiar-Curry) amending sections within Division 9 of the Public Resource Code.

*After discussion of the revisions, the Directors voted to take no action on the issue and spend additional time reviewing proposed revisions.*

10. **Discussion for the Good of the District / Items for Future Board Consideration**  
The Directors would like to see a Draft Budget for the April District Meeting.
11. **District General Counsel Report and Announcements:** The District Manager announced that there was nothing to report from the Counsel's office.
12. **Closed Session:** No Closed Session items were part of the agenda.
13. **Date and location of next District Regular Board Meeting**  
  
Date: April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Location: USDA Indio Service Center  
81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. A  
Indio, CA 92201
14. **Adjournment**  
Meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Approved this 25<sup>th</sup>, of May 2022



Yvonne Franco, District Manager/Secretary