

Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District

USDA Service Center
81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. A
Indio, CA 92201

Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2026

8:00 AM

Directors Present: President Ruben Arias
Vice-President Blaine Carian
Director Juan De Lara
Director Celeste Alonzo

Directors Absent: Director Don Ackley

Staff Present: District Manager Yvonne Franco
Administrative Assistant Valerie Velazquez

Members of the Public: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

a) Roll Call and determination of a quorum

The meeting was called to order by President Ruben Arias at 8:09AM.

b) Pledge of Allegiance

Director Ruben Arias led us in the pledge of allegiance.

2. AGENDA REVIEW

No motion made. The agenda remains as is.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

4. PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

No presentations.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing to report.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

a) Meeting Minutes

b) Financials – Receive and File

Arias	Aye	Carian	Aye
Ackley	Absent	De Lara	Aye
Alonzo	Aye		

Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Celeste Alonzo provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.

7. PARTNER REPORTS

- a) NRCS Report – verbal report provided by USDA NRCS District Conservationist Tomas Aguilar-Campos.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND UPDATES

- a) Brown Act 2026 – Confirmed that the Directors have received a hardcopy and electronic copy of the Brown Act, required by SB 707. The Board was informed that one of the new requirements is to issue a copy of the Revised Brown Act to Board members. An electronic copy was e-mailed to the Board, and they were given a hard copy at the meeting.

- b) Annual Work Plan Update
 The Annual Work Plan was reviewed for a status update on each of the project/programming. The most active programs include Trees for Tomorrow, the Tire Recycling Event, the Weather Station Program.

- c) Tire Recycling Event – Next event will be held on March 17, 2026, at College of the Desert Thermal/Mecca Campus, from 8-12pm. The flyer will be released a few weeks prior to the event.
 At December’s tire recycling event, two employees from the County’s Waste Resources Department visited COD location. The Board was informed that CVRCD reached out to staff from Department for future collaboration.

- d) Municipal Service Review – Update: the draft was reviewed and returned to LAFCO with minor comments and corrections. The overall review was positive. According to LAFCO’s Executive Officer it’s expected to be presented to the Commission at the February or March meeting.

- e) Senate Bill 827 – State mandated training requirement for local agency board members in financial administration and fiscal management. New board members will be expected to complete the training within the first six months of appointment. Workshops will be provided through the California Special District Association. The district manager attended an in-person workshop in Apple Valley on January 7, 2026. Like the ethics and harassment prevention training requirements, the certificate of completion is valid for two years.

- f) Audit – The finalized audit report for fiscal year ending 2025 has been finalized, submitted to the County Auditor Controller’s office, and uploaded to the District’s website.

9. ACTION ITEMS

- a) Discussion and possible approval of Resolution 2026-01 to reorganize the District’s Administrative Handbook.

Arias	Aye	Carian	Aye
Ackley	Absent	De Lara	Aye
Alonzo	Aye		

Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the Resolution 2026-01 to reorganize the District’s Administrative Handbook. Director Celeste Alonzo provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.

- b) Discussion and possible of a Listing Agreement between Spinello Commercial Real Estate, Inc., and Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District regarding District-owned property located at 74271 Highway 111, Palm Desert, CA 92260; APN 625-122-003.

Arias	Aye	Carian	Aye
Ackley	Absent	De Lara	Aye
Alonzo	Aye		

Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the Listing Agreement between Spinello Commercial Real Estate, Inc., and Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District-owned property located at 74271 Highway 111, Palm Desert, CA 92260; APN 625-122-003, with the Error and Omission policy and request further explanation from the attorney. Director Celeste Alonzo provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.

10. DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nothing to report.

11. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Discussion at Board Meeting

12. CLOSED SESSION

No closed session items

13. DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Date: February 18, 2026
USDA Indio Service Center
81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. A
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14. ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:07AM.

Approved this 18th February 2026



Yvonne Franco, District Manager / Secretary