

Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District  
USDA Service Center  
81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. A  
Indio, CA 92201

Meeting Minutes  
May 24, 2023  
8:00 AM

Directors Present: President Ruben Arias; Vice-President Blaine Carian; Director Don Ackley; Director Juan De Lara

Directors Absent: Director Celeste Alonzo

Staff Present: District Manager Yvonne Franco

Members of the Public: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Ruben Arias at 8:04 AM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Ruben Arias led us in pledge of allegiance.

**Item 9-1 was moved to the top of the agenda to be considerate of Mr. Bob Shull's time.**

**Consideration to open an account with California Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System (CLASS)**

Director De Lara provided the motion to approve Action Item 9-1. Director Ackley provided the second. Motion was approved, 4-0.

<b>Arias</b>	Aye	<b>Carian</b>	Aye
<b>Ackley</b>	Aye	<b>De Lara</b>	Aye
<b>Alonzo</b>	Absent		

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director De Lara provided the motion to approve the agenda. Director Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.

<b>Arias</b>	Aye	<b>Carian</b>	Aye
<b>Ackley</b>	Aye	<b>De Lara</b>	Aye
<b>Alonzo</b>	Absent		

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR:

5-1: Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 2023

5-2: Approval of Financial Report – April 2023

**Director De Lara provided the motion to approve the Meeting Minutes. Director Carian provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.**

<b>Arias</b>	Aye	<b>Carian</b>	Aye
<b>Ackley</b>	Aye	<b>De Lara</b>	Aye
<b>Alonzo</b>	Absent		

6. CORRESPONDANCE

6-1: California Women in Agriculture sent a “thank you” card for the District’s sponsorship.

7. REPORTS

7-1: NRCS Report – No new reports from NRCS.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

8-1: School Garden – DSUSD, Early Education; President Arias provided the preschoolers with hands on instructions on planting

8-2: New Office Location - The Board decided to not pursue the matter further. There’s no cost at the current office location.

8-3: Budget ad hoc committee update – The ad hoc committee met and discussed the draft budget. It was agreed that one more meeting would be essential before the Board meeting scheduled for June 2023.

8-4: Southern California Regional Meeting Update was provided.

8-5: Solid Waste Cleanup – District Manager updated the Board on the cleanup day. Five containers were used, there was 132 tires that were not a part of the cleanup but were picked up by the Urban Conservation Corps.

8-6: Palm Desert Property – District Manager Yvonne Franco informed the Board that a potential tenant was interested in purchasing the property. Direction was given to provide ROI information on the property.

9. BOARD ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

~~9-1: Consideration to open an account with California Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System (CLASS)~~

9-2: Attendance to the California Special District Association 2023 Annual Conference, August 28-31, 2023, to be held in Monterey California.

**All Directors present expressed interest in attending the Conference. Director Alonzo will be contacted later in the day to find if she'd like to attend.**

9-3: Fuel reimbursement request from District Manager in the amount of \$130.21.

**Vice-President Carian provided the motion to approve the reimbursement. Director Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.**

<b>Arias</b>	Aye	<b>Carian</b>	Aye
<b>Ackley</b>	Aye	<b>De Lara</b>	Aye
<b>Alonzo</b>	Absent		

10. Discussion for the Good of the District/Items for Future board Consideration  
 President Arias and Director De Lara provided an update on Legislative Days event held in Sacramento, organized by the California Special District Association. President Arias mentioned that there was interest to form a Chapter for the Coachella Valley.

11. District General Counsel Report and Announcements

None.

12. Closed Session

President Arias informed the Board that a Closed Session to review the District Manager agreement and salary would be on next month's agenda.

There were no closed session items.

13. Date and location of Next District Regular Board Meeting

Date: June 21, 2023

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

14. ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 AM.

Approved this 21st day of June 2023

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Yvonne Franco, District Manager / Secretary