

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

Meeting Minutes  
October 15, 2025  
8:00 AM

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

Directors Absent: Director Juan De Lara; Director Celeste Alonzo

Staff Present: District Manager Yvonne Franco; Administrative Assistant Valerie Velazquez

Members of the Public: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Arias at 8:03AM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Arias led us in the pledge of allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No changes to the agenda.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

V. Presentations and Announcements

Nothing to report.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Email update from CARCD regarding SGC Land Equity Task Force recommendations related to RCDs – The email from Executive Director Nancy Wahl informed the RCDs that based on comments received from a couple of RCDs any references to Division 9 have been removed from Draft for Review and Recommendations of the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force, Draft for Review: August 2025.

B. Letter to Assemblymember Jeff Gonzalez – The district manager prepared a letter for Assemblymember Jeff Gonzalez stating concerns regarding any future revisions to Division 9 of the Public Resources Code.

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Minutes for September 2025
- B. Receive and File Financials for September 2025

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

**Vice-President Blaine Carian provided the motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 3-0.**

VIII. PARTNER REPORTS

- A. NRCS Report – No report was provided due to the government shutdown.

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND UPDATES –

- A. Update: Tire Recycling Event Scheduled for September 24, 2025, and discuss potential dates for the next event.

All six containers were filled by 10:20. Vehicles were turned away.

- B. Update: Trees for Tomorrow, Start Today – Next event scheduled to take place on October 11, 2025, at the Coachella Library, 50 trees total.

The Desert Hot Springs event was a success, eighty trees were provided to residents. The next event is scheduled in Coachella.

- C. Update: Resolution No. 2025-02 uploaded to the Department of Housing and Community Development’s Surplus Land Act dashboard.

The resolution was uploaded to the Department’s Surplus Land Act dashboard. The District was asked to provide proof that the property isn’t in a coastal zone, is not adjacent to a historical unit in the State Parks Systems, is not listed as historical in the State or National Register, or a State Historical Landmark, and is not within the Lake Tahoe region. All responses were provided to the Housing Policy Specialist on October 2, 2025.

- D. Programming Update for Fiscal Year 2025/26.

The district manager provided an update of the District’s annual work plan.

X. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Discussion and possible action of a mileage reimbursement request of \$404.60 from the district manager for vehicle miles traveled. Mileage reimbursement are based on the current 2025 IRS mileage rate or .70 cents per mile.

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

**Vice-President Blaine Carian provided the motion to approve the mileage reimbursement request of \$404.60 for the district manager. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 3-0.**

- B. Discussion and possible action regarding a sponsorship opportunity of \$1,000 for AgVision, scheduled for November 13, 2025, at the Coachella Library.

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

**Vice-President Blaine Carian provided the sponsorship opportunity of \$1,000 for AgVision, scheduled for November 13, 2025, at the Coachella Library. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 3-0.**

XI. DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nothing to report.

XII. DISTRICT ITEMS FOR THE FUTURE BOARD CONSIDERATION

No discussion.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION – **Closed session started at 8:33AM**

Closed Session pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.8:

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

Property Negotiator: Yvonne Franco

Property Location: APN 625-122-003 (Palm Desert)

74271 Highway 111, Palm Desert, CA 92260

**Closed session ended at 8:45AM**

The Board didn't provide additional direction on the property.

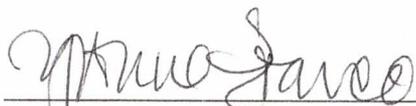
XIV. DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Date: November 19, 2025  
USDA Indio Service Center  
81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. A  
Indio, CA 92201

XIV. ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 8:45AM.

Approved this 19th day of November 2025



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