

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

Meeting Minutes
December 20, 2023
8:00 AM

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

Directors Absent: Director Juan De Lara

Staff Present: District Manager Yvonne Franco; Irrigation Specialist Carlos Velazquez

Members of the Public: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Ruben Arias led us in the pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

November meeting minutes not included.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

5. CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

5-1: Riverside LAFCO Call for Nominations – items not discussed.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6-1: Meeting Minutes for November 2023 – not included.

6-2: Financials for November 2023 – reviewed, there was no motion to approve.

7. REPORTS

7-1: NRCS Report – USDA District Conservationist Tomas Aguilar-Campos not present.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS –

8-1: Tire collection event – Event was held on November 30. Six roll-off containers were filled.

8-2: UCCE Master Food Preserver Program future event – District Manager mentioned had a conversation with UCCE Master Food Preserve Ms. Dee Denton. Ms. Denton is eager to hold a workshop in the area.

8-3: School Garden at DSUSD Early Education - Garden sign is mounted. Special event is planned in the near future.

8-4: Weather Stations Program – District Manager requested permission to purchase one weather station for initial program launch.

8-5: Puncturevine Weed – Environmental Scientist Chris Borkent was contacted to assist the region with puncturevine weevils.

8-6: Southern California Mountains Foundation Agreement – The MOU between the District and the Mountains Foundation is due to expire soon and another agreement will be provide to the Board at the January 2024 meeting.

8-7: District website updates – New updates and forms are being uploaded onto the website, to comply with State law.

8-8: Special District Leadership Foundation Program – Several certificates are offered, including a transparency certificate.

9. BOARD ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

9-1: Public Resource Code Division 9

The district manager informed the Board that CARCD may move forward with proposing revisions to Division 9 of the Public Resource Code.

10. District General Counsel Report and Announcements

Nothing to report.

11. District Items for the Future Board Consideration

Nursery partnership with Master Gardeners and Urban Conservation Corp may be brought to the Board for further discussion.

12. Date and location of Next District Regular Board Meeting

Date: January 17, 2024

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13. ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 AM.

Approved this 24th day of January 2024



Yvonne Franco, District Manager / Secretary