

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

Meeting Minutes  
March 27, 2024  
8:00 AM

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

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: District Manager Yvonne Franco; Admin. Assistant Valerie Velazquez

Members of the Public: Mr. Zackery Bertrand (Lincoln Financial), Corey Mize (Eide Bailly)

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Ruben Arias led us in the pledge of allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

\*Action Item IX. D. 457 Investment Account with Lincoln Financial -  
was moved to allow Mr. Zackery Bertrand to speak.

**Action Item IX D**

The Board unanimously approved entering into an agreement with Lincoln Financial to provide investment options to District staff. Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Celeste Alonzo provided the second. The motion was approved 5-0.

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

IV. PUBLIC INPUT - There was no public input.

V. CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

“Thank you” cards were received by California CLASS and the National Association of Conservation Districts.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Minutes for February 2024
- B. Receive and File Financials for February 2024

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

**Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 5-0.**

VII. REPORTS

- A. NRCS Report – None.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

- A. Tire Collection Event scheduled for May 2, 2024, at College of the Desert Mecca/Thermal Campus – The event hasn’t been officially approved by the College, there’s been a delay in the insurance documents.
- B. Recap: Trees for Tomorrow event held on March 9, 2024 – Master Gardener staff were very happy with the success of the event. The District covered the cost of fifty-five (55) trees provided by Magana Nursery.
- C. Laserfiche Records Managements software implementation – Staff is working on an agreement to implement Laserfiche.

IX. BOARD ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Weather Station Program – The Board reviewed the application forms and directed staff to proceed with the program.

- B. Board Action to vote for one Vice-President and one Secretary-Treasurer for the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) Board of Directors and instruct the District Secretary to certify action.

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

- C. Consideration to hold April’s regular meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>, June’s regular meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup>, and go “go dark” in July or August.

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

X. DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

XI. DISTRICT ITEMS FOR THE FUTURE BOARD CONSIDERATION

- A. District Programs for 2024/25.

XII. CLOSED SESSION – None

Director Juan De Lara left the meeting at 9:20AM.

XIII. DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Date: April 24, 2024  
 USDA Indio Service Center  
 81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. A  
 Indio, CA 92201

XIV. ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 AM.

Approved this 24th day of April 2024



Yvonne Franco, District Manager / Secretary