

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 8:00 am

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

Directors Absent: None

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

Members of the Public: Bob Schull Investment Director with California CLASS

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Ruben Arias at 8:00 AM.

District Director Nominations: Ruben Arias and Celeste Alonzo.

Director Juan De Lara provided a motion to approve nominations. Director Blaine Carian provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Ruben Arias led us in pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the agenda. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 5-0.

Arias	Aye	Carian	Aye
Ackley	Aye	De Lara	Aye
Alonzo	Aye		

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 5-1: Approval of Meeting Minutes – March 2023
- 5-2: Approval of Financial Report – March 2023

Director Blaine Carian provided the motion to approve the Meeting Minutes. Director Juan De Lara provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 5-0.

Arias	Aye	Carian	Aye
Ackley	Aye	De Lara	Aye
Alonzo	Aye		

6. CORRESPONDANCE

- 6-1: Letter from the US Department of the Interior.

7. REPORTS

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

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

8-1: Rental Property Update - Mr. John Marshall from Baxley Properties has met with potential tenants, but the proposals are not compatible. Mr. Marshal mentioned that the lack of parking was brought up.

8-2: Preschool Learning Garden Update - The garden is almost complete.

8-3: Solid Waste Illegal Dumping Cleanup for May 2, 2023 – This event will include up to five roll-off containers. The District will cover the cost of the roll-off containers and the dump fees.

8-4: Southern Baja Region Annual Meeting - The meeting was held in Julian, at a Girl Scouts Camp site. Changing the name of the of the region was brought up, however only two RCDs attended the meeting. Next year’s host will be Palo Verde, if they cannot host, IID will be asked to host. District Manager Yvonne Franco volunteered CVRCD to host the next meeting if Palo Verde RCD or IID can host.

8-5: Report on future District Office locations – The district manager is meeting with a realtor to look at an office at Rancho Coachella Business Park. The office is occupied, but will soon be vacant.

8-6: District Boundary Map – The district manager received a draft map of the District’s boundaries and it was used as reference to draw the District’s boundaries on the wall map in the conference room.

9. BOARD ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

9-1: Fiscal Year Budget 2023/2024 – The District Manager requested formation of an ad hoc committee to provide input on drafting the budget for Fiscal Year 2023/24.

9-2: Consideration to sponsor Desert Healthcare District’s A Night of Stars – The Board opted to not sponsor the event.

10. Discussion for the Good of the District/Items for Future board Consideration

A. District Manager Evaluation – Board members were informed that the evaluation will take place in June.

B. District Vehicle – Board members agreed to keep the vehicle at Carlos’ residence to prevent vandalism on the district vehicle.

11. District General Counsel Report and Announcements
None.

12. Closed Session
No closed session items were included.

13. Date and location of Next District Regular Board Meeting

Date: May 24, 2023

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14. ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 AM.

Approved this 21st day of 24th day of May 2023



Yvonne Franco, District Manager / Secretary