

Coachella Valley Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2019



The audio file for this committee can be found at: <http://www.cvag.org/audio.htm>

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Chair Evans at 11:00 am.

2. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Members Present

Mayor Pro Tem John Aguilar
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair
Councilmember Anayeli Zavala
Councilmember Richard Balocco
Councilmember Oscar Ortiz
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair
Mayor Susan Marie Weber
Councilmember Lisa Middleton
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick
Councilmember Jan Harnik
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt
Board Member Anthony Bianco
Director Alex Cardenas

Agency

City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
Riverside County – District 2, Alternate
Riverside County – District 3, Alternate
Riverside County – District 4 (*arrived at 11:05 am*)
Riverside County – District 5
Coachella Valley Water District (*arrived at 11:04 am*)
Imperial Irrigation District (*By phone*)

Members Not Present

Councilmember Richard W. Kite
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries
Board Member Nancy Wright

City of Rancho Mirage
Riverside County – District 1
Mission Springs Water District

Others Present

Tom Kirk
Katie Barrows
Jim Sullivan
Kathleen Brundige
Libby Carlson
Gary Leong
Jim Karpiak
Pat Cooper
Paul Vallandigham
Emmanuel Martinez
Nydia Ibarra

CVCC
CVCC
CVCC
CVCC
CVCC
CVAG
CVMC
Office of County Supervisor Perez
Office of County Supervisor Hewitt
Imperial Irrigation District
South Coast AQMD

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Led by Councilmember Balocco.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER / DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Chair Evans commended Katie Barrows and CVCC staff on certification of the Final EIR for the Peninsular Bighorn Sheep Barrier project. Tom Kirk seconded Chair Evans' comments and noted that cost estimates for phase one of the project will be available in Fall 2019.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approve the April 26, 2019 CVCC Meeting Minutes

B. Authorize Update of Signature Cards

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER BALOCCO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS.

ITEM 6A WAS APPROVED WITH 9 AYES, 5 ABSTENTIONS, and 3 ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem John Aguilar	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Abstain
Councilmember Anayeli Zavala	Abstain
Councilmember Richard Balocco	Aye
Councilmember Oscar Ortiz	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Mayor Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Lisa Middleton	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Absent
Supervisor Keven Jefferies	Absent
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Abstain
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Abstain
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Abstain
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Board Member Nancy Wright	Absent

ITEM 6B WAS APPROVED WITH 14 AYES and 3 ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem John Aguilar	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye
Councilmember Anayeli Zavala	Aye
Councilmember Richard Balocco	Aye
Councilmember Oscar Ortiz	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Mayor Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Lisa Middleton	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Absent
Supervisor Keven Jefferies	Absent
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Aye
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Board Member Nancy Wright	Absent

7. DISCUSSION / ACTION

- A. Amend Resolution 19-001, Acquisition of Two Parcels Totaling Approximately 66.22 Acres in the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta Conservation Area** – Mayor Evans requested that the staff recommendation be amended to clarify that there are no additional costs associated with this amendment.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER FITZPATRICK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HARNIK TO APPROVE A NO-COST AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 19-001 TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PARCELS TO 3 WITH AN ACREAGE NOT TO EXCEED 62.67 ACRES.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 14 AYES AND 3 ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem John Aguilar	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye
Councilmember Anayeli Zavala	Aye
Councilmember Richard Balocco	Aye
Councilmember Oscar Ortiz	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Mayor Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Lisa Middleton	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Absent
Supervisor Keven Jefferies	Absent
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Aye
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Board Member Nancy Wright	Absent

- B. Acquisition of 4 Tax Default Parcels Totaling Approximately 13.82 From the Riverside County Treasurer-Tax Collector** – Mayor Evans requested that the staff recommendation be amended to include 'authorizing objection to public sale'. Tom Kirk stated that an overview of the acquisition process would be added to a future CVCC meeting agenda.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FITZPATRICK TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 19-009 AUTHORIZING OBJECTION TO PUBLIC SALE OF 4 TAX DEFAULT PARCELS TOTALING 13.82 ACRES, AUTHORIZE ACQUISITION FOR A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$31,710.53 PLUS ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS, AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT OF SALE TO PURCHASE THE PROPERTIES.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 12 AYES, 2 ABSTENTIONS AND 3 ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem John Aguilar	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye
Councilmember Anayeli Zavala	Aye
Councilmember Richard Balocco	Aye

Councilmember Oscar Ortiz	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Mayor Susan Marie Weber	Abstain
Councilmember Lisa Middleton	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Absent
Supervisor Keven Jefferies	Absent
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Aye
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Abstain
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Board Member Nancy Wright	Absent

C. 2018 Annual Report on the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan – Jim Sullivan reviewed land acquisition progress made to-date. Kathleen Brundige gave an overview of biological monitoring and land management activities.

IT WAS MOVED BY SUPERVISOR PEREZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ORTIZ TO ACCEPT THE 2019 ANNUAL REPORT.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 14 AYES AND 3 ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem John Aguilar	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye
Councilmember Anayeli Zavala	Aye
Councilmember Richard Balocco	Aye
Councilmember Oscar Ortiz	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Mayor Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Lisa Middleton	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Absent
Supervisor Keven Jefferies	Absent
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Aye
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Board Member Nancy Wright	Absent

D. Update on Trails Management Subcommittee Activities

This item was continued to the next meeting.

8. INFORMATION

The following items were provided for member information only:

A. CVCC Attendance Record

B. Contracts Under \$25,000

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mayor Evans inquired on the status of the grant-funded sand restoration project and whether it could be used to help the Indian Canyon Rd issues.
- The next CVCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 13 at 11 am in Room 119, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert.

10. ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Carlson