

ITEM 6A

**Coachella Valley Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2017**



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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission (CVCC) was called to order by Chair Michael Wilson at 11:00 am.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Members Present

Councilmember Mark Carnevale
Councilmember Yvonne Parks
Mayor Richard Balocco
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Wilson, Chair
Mayor Linda Evans
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber, Vice Chair
Councilmember Geoff Kors
Mayor Pro Tem Richard W. Kite
Mayor Jan Harnik
(Alternate for Supervisor Chuck Washington)
Mayor Steven Hernandez
(Alternate for Supervisor Marion Ashley)
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Board Member Anthony Bianco
Board Member Nancy Wright

Members Absent

Mayor Pro Tem Emmanuel Martinez
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries
Supervisor John Tavaglione
Board Member Erik Ortega

Others Present

Jim Karpiak

Britt Wilson
Roger Overstreet
Sylvia Granados
Karl Twombly
Jenness McBride
Cameron Barrows

Deborah McGarrey
Christina Chavez (*teleconference*)

Agency

City of Cathedral City
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
Riverside County – 3rd District

Riverside County – 5th District
(*arrived during Item 5*)
Riverside County – 4th District
Coachella Valley Water District
Mission Springs Water District

City of Coachella
Riverside County – 1st District
Riverside County – 2nd District
Imperial Irrigation District

Coachella Valley Mountains
Conservancy
City of Rancho Mirage
Southern California Edison
Southern California Edison
Sierra Club
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.C. Riverside – Center for
Conservation Biology
Friends of the Desert Mountains
Imperial Irrigation District

CVAG Staff

Tom Kirk	Katie Barrows
Gary Leong	Jim Sullivan
Kathleen Brundige	Erica Felci

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor V. Manual Perez led the pledge of allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Executive Director Tom Kirk announced the Salton Sea Management Program Workshop, and announced that we have a new trails intern, Diana Reza from Coachella. He thanked Desert Hot Springs Councilwoman Anayeli Zavala for her assistance with placing the intern with CVCC through the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership and the Healthy Careers Connection. Mr. Kirk gave an update on the status of AB 661.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR EVANS, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PARKS, TO:

A. Approve the Minutes of the May 11, 2017 Coachella Valley Conservation Commission

B. Approve the Investment Policy No. 17-01

C. Approve Amendment #2 to Services Contract with Terra Nova for Reallocation No. 2 for La Quinta Bighorn Barrier Project.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Yvonne Parks	AYE
Mayor Richard Balocco	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Wilson	AYE
Mayor Linda Evans	AYE
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	AYE
Councilmember Geoff Kors	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Richard W. Kite	AYE
Mayor Jan Harnik	AYE
Mayor Steven Hernandez	AYE
Supervisor V. Manual Perez	AYE
Board Member Anthony Bianco	AYE
Board Member Nancy Wright	AYE
Board Member Erik Ortega	ABSENT
Mayor Pro Tem Emmanuel Martinez	ABSENT
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries	ABSENT
Supervisor John Tavaglione	ABSENT

7. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Election of CVCC Chair and Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2017/2018

Mr. Kirk introduced the item. Mayor Evans nominated Mayor Pro Tem Wilson and Councilmember Weber to retain their positions. Councilmember Weber declines the nomination. Mayor Hernandez nominates Mayor Evans as vice chair.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER PARKS AND SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR PEREZ TO ACCEPT THE NOMINATIONS OF MAYOR PRO TEM WILSON AND MAYOR EVANS AS CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017/18.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Yvonne Parks	AYE
Mayor Richard Balocco	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Wilson	AYE
Mayor Linda Evans	AYE
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	AYE
Councilmember Geoff Kors	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Richard W. Kite	AYE
Mayor Jan Harnik	AYE
Mayor Steven Hernandez	AYE
Supervisor V. Manual Perez	AYE
Board Member Anthony Bianco	AYE
Board Member Nancy Wright	AYE
Board Member Erik Ortega	ABSENT
Mayor Pro Tem Emmanuel Martinez	ABSENT
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries	ABSENT
Supervisor John Tavaglione	ABSENT

B. Resolution No. 17-008 of the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission, a Joint Powers Authority, adopting the 2017/18 Fiscal Year Annual Budget

Mr. Leong gives the staff report.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEBER AND SECONDED BY MAYOR EVANS TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 17-008 TO ADOPT THE 2017/18 FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL BUDGET.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Yvonne Parks	AYE
Mayor Richard Balocco	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Wilson	AYE
Mayor Linda Evans	AYE
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	AYE
Councilmember Geoff Kors	AYE

Mayor Pro Tem Richard W. Kite	AYE
Mayor Jan Harnik	AYE
Mayor Steven Hernandez	AYE
Supervisor V. Manual Perez	AYE
Board Member Anthony Bianco	AYE
Board Member Nancy Wright	AYE
Board Member Erik Ortega	ABSENT
Mayor Pro Tem Emmanuel Martinez	ABSENT
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries	ABSENT
Supervisor John Tavaglione	ABSENT

C. Acquisition of three parcels totaling approximately 46.18 acres in the Thousand Palms Conservation Area

Jim Karpiak of the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy presents the staff report. A brief discussion ensued.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR HARNIK AND SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER WRIGHT TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION 17-009 AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF THREE PARCELS TOTALING APPROXIMATELY 46.18 ACRES IN THE THOUSAND PALMS CONSERVATION AREA AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$165,000 PLUS CLOSING COSTS NOT TO EXCEED \$2,500.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Yvonne Parks	AYE
Mayor Richard Balocco	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Wilson	AYE
Mayor Linda Evans	AYE
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	AYE
Councilmember Geoff Kors	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Richard W. Kite	AYE
Mayor Jan Harnik	AYE
Mayor Steven Hernandez	AYE
Supervisor V. Manual Perez	AYE
Board Member Anthony Bianco	AYE
Board Member Nancy Wright	AYE
Board Member Erik Ortega	ABSENT
Mayor Pro Tem Emmanuel Martinez	ABSENT
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries	ABSENT
Supervisor John Tavaglione	ABSENT

D. Revision to Restrictive Covenant on CVCC-owned land for Southern California Edison Right of Way

Jim Sullivan presented the staff report.

IT WAS MOVED BY SUPERVISOR PEREZ AND SECONDED BY MAYOR EVANS TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY REVISIONS OF THE RESTRICTIVE COVENANT ON APN 15-180-004, ALLOWING

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON (SCE) TO USE UP TO 4 ACRES OF CVCC PROPERTY FOR EXPANSION OF THEIR EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Yvonne Parks	AYE
Mayor Richard Balocco	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Wilson	AYE
Mayor Linda Evans	AYE
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	AYE
Councilmember Geoff Kors	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Richard W. Kite	AYE
Mayor Jan Harnik	AYE
Mayor Steven Hernandez	AYE
Supervisor V. Manual Perez	AYE
Board Member Anthony Bianco	AYE
Board Member Nancy Wright	AYE
Board Member Erik Ortega	ABSENT
Mayor Pro Tem Emmanuel Martinez	ABSENT
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries	ABSENT
Supervisor John Tavaglione	ABSENT

E. Consider Approval of a Contract with the University of California Riverside Center for Conservation Biology to Implement Biological Monitoring

Kathleen Brundige presented the staff report, and discussed the importance of this work after a rainy season. A brief discussion ensued.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR HERNANDEZ AND SECONDED BY MAYOR EVANS TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA RIVERSIDE'S CENTER FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY TO IMPLEMENT BIOLOGICAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2018 AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$250,000.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Yvonne Parks	AYE
Mayor Richard Balocco	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Wilson	AYE
Mayor Linda Evans	AYE
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	AYE
Councilmember Geoff Kors	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Richard W. Kite	AYE
Mayor Jan Harnik	AYE
Mayor Steven Hernandez	AYE
Supervisor V. Manual Perez	AYE
Board Member Anthony Bianco	AYE
Board Member Nancy Wright	AYE
Board Member Erik Ortega	ABSENT
Mayor Pro Tem Emmanuel Martinez	ABSENT

Supervisor Kevin Jeffries ABSENT
Supervisor John Tavaglione ABSENT

F. Consider Approval of a Technical Assistance Agreement with the United States Geological Survey for Desert Tortoise Monitoring and Genetic Analysis

Ms. Brundige presented the staff report. A discussion ensued.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR EVANS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR HARNIK TO APPROVE A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY (USGS) TO IMPLEMENT DESERT TORTOISE MONITORING AND GENETIC ANALYSIS FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2018 FOR A NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$200,000.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES.

Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Yvonne Parks	AYE
Mayor Richard Balocco	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Michael Wilson	AYE
Mayor Linda Evans	AYE
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	AYE
Councilmember Geoff Kors	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Richard W. Kite	AYE
Mayor Jan Harnik	AYE
Mayor Steven Hernandez	AYE
Supervisor V. Manual Perez	AYE
Board Member Anthony Bianco	AYE
Board Member Nancy Wright	AYE
Board Member Erik Ortega	ABSENT
Mayor Pro Tem Emmanuel Martinez	ABSENT
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries	ABSENT
Supervisor John Tavaglione	ABSENT

G. La Quinta Peninsular Bighorn Sheep Barrier Project update

Katie Barrows provide an informational update to the project. A discussion ensued.

8. INFORMATION

- 1) **Letter outlining the Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit for Fiscal Year ended in June 30, 2017, pursuant to Statements on Auditing Standards No. 114 (SAS 114)**
- 2) **CVCC Attendance Roster**
- 3) **Report on Contracts under \$25,000**
- 4) **Conflicts of Interest Issues regarding Coachella Valley Mountain Conservancy**

These items were provided for information only.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next scheduled meeting at 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Room 119, Palm Desert:
Coachella Valley Conservation Commission – Thursday, September 14, 2017, 11:00 a.m.

Upcoming CVAG Meeting:

Executive Committee Meeting – Monday, June 26, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

General Assembly – Monday, June 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at Miramonte Resort & Spa,
45000 Indian Wells Lane, Indian Wells

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Felci

Erica Felci
Governmental Projects Manager