

ITEM 6A

Energy & Environmental Resources Committee Meeting Minutes June 8, 2023



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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Oscar Ortiz, City of Indio, at 12:04 p.m. at the CVAG Conference Room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 119, in the City of Palm Desert. Videoconferencing was available from the City of Blythe.
- 2. ROLL CALL** – Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Members Present

Mayor Joseph DeConinck
Councilmember Nancy Ross
Councilmember Stephanie Virgen
Councilmember Russell Betts
Mayor Oscar Ortiz, *Chair*
Mayor Linda Evans, *Vice Chair*
Director Russ Martin
Councilmember Gina Nestande
Councilmember Ron deHarte
Councilmember Ted Weill
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez

Agency

City of Blythe
City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
Mission Springs Water District
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
Riverside County – District 4

Members/ Ex-Officios Not Present

Vice Chair Candace Patencio Anderson
Mayor Donna Griffith
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez
Board Member Anthony Bianco
Director Karin Eugenio
Secretary Altrena Santillanes
Board Member Patricia Oygar

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
City of Indian Wells
Riverside County – District 5
Coachella Valley Water District
Imperial Irrigation District
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Desert Water Agency

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER / DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Chair Ortiz provided an update on projects reviewed by the Southern California Association of Governments' Energy and Environment Committee.

Executive Director Tom Kirk reported that Agenda Item 6D was being pulled from the agenda. Staff was anticipating another procurement over the summer and would bring the item back to the committee in the fall.

Mr. Kirk also gave the committee an update on the status of addressing graffiti along Interstate 10, which had previously brought to the committee by Councilmember Betts.

Mr. Kirk highlighted CVAG's 50th Anniversary and General Assembly, which will be held Monday, June 26 at 6 p.m. at Desert Island's the Penney and Parlour. He also reported that direct deposit is available for committee members' stipends.

Councilmember Betts announced that the City of Desert Hot Springs just had 80 new EV stations installed.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approve May 11, 2023 Committee Meeting Minutes

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR EVANS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEILL TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 11 AYES AND 5 MEMBERS ABSENT.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Vice Chair Patencio Anderson | Absent |
| Mayor DeConinck | Aye |
| Councilmember Ross | Aye |
| Councilmember Virgen | Aye |
| Board Member Bianco | Absent |
| Councilmember Betts | Aye |
| Director Eugenio | Absent |
| Mayor Griffith | Absent |
| Mayor Ortiz | Aye |
| Mayor Evans | Aye |
| Director Martin | Aye |
| Councilmember Nestande | Aye |
| Councilmember deHarte | Aye |
| Councilmember Weill | Aye |
| Supervisor Perez | Aye |
| Secretary Santillanes | Absent |

6. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Presentation: Regional Climate Change Trends and Implications for Resiliency

Dr. Lynn Sweet from the UCR Center for Conservation Biology presented on regional climate change and its effects on conservation. Member discussion ensued.

No action was taken as this was an informational item.

B. Update on Colorado River Negotiations

Program Manager Emmanuel Martinez introduced Christopher Harris, Executive Director of the Colorado River Board, who joined the meeting via Zoom to provide an update on Colorado River negotiations

Member discussion ensued, including Mr. Harris answering additional questions regarding river negotiations.

Jim Barrett, General Manager from the Coachella Valley Water District, provided additional details on the negotiations.

No action was taken as this was an informational item.

C. Senate Bill 583 and the Proposed Salton Sea Conservancy

Mr. Martinez provided the staff report. Dan Reeves, Chief of Staff for Senator Padilla, joined the meeting by Zoom to describe the legislation's intent. Supervisor V. Manuel Perez described the County's efforts to address regional concerns with the bill.

Public comment was received. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director, outlined the Salton Sea Authority's opposition. Antonio Ortega, Government Affairs Communications Officer from Imperial Irrigation District, recommended the Committee support if amended position.

Member discussion ensued.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR EVANS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BETTS TO OPPOSE SENATE BILL 582 RELATED TO ESTABLISHING THE SALTON SEA CONSERVANCY, UNTIL THE LEGISLATION IS AMENDED AND THERE ARE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS THAT SORT OUT DETAILS AND REACH A BETTER POSITION COLLECTIVELY FOR MOVING FORWARD BECAUSE OF THE PASSION THAT IS SHARED FOR THE SALTON SEA

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 11 AYES AND 5 MEMBERS ABSENT.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Vice Chair Patencio Anderson | Absent |
| Mayor DeConinck | Aye |
| Councilmember Ross | Aye |
| Councilmember Virgen | Aye |
| Board Member Bianco | Absent |
| Councilmember Betts | Aye |
| Director Eugenio | Absent |
| Mayor Griffith | Absent |
| Mayor Ortiz | Aye |
| Mayor Evans | Aye |
| Director Martin | Aye |
| Councilmember Nestande | Aye |
| Councilmember deHarte | Aye |
| Councilmember Weill | Aye |
| Supervisor Perez | Aye |
| Secretary Santillanes | Absent |

D. Contract for Used Oil Recycling Program

This item was pulled from the agenda.

7. **INFORMATION** – The following items were provided in the agenda for information only:

A. **Attendance Record**

B. **Update on the Inland Regional Energy Network**

C. **Update on Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program**

D. **Southern California Edison General Rate Case and Imperial Irrigation District Rate Comparison**

E. **California Air Resources Board- Advanced Clean Fleets regulation**

F. **CVAG Schedule of Meetings for Fiscal Year 2023/24**

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the **Energy & Environmental Resources Committee** will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at noon at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 119, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, June 26, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. at The Penney & Parlour at Desert Island, 71777 Frank Sinatra Dr, Rancho Mirage, 92270.

The next meeting of the **General Assembly** will be held on Monday, June 26 at 6 p.m. at The Penney & Parlour at Desert Island, 71777 Frank Sinatra Dr, Rancho Mirage, 92270.

10. **ADJOURN** –

Chair Ortiz adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elysia Regalado
Management Analyst