

ITEM 6A

Coachella Valley Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes June 9, 2022



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 Linda Evans, City of La Quinta, at 10:32 a.m. via Zoom, pursuant to the guidelines of Assembly Bill 361.
- 2. ROLL CALL** – Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Members Present

Mayor Pro Tem Rita Lamb
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair
Mayor Pro Tem Donna Griffith
Mayor Pro Tem Gary Gardner
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair
Vice President Nancy Wright
Director Alex Cardenas
Councilmember Kathleen Kelly
Councilmember Dennis Woods
Councilmember Richard Kite
Councilmember Glenn Miller
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Director Russ Martin

Agency

City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
City of Indian Wells
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of La Quinta
Mission Springs Water District
Imperial Irrigation District
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
Riverside County – District 1
Riverside County – District 2
Riverside County – District 4 (*Arrived at Item 7A*)
Riverside County – District 5

Members Not Present

Board Member Anthony Bianco
Supervisor Chuck Washington
Councilmember Elaine Holmes
Coachella Valley Water District
Riverside County – District 3
City of Indio

3. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS (IF ANY)

Executive Director Tom Kirk noted that Item 5A, which are the minutes from the May 12 meeting, would be revised reflect resident Eddy Konno's statement in public comment that CVCC is not maintaining fences and barriers in Sky Valley and Desert Edge.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

5. COMMISSION CHAIR / DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Chair Evans recognized and thanked CVCC Regional Planner Peter Satin for his recent presentation to the La Quinta City Council meeting about conservation and

recommended other cities also host the presentation at upcoming Council meetings. Rancho Mirage Councilmember Richard Kite also praised Mr. Satin's presentation.

Executive Director Kirk noted that the CVCC website has been updated and a CVCC fact sheet was being prepared for members' distribution.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approve May 12, 2022 CVCC Meeting Minutes**
- B. Reaffirm that findings still exist, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, and authorize continuation of remote teleconference/virtual meetings of the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission and its committees**
- C. Authorize the Chair and/or Executive Director to execute a letter of engagement with Best, Best & Krieger to provide legal services related to implementation of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan at a cost not to exceed \$32,400 for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023**
- D. Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a no-cost memorandum of understanding with Oswit Land Trust for cooperative management of the Palm Hills and Rimrock properties**

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEM FITZPATRICK AND SECONDED BY MAYOR HERNANDEZ TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS INCLUDING THE AMENDMENT TO ITEM 5A

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES AND 4 MEMBERS ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Gary Gardner	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Donna Griffith	Aye
Councilmember Elaine Holmes	Absent
Mayor Linda Evans	Aye
Vice President Nancy Wright	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Kelly	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Supervisor Chuck Washington	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Absent
Director Russ Martin	Aye

7. DISCUSSION / ACTION

**A. Fiscal Year 2022/23 Agency-Wide, Programs, and Individual Funds Budget –
Claude Kilgore**

Claude Kilgore provided the budget background and thanked the CVCC Finance Committee and Commission members for all their contributions. Member discussion ensued, with Commissioners applauding Mr. Kilgore and the team for their hard work.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEM GARDNER AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM LAMB TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-05 AND ADOPT THE CVCC ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 14 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Gary Gardner	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Donna Griffith	Aye
Councilmember Elaine Holmes	Absent
Mayor Linda Evans	Aye
Vice President Nancy Wright	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Kelly	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Supervisor Chuck Washington	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Director Russ Martin	Aye

**B. Contract with the University of California Riverside, Center for
Conservation Biology to Implement Biological Monitoring – Tony Quiroz**

Tony Quiroz provided the staff report.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER KITE AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM GARDNER TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA RIVERSIDE'S CENTER FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY TO IMPLEMENT BIOLOGICAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023 AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$249,592.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 14 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Gary Gardner	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye

Mayor Pro Tem Donna Griffith	Aye
Councilmember Elaine Holmes	Absent
Mayor Linda Evans	Aye
Vice President Nancy Wright	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Kelly	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Supervisor Chuck Washington	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Director Russ Martin	Aye

C. Acquisition of three parcels in the Edom Hill, Thousand Palms and Desert Tortoise Linkage Conservation Areas – Jim Karpiak

Peter Satin provided the staff report for Jim Karpiak of the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR HERNANDEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MILLER TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-06 FOR ACQUISITION OF THREE PARCELS CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 64.86+/- ACRES IN THE EDM HILL, THOUSAND PALMS AND DESERT TORTOISE LINKAGE CONSERVATION AREAS AT A COMBINED COST NOT TO EXCEED \$754,540, PLUS CLOSING AND TRANSACTION RELATED COSTS NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000, AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY CONTRACTS AND TAKE SUCH OTHER ACTIONS AS NECESSARY FOR THE ACQUISITIONS

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 14 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Gary Gardner	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Donna Griffith	Aye
Councilmember Elaine Holmes	Absent
Mayor Linda Evans	Aye
Vice President Nancy Wright	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Kelly	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Supervisor Chuck Washington	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Director Russ Martin	Aye

D. Maintenance Contract with Desert Recreation District – Kathleen Brundige

Kathleen Brundige provided the staff report. Member discussion ensued, including a discussion of the limited options in the desert to secure such maintenance and cleanup services.

IT WAS MOVED BY SUPERVISOR PEREZ AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM GRIFFITH TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DESERT RECREATION DISTRICT FOR NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$95,000 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE AND CLEANUP SERVICES ON CONSERVATION PROPERTIES, INCLUDING FENCES, GATES, BOULDERS AND SIGNS; AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND/ OR LEGAL COUNSEL TO MAKE MINOR MODIFICATIONS PRIOR TO CONTRACT EXECUTION

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 14 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.

Mayor Pro Tem Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Gary Gardner	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Donna Griffith	Aye
Councilmember Elaine Holmes	Absent
Mayor Linda Evans	Aye
Vice President Nancy Wright	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Kelly	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Supervisor Chuck Washington	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Director Russ Martin	Aye

8. INFORMATION - The following items were provided in the agenda for information only:

- A. Attendance Record**
- B. Contracts under \$25,000**
- C. 2021 Annual Report for the In-Lieu Program**

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Meetings:

The next meeting of the **Coachella Valley Conservation Commission** will be held on Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom webinar.

The next meeting of the **CVAG General Assembly** will be on Monday, June 27, 2022, at 6 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

It was suggested the next meeting be rescheduled for September 15, 2022, due to a scheduling conflict with the League of California Cities' Annual Conference.

11. ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned by Chair Evans at 11:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson
Executive Assistant/ Clerk