

ITEM 6A

**Energy & Sustainability Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2024**



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 Vice Chair Linda Evans, City of La Quinta, at 12:00 p.m. at the CVAG Conference Room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, in the City of Palm Desert. Zoom 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

Vice Chair Candace Patencio Anderson*
Mayor Joseph DeConinck
Mayor Pro Tem Nancy Ross
Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Virgen*
Director Anthony Bianco
Councilmember Russell Betts
Director JB Hamby
Councilmember Donna Griffith
Councilmember Oscar Ortiz, *Chair***
Mayor Linda Evans, *Vice Chair*
Councilmember Gina Nestande
Mayor Pro Tem Ted Weill
Deputy Chief of Staff Pat Cooper

Agency

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
City of Blythe (via Zoom)
City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
Coachella Valley Water District
City of Desert Hot Springs
Imperial Irrigation District
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Rancho Mirage
Riverside County – District 4

Members/ Ex-Officios Not Present

Director Amber Duff
Secretary Altrena Santillanes
Mayor Pro Tem Ron deHarte
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez

Mission Springs Water District
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
City of Palm Springs
Riverside County – District 5

* Members arrived at Item 5

** Councilmember Ortiz remotely participated in accordance with AB 2449

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Ted Weill led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER / DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Executive Director Tom Kirk updated the committee regarding two upcoming funding opportunities for extreme heat, climate resiliency and adaptation.

Councilmember Russell Betts expressed his concerns to the committee regarding the ongoing graffiti issues along the Interstate 10 corridor and the need to address the growing

problem. Mr. Kirk acknowledged conversations through CVAG’s Transportation Committee and said he would follow up with Councilmember Betts.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approve February 8, 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes**
- B. Approve Amendment Six to the AB 2766 Memorandum of Understanding between CVAG and the member jurisdiction to maintain the contributions at 75% for the Regional PM 10 Street Sweeping Program, through June 30, 2026**

IT WAS MOVED BY DIRECTOR HAMBY AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM ROSS TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.

Vice Chair Patencio Anderson	Aye
Mayor DeConinck	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Ross	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Virgen	Aye
Director Bianco	Aye
Councilmember Betts	Aye
Director Hamby	Aye
Councilmember Griffith	Aye
Councilmember Ortiz	Aye
Mayor Evans	Aye
Director Duff	Absent
Councilmember Nestande	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem deHarte	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Weill	Aye
Deputy Chief Cooper	Aye
Secretary Santillanes	Absent

7. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Presentation: Lithium Extraction at the Salton Sea

Bari Bean, Imperial County Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Natural Resources, joined via Zoom and provided a report to the committee.

Member discussion ensued with Ms. Bean answering questions from the committee.

No vote was taken as this was an informational item.

B. Update on the Coachella Valley Energy Commission

Program Manager Emmanuel Martinez presented the staff report.

Mr. Martinez announced the next strategic planning meeting will be held on May 9 at the CVAG conference room in Palm Desert and provided an update on AB 3198. Brief member discussion ensued with Mr. Martinez answering questions from the committee.

No vote was taken as this was an informational item.

C. Update on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Application and the Region's Priority Climate Action Plan

Program Manager Jacob Alvarez presented the staff report. Member discussion ensued with Mr. Alvarez answering questions from the committee regarding the grant.

No vote was taken as this was an informational item.

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

A. Attendance Record

B. Update on Distributed Energy Resources & Microgrids

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the **Energy & Sustainability Committee** will be held on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at noon at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, April 29, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260

11. ADJOURN

Chair Ortiz adjourned the meeting at 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elysia Regalado, Management Analyst