

ITEM 6A

Energy & Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes May 9, 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 Chair Oscar Ortiz, City of Indio, at 12:12 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 Dana Reed (*alternate*)
Councilmember Oscar Ortiz, *Chair*
Mayor Linda Evans, *Vice Chair*
Councilmember Gina Nestande
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
Riverside County – District 4

Members/ Ex-Officios Not Present

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

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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Executive Director Tom Kirk led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER / DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Mr. Kirk updated the Committee members regarding their request for an Imperial County/ lithium valley tour. He announced the tour will likely occur in the fall to avoid the summer heat.

Mr. Kirk also provided an update on CVAG's efforts to secure additional grant funding, including the recently completed application for an extreme heat grant.

Chair Ortiz requested CVAG put together a community perspective presentation on lithium valley for the Energy & Sustainability Committee or inviting community advocates on the item to speak during the tour.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approve April 11, 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes

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

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 12 AYES AND 4 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 Reed	Aye
Councilmember Ortiz	Aye
Mayor Evans	Aye
Director Duff	Absent
Councilmember Nestande	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem deHarte	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Weill	Absent
Deputy Chief Cooper	Aye
Secretary Santillanes	Absent

7. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Continued Coordination with South Coast Air Quality Management District

Program Manager Emmanuel Martinez presented the staff report and an update on the ongoing discussions with AQMD. Member discussion ensued.

No vote was taken as this was an informational item.

B. Dust Mitigation Efforts at the Salton Sea

Jessica Humes, Imperial Irrigation District's Senior Environmental Project Manager joined the committee via Zoom and provided a presentation on the topic.

A brief member discussion ensued regarding presented information.

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. Inland Regional Energy Network's 2023 Annual Report

C. Update from Imperial Irrigation District on the Coachella Valley Energy Resilience Initiative

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the **Energy & Sustainability Committee** will be held on Thursday, June 13, 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, June 3, 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 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elysia Regalado, Management Analyst