

Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District  
USDA Service Center  
81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. A  
Indio, CA 92201

Meeting Minutes  
August 16, 2023  
8:00 AM

Directors Present: President Ruben Arias; Vice-President Blaine Carian; Director Don Ackley;  
Director Juan De Lara; Director Celeste Alonzo

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: District Manager Yvonne Franco; Irrigation Specialist Carlos Velazquez;  
Administrative Assistant Valerie Velazquez

Members of the Public: Desert Healthcare Chief of Community Engagement Alejandro  
Espinoza and Desert Healthcare Chief Executive Officer Conrado Barzaga

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Ruben Arias at 8:08 AM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Ruben Arias led us in pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR:

5-1: Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 2023

5-2: Approval of Meeting Minutes – July 2023

5-3: Approval of Financial Report – June 2023

5-3: Approval of Financial Report – July 2023

**Director Juan provided the motion to approve the agenda. Vice-President Carian provided the second. The motion was approved 5-0.**

<b>Arias</b>	Aye	<b>Carian</b>	Aye
<b>Ackley</b>	Aye	<b>De Lara</b>	Aye

Alonzo	Aye	
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6. CORRESPONDANCE

Nothing to report.

7. REPORTS

7-1: NRCS Report – No new reports from NRCS.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

- 8-1: Rental
- 8-2: LAIF
- 8-3: California Class
- 8-4: CSDA Election

9. BOARD ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

9-1: Discuss the possible contribution of \$175,000 to Desert Healthcare District to assist in the purchase of a medical trailer and vehicle.

**Director De Lara provided the motion to approve the Agreement for the contribution of \$140,000 to Desert Healthcare District to assist in the purchase of a medical trailer and vehicle. Director Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 5-0.**

Arias	Aye	Carian	Aye
Ackley	Aye	De Lara	Aye
Alonzo	Aye		

9-2: Consideration of a NRCS request to assist with irrigation evaluations in Imperial County.

**Director De Lara provided the motion to approve the trail basis of assisting with irrigation evaluations in Imperial County. Vice-President Carian provided the second. The motion was approved 5-0.**

Arias	Aye	Carian	Aye
Ackley	Aye	De Lara	Aye
Alonzo	Aye		

9-3: California Association of Resource Conservation Districts annual memberships fees.

**Director De Lara provided the motion to approve the recommendation of \$1,800 for membership fee for CARCD. Director Alonzo provided the second. The motion was approved 5-0.**

<b>Arias</b>	Aye	<b>Carian</b>	Aye
<b>Ackley</b>	Aye	<b>De Lara</b>	Aye
<b>Alonzo</b>	Aye		

9-4: Consideration to approve an Employment Agreement for the District Manager.

**Director De Lara provided the motion to approve the Employment Agreement for the District Manager and making changes to 3 months on Section D of agreement. Vice-President Carian provided the second. The motion was approved 5-0.**

<b>Arias</b>	Aye	<b>Carian</b>	Aye
<b>Ackley</b>	Aye	<b>De Lara</b>	Aye
<b>Alonzo</b>	Aye		

10. Discussion for the Good of the District/Items for Future board Consideration

Director Ackley wants to discuss Carlos' wage and benefits in next meeting.

11. District General Counsel Report and Announcements

Nothing to report.

12. Closed Session

There were no closed session items.

13. Date and location of Next District Regular Board Meeting

Date: September 20, 2023

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14. ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 AM.

Approved this 20th day of September 2023

  
Yvonne Franco, District Manager / Secretary