

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

Meeting Minutes  
June 26, 2024  
8:00 AM

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

Directors Absent: Director Celeste Alonzo

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

Members of the Public: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Ruben Arias at 8:03AM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Ruben Arias led us in the pledge of allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

**Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the consent calendar.  
Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.**

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

V. CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

None.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Minutes for May 2024
- B. Receive and File Financials for May 2024

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

**Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the consent calendar. Vice-President Blaine Carian provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.**

VII. REPORTS

A. NRCS Report – None.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS –

- A. Update: PRA Request to AQMD and cities – This is ongoing and we’re still waiting for cities to respond to the request.
- B. Update: CARCD Board election update – There’s no update, there hasn’t been update by the Association.
- C. Update: Palm Desert Property Improvements – The recently vacated building on Panorama needs some plumbing related repairs. The Highway 111 building recently required AC maintenance.
- D. CSDA 2024 Annual Conference, Indian Wells, September 9-12, 2024 – Vice President Carian asked to be registered for the event.
- E. Local Working Group, scheduled for July 10, 2024 – The meeting is scheduled to take place at the Coachella Corporate Yard.
- F. Update: Palm Desert Leases – The Panorama Tenant has almost moved everything out of the building. All agreements have been signed.
- G. Southern Baja Regional Meeting set for July 31, 2024, Upper San Luis Rey RCD – There is a conflict with a CARCD Board meeting, and the regional meeting will need to be rescheduled.
- H. Food safety training workshop provided by UC Cooperative Extension – UCCE Small Farms and Specialty Crops Advisor expressed interest in holding a workshop in this area.
- I. Tire collection event – Indio Hills Community Center, November 2, 2024 – The event has been approved and will be included in their newsletter.
- J. Tractor Tire Collection Event – The event is still planned and will most likely be scheduled towards the end of the year.
- K. Fiscal Year End Recap: Tire collection events – Almost 32 tons of tires were collected in the three events that were held in fiscal year 23/24.
- L. Future Code Updates – Conflict of Interest and Records Retention Schedule – Amendments to both codes will be presented to the Board at the next Board meeting in August.
- M. Valley Sanitary Field Trip - General Manager Jason Dafforn offered to provide tours to the Board of Directors and staff.

- N. California Association of Resource Conservation Districts(CARCD) Conference December 10-12, 2024, Sacramento, CA – President Arias and Director De Lara expressed interest in attending.
- O. Irrigation Show and Education Week, November 4-7, 2024, Long Beach, CA – Irrigation Specialist Carlos Velazquez has registered to attend the event.
- P. School Gardens – meeting with Brad Hardison UCCE Master Gardener – The district manager met with Mr. Hardison to discuss potential school garden locations.

IX. BOARD ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Consideration of an Agreement for Consultant Services between Complete Paperless Solutions, LLC and the District for Laserfiche Document Management.

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

**Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the Agreement for Consultant Services between Complete Paperless Solutions, LLC and the District for Laserfiche Document Management. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.**

- B. Tree maintenance handouts prepared by the UCCE Master Gardeners.

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

**Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the Tree maintenance handouts prepared by the UCCE Master Gardeners. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.**

- C. CSDA Board of Directors, Southern Network SEAT A

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

**Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the CSDA Board of Directors, Southern Network SEAT A. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.**

- D. Discuss upcoming changes to the district’s website cost increase due to a Department of Justice ruling on ADA accessibility.

**No motion.**

- E. Discuss possible sponsorship of three Trees for Tomorrow events in the Eastern Coachella Valley, not to exceed \$6,000 for Fiscal Year 24/25

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

**Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the sponsorship of three Trees for Tomorrow events in the Eastern Coachella Valley, not to exceed \$6,000 for Fiscal Year 24/25. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved 4-0.**

- X. DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
Nothing to report.

XI. DISTRICT ITEMS FOR THE FUTURE BOARD CONSIDERATION

- A. Collaborate with NRCS to create a program for local farmers and partner with CVWD
- B. Collaborate with future Salton Sea Tours
- C. Collaborate with Coachella Ag

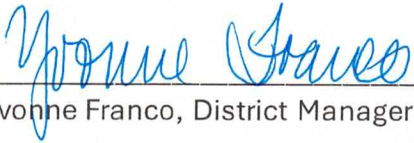
- XII. CLOSED SESSION  
None.

XIII. DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Date: August 21, 2024  
 USDA Indio Service Center  
 81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. A  
 Indio, CA 92201

- XIV. ADJOURN MEETING  
Meeting adjourned at 9:27 AM.

Approved this 21st day of August 2024



Yvonne Franco, District Manager / Secretary