

# Minutes of the Coachella Valley Conservation District Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 19th at 8:00 AM  
81077 Indio Blvd, STE A  
Indio, CA 92201

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

Directors Absent: President Ruben Arias

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

Members of the Public: NRCS District Conservationist Tomas Aguilar-Campos

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Blaine Carian at 8:02 AM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Juan De Lara led us in pledge of allegiance

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

District Manager Yvonne Franco pointed out that there are two errors on the agenda, 1) the financial information for the month of September was not completed and therefore not included in the packet, 2) the date of next month's meeting is correct. Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the September 2022 Minutes. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.

|        |        |         |     |
|--------|--------|---------|-----|
| Arias  | Absent | Carian  | Aye |
| Ackley | Aye    | De Lara | Aye |
| Alonzo | Aye    |         |     |

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input. No members of the public were present.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Director Juan De Lara provided the motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Celeste Alonzo provided the second. The consent calendar was approved unanimously, 4-0.

|        |        |         |     |
|--------|--------|---------|-----|
| Arias  | Absent | Carian  | Aye |
| Ackley | Aye    | De Lara | Aye |
| Alonzo | Aye    |         |     |

6. CORRESPONDANCE

No correspondence was received.

7. REPORTS

7-1: Staff Reports

Resolution 2022-03 to be re-numbered to 2022-04. Resolution No. 2022-03 was incorrectly numbered when adopted.

7-2: NRCS Report

District Conservationist Tomas Aguilar-Campos provided an update on NRCS operations and information on the Latino Farmer Conference taking place in Escondido California on November 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. Confirmation of attendees is pending.

Vice-President Carian mentioned that it would be a good idea for the District to provide transportation for Coachella Valley farmers interested in attending the conference. A motion was made to sponsor a charter bus for no more than \$2,500 to provide transportation. Motion passed 4-0.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

**8-1: Rental Property** – Juan De Lara agreed to accompany the District Manager on a walk-through of the vacant property in Palm Desert located at 74-271 Highway 111, Palm Desert, California.

**8-2: Desert Healthcare District** – No update from Desert Healthcare District, Alejandro Espinoza.

**8-3: CARCD Conference** – The conference will take place Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Director Don Ackley cannot attend. Director Juan De Lara volunteer to take his place.

9. BOARD ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

**9-1: Cameras**

**Director De Lara provided motion to approve the increase of additional \$500 dollars for camera expenses. Director Celeste Alonzo provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

|        |        |         |     |
|--------|--------|---------|-----|
| Arias  | Absent | Carian  | Aye |
| Ackley | Aye    | De Lara | Aye |
| Alonzo | Aye    |         |     |

**10. DISCUSSION FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT/ ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD CONSIDERATION**

**Director Juan De Lara provided motion to approve the use of the funds from the Agricultural Enhancement Program to fund clean-up program. Director Celeste Alonzo provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.**

|        |        |         |     |
|--------|--------|---------|-----|
| Arias  | Absent | Carian  | Aye |
| Ackley | Aye    | De Lara | Aye |
| Alonzo | Aye    |         |     |

**11. DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**No reports/announcements.**

**12. Closed Session**

**No closed session**

**13. Date and location of Next District Regular Board Meeting**

**Date: November 16, 2022**

**USDA Indio Service Center  
81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. A  
Indio, CA 92201**

**14. ADJOURN MEETING**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:01 AM**

Approved this 16th day of November 2022



**Yvonne Franco, District Manager / Secretary**