

# Minutes of the Coachella Valley Conservation District Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 21st at 8:00 AM  
81077 Indio Blvd, STE A  
Indio, CA 92201

Directors Present: President Ruben Arias; Director Don Ackley; Director Juan De Lara; Director Celeste Alonzo

Directors Absent: Vice-President Blaine Carian

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

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Ruben Arias at 8:05 AM.

## 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Ruben Arias led us in pledge of allegiance.

## 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Ruben Arias provided the motion to approve the November 2022 Minutes. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.

Arias	Aye	Carian	Absent
Ackley	Aye	De Lara	Aye
Alonzo	Aye		

## 4. PUBLIC INPUT:

There was no public input.

## 5. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Director Juan DeLara provided the motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Don Ackley provided the second. The consent calendar was approved unanimously, 4-0.

Arias	Aye	Carian	Absent
Ackley	Aye	De Lara	Aye
Alonzo	Aye		

- 5-1: Approval of Meeting Minutes – November 2022
- 5-2: Approval of Financial Report – November 2022

6. CORRESPONDANCE:

None

7. REPORTS:

7-1: NRCS Report – Tomas provided update on NRCS operations.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS:

8-1: Rental Property Update – The District is working John Marshall from Baxley Properties. The Directors requested to see a copy of the agreement.

8-2: Desert Healthcare District Event – Don provided photos and details of event.

8-3: CARCD Conference – Director Arias and De Lara, and the district manager attended the conference.

8-4: CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Land Grant – The resolution to has been uploaded and staff will need to find properties to be part of the clean-up.

8-5: Irrigation Conference – Carlos provided an update on conference in Las Vegas.

President Arias requested information on the Latino Conference. An update was provided by District Conservationist Tomas Aguilar-Campos

9. BOARD ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

9-1: Discuss the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), the California Association of Resource Conservation District (CARCD), the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) / Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS).

District Manager provided an update on the MOA. District Conservationist Tomas Aguilar-Campos provided background on the MOA. The MOA will not have a fiscal impact on the District. There was no motion.

9-2: Consideration of the construction proposal from Pro-Landscape for the Preschool Learning Garden

Director De Lara provided the motion to approve the agreement. Director Ackley provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 4-0.

Arias	Aye	Carian	Absent
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 suggestions on stem reports.

Director Juan De Lara requested dates on workshop and suggested Wednesday (Board Meeting days) is a better option.

11. DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no general counsel reports for this month's meeting.

12. Closed Session

There were no closed sessions items for this month's meeting.

13. Date and location of Next District Regular Board Meeting

Date: January 18, 2022

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

14. ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 AM.

Approved this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023

  
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Yvonne Franco, District Manager / Secretary