

# Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District

## Minutes of Meeting

June 12, 2019  
8:00 AM

### Meeting Location

Agricultural Commissioner's Office  
81077 Indio Blvd., Ste. K  
Indio, CA 92201

#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

*Present: President Bob Wright, Vice President Don Ackley; and Directors Blaine Carian, Jim Schmid*

*Absent: Director Ruben Arias*

#### 2. Opening Comments: No opening comments

#### 3. Approval of Minutes:

District Manager announced that the Minutes hadn't been prepared.

#### 4. Public Comments on Matters not listed on the agenda:

No public comment

#### 5. Financial Report

District Manager asked if the Board had any questions. Vice-President Ackley noted that the CVRCD had received a sizeable amount in property taxes; the District Manager concurred.

Director Carian inquired if the County can take some of the CVRCD's funds. Vice-President Ackley suggested that the District Manager reach out to Shelli Lamb at the Riverside Corona Resource Conservation District.

Director Schmid asked why the CVRCD owns property. The District Manager provided a brief historical background on the purchase: it was purchased in 2014, and based on records it was going to an educational center, she wasn't sure. However, those plans didn't pan out. By October the new Board decided to lease it out. The CVRCD also owned a property in Indio on Bliss, which was primarily leased out to the USDA, and the date and grape committees.

Director Carian asked about the equity on the Palm Desert building. District Manager informed the Board that the building is paid for, the CVRCD owns the building.

#### 6. Staff Reports and Updates

##### A. District Manager Reports and Updates

##### I. Operations

##### a. Audit Report update

The audit report is coming along,

##### b. Rental property update

For the rental property, there was a concern on a color change to the front of the property. The District Manager believes that it isn't CVRCD property. There were some repairs done to the building on Panorama. There still needs to be more, such as the rain gutter on the west end of the building, ensuring that the rain flows away from the building.

c. Irrigation Evaluation Program

Some of the forms have been completed for the program. Vice-President Ackley provided input on the form for the agricultural evaluations, he has concerns on the sections that mention photographs taken of the farms. He feels that that there may be some privacy issues. He recommends that the section should be modified or deleted. Irrigation Specialist Carlos Velazquez mentioned that sometimes pictures are taken to complete the evaluation report.

Director Carian mentioned that there was an article in the Desert Sun, in which pictures were taken of a farm, however there were no identifying labels shown on the photographs.

At this time, President Wright returned the discussion to item b, and asked about the flooding. He'd like for the repairs to be done soon.

District Manager then discussed the cooperative agreement for the urban evaluations, and mentioned that a section was added that the CVRCD would not be responsible for enforcing conditions of approval, or environmental measures for the site.

Vice President Ackley suggested that there are forms already available.

Director Carian provided a summary of the work that he's been doing and mentioned that some of the work completed on an adjacent project probably had good distribution uniformity but at the cost of using a lot of electricity. There was discussion about the lack of training.

d. Riverside Corona RCD

District Manager mentioned that the RCRCF folks were in this area and conducted to evaluations, Irrigation Specialist Carlos Velazquez assisted. She also provided an update on the funding. She mentioned that RCRCF doesn't get many requests for evaluations.

The District Manager reached out to the District Manager for Mission RCD and they would be fine have our Irrigation Specialist shadow them while they conduct evaluation in the common areas.

## II. Partnership Projects: Updates / Possibilities

### a. UC Regents and CVRCD Agreement

The District Manager is still working on a list of names for the steering committee. So far, there are three people: Vice President Don Ackley, Carmen Gispert from the UCCE, and Angela Johnson from CVWD. The District Manager did reach out to Janell Percy and sent her the Scope of Work

### b. Inland Empire Resource Conservation District Agreement

A meeting was held between the IERCD and the CVRCD staff. The IERCD is interested in having Carlos help them with some irrigation related projects, specifically with strawberry growers. The IERCD is excited to be able to start this project because they don't have the staff to follow through with irrigation related visits for their area.

c. Meeting to discuss and educational program for landscapers in the Coachella Valley- Staff provided an update that was held with the Katie Barrows from CVAG, and Director Carian provided information on what he'd like to see accomplished under the program.

## 7. Action Items

- A. Discussion and Possible Approval of Resolution 2019-03 of the Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District Amending the Investment Policy in the District Policy Manual Pursuant to Division 9 of the Public Resources Code.

*Motion made by Director Carian to approve Resolution 2019-03. Seconded by Director Schmid. Motion passed 4-0.*

- B. Discussion and Possible Approval of Resolution 2019-04 of the Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund.

*Motion made by Director Schmid to approve Resolution 2019-04. Seconded by Director Carian. Motion passed 4-0.*

- C. Discussion and possible approval of Fiscal Year Budget for 2019-20.

*Motion made by Director Schmid to approve Resolution 2019-04. Seconded by Vice-President Ackley. Motion passed 4-0.*

## 8. Discussion Items for the Good of the District:

### Summer Meeting Schedule

The Board would like to go dark for the months of July and August and call a meeting only if necessary.

## 9. Closed Session: None

## 10. District General Counsel Reports and Announcements: None.

11. **Items for Future Board Consideration:**

Vice President Don Ackley asked if there are any items, and District Manager Franco mentioned that the Resolution to change the meeting day would be brought to the next meeting for consideration.

12. **Date of Next Regular District Board Meeting**

June 12, 2019

13. **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 am.

Director Carian provided an update on a recent property that sold in Palm Desert on the 7/21/2017, 1.6 million 73-740 El Paseo. The District Manager mentioned that she's had conversation with two people who would be interested in purchasing the property.

He also suggested that perhaps the CVRCD would look into reservoir testing

Approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October 2019



Yvonne Franco, District Manager/Secretary