

Coachella Valley Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2020



The audio file for this committee can be found at: <http://www.cvag.org/audio.htm>

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Chair Evans at 11:02 am at 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, California.

2. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Members Present

Councilmember Rita Lamb
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair
Councilmember Gary Gardner
Councilmember Ted Mertens
Mayor Pro Tem Elaine Holmes
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber
Councilmember Dennis Woods
Councilmember Richard W. Kite
Councilmember Glenn Miller
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt
Board Member Anthony Bianco
Director Alex Cardenas
Director Nancy Wright

Agency

City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
Riverside County – District 1, Alternate
Riverside County – District 2, Alternate
Riverside County – District 4
Riverside County – District 5
Coachella Valley Water District
Imperial Irrigation District
Mission Springs Water District

Members Not Present

Councilmember Jan Harnik

Riverside County – District 3, Alternate

Others Present

Tom Kirk	CVCC
Katie Barrows	CVCC
Jim Sullivan	CVCC
Kathleen Brundige	CVCC
Gary Leong	CVAG
Erica Felci	CVAG
Oscar Vizcarra	CVAG
Jim Karpiak	CVMC
Randy Bynder	Bighorn Institute
Tim McKeon	American Fence Company
Ryan Domino	Auditor

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Led by Supervisor Perez.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- Randy Bynder, Bighorn Institute, addressed the Commission in support of Item 7E.

5. COMMISSION CHAIR / DIRECTOR COMMENTS - Tom Kirk proposed that CVCC schedule time for a tour of the conservation area near the Salton Sea during the April 9th meeting. Chair Evans requested that the tour also stop at the La Quinta bighorn sheep fence site. The CVCC meeting would be moved to 8am on April 9th to accommodate the tour immediately after. Members will return by noon.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER KITE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GARDNER TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

A. Approve the November 14, 2019 CVCC Meeting Minutes

B. Accept Local Development Mitigation Fee Annual and Five-Year Report for FY18/19 in Fulfillment of the Reporting Requirements of the Mitigation Fee Act

ITEM 6A WAS APPROVED WITH 15 AYES, 1 ABSTENTION, and 1 ABSENT.

ITEM 6B WAS APPROVED WITH 16 AYES, and 1 ABSENT.

Councilmember Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye
Councilmember Gary Gardner	Aye
Councilmember Ted Mertens	Aye (Abstained from 6A)
Mayor Pro Tem Elaine Holmes	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Director Nancy Wright	Aye

7. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Audited Financial Report, Single Audit Report on Federal Awards, and Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS) 114 Letter for Fiscal Year 2018/19.

-Motion to amend the recommendation to add conditional Councilmember Gardner to the Finance Committee.

IT WAS MOVED BY SUPERVISOR HEWITT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MERTENS TO (1) RECEIVE AND FILE THE AUDITED REPORTS FOR FY18/19 AND (2) TO ACCEPT COUNCILMEMBER GARDNER AS A CONDITIONAL MEMBER OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH 16 AYES, AND 1 ABSENT.

Councilmember Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye
Councilmember Gary Gardner	Aye
Councilmember Ted Mertens	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Elaine Holmes	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Director Nancy Wright	Aye

B. Consider License Agreement with Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy for the Long Canyon Trail Improvement Project

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GARDNER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER KITE TO APPROVE (1) APPROVE THE LONG CANYON TRAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AS CONSISTENT WITH THE COACHELLA VALLEY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN; AND (2) APPROVE USE OF CVCC LAND FOR A TRAILHEAD FOR LONG CANYON TRAIL.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH 16 AYES, AND 1 ABSENT.

Councilmember Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye
Councilmember Gary Gardner	Aye
Councilmember Ted Mertens	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Elaine Holmes	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Aye

Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Director Nancy Wright	Aye

C. Acquisition of 1 Parcel Totaling Approximately 2.0 Acres in the Thousand Palms Conservation Area

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR HERNANDEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FITZPATRICK TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 20-001 AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF 1 PARCEL TOTALING APPROXIMATELY 2.0 ACRES IN THE THOUSAND PALMS CONSERVATION AREA AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$13,000 PLUS CLOSING COSTS NOT TO EXCEED \$3,800; AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY CONTRACTS AND TAKE SUCH OTHER ACTIONS AS NECESSARY FOR THE ACQUISITION.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 16 AYES, AND 1 ABSENT.

Councilmember Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye
Councilmember Gary Gardner	Aye
Councilmember Ted Mertens	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Elaine Holmes	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Director Nancy Wright	Aye

D. Acquisition of 1 Parcel Totaling Approximately 5.0 Acres in the Willow Hole Conservation Area

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GARDNER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HOLMES TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 20-002 AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF 1 PARCEL TOTALING APPROXIMATELY 5.0 ACRES IN THE WILLOW HOLE CONSERVATION AREA AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000 PLUS CLOSING AND TRANSACTION RELATED COSTS NOT TO EXCEED \$3,500; AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY CONTRACTS AND TAKE SUCH OTHER ACTIONS AS NECESSARY FOR THE ACQUISITION.

Councilmember Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye

Councilmember Gary Gardner	Aye
Councilmember Ted Mertens	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Elaine Holmes	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Director Nancy Wright	Aye

E. Contract for Installation of La Quinta Bighorn Sheep Fence

IT WAS MOVED BY SUPERVISOR PEREZ AND SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR HEWITT TO (1) REJECT THE BID RECEIVED FROM ROBERT ROBLES, INC. AS NON-RESPONSIVE, AWARD AND APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN FENCE CO., INC. AS THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE BIDDER; AND (2) AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,091,656.58, FOR A CONTRACT TERM FROM FEBRUARY 2020 TO DECEMBER 31, 2021, WITH THE CONDITION THAT ACTUAL FENCE CONSTRUCTION WILL NOT PROCEED UNTIL FUNDING FROM PGA WEST AND RELATED ENTITIES IS CONFIRMED, OR WITH SUBSEQUENT APPROVAL BY THE CVCC BOARD.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 16 AYES, AND 1 ABSENT.

Councilmember Rita Lamb	Aye
Mayor Steven Hernandez, Vice Chair	Aye
Councilmember Gary Gardner	Aye
Councilmember Ted Mertens	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Elaine Holmes	Aye
Mayor Linda Evans, Chair	Aye
Councilmember Susan Marie Weber	Aye
Councilmember Dennis Woods	Aye
Councilmember Richard W. Kite	Aye
Councilmember Glenn Miller	Aye
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jan Harnik	Absent
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Aye
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt	Aye
Board Member Anthony Bianco	Aye
Director Alex Cardenas	Aye
Director Nancy Wright	Aye

8. INFORMATION - The following items were provided for information only:

A. CVCC Attendance Record

B. Contracts Under \$25,000

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS- None

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Coachella Valley Conservation Commission, April 9, 2020 at 8 am

11. ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Brundige