

**Energy and Environmental Resources Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 14, 2021**



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

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Linda Evans, City of La Quinta, at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom, pursuant to Gov. Newsom’s executive order governing how public meetings are held during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  
2. **ROLL CALL** – Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

**Members Present**

Councilmember Joey DeConinck  
 Councilmember Nancy Ross  
 Councilmember Russell Betts  
 Councilmember Donna Griffith  
 Councilmember Oscar Ortiz, Vice Chair  
 Mayor Linda Evans, Chair  
 Councilmember Gina Nestande  
 Councilmember Dennis Woods  
 Councilmember Charles Townsend  
 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez  
 Director Alex Cardenas  
 President Nancy Wright

**Agency**

City of Blythe  
 City of Cathedral City  
 City of Desert Hot Springs  
 City of Indian Wells  
 City of Indio  
 City of La Quinta  
 City of Palm Desert, *arrived during Item 6A*  
 City of Palm Springs  
 City of Rancho Mirage, *arrived during Item 6A*  
 Riverside County – District 4, *left during Item 6B*  
 Imperial Irrigation District  
 Mission Springs Water District

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

Supervisor Jeff Hewitt    Riverside County – District 5

**Others Present**

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Tom Kirk          | CVAG  |
| Katie Barrows     | CVAG  |
| Benjamin Druyon   | CVAG  |
| Trisha Stull      | CVAG  |
| Erica Felci       | CVAG  |
| Joanna Stueckle   | CVAG  |
| Claude Kilgore    | CVAG  |
| Kathleen Brundige | CVAG  |
| Peter Satin       | CVAG  |
| Oscar Vizcarra    | CVAG  |
| Tory Brewster     | CivicSpark Fellow                           |
| Doug Kollmyer     | UCR   |
| Rosibel Ochoa     | UCR   |
| Zorik Pirveysian  | South Coast Air Quality Management District |
| Pat Cooper        | Riverside County – District 4               |
| Deborah McGarry   | Southern California Gas Co.                 |
| Jennifer Cusack   | Southern California Edison                  |
| Todd Warden       | South Coast Air Quality Management District |
| Trish Rhay        | Indio Water Authority                       |
| Emmanuel Martinez | Imperial Irrigation District                |

**Members & Ex-Officios Not Present**

|                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Councilmember Neftali Galarza | City of Coachella               |
| Board Member Anthony Bianco   | Coachella Valley Water District |
| Board Member Patricia Oygur   | Desert Water Agency             |

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Deborah McGarry, of Southern California Gas Company, commented on Item 6D and shared an update on SoCal Gas' current and upcoming projects.

**4. COMMITTEE MEMBER / DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

Councilmember Ortiz provided an update on environmental discussions at the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) committee meetings.

Councilmember Betts said he was glad to be back on CVAG's Energy and Environmental Resources Committee.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Approve September 10, 2020 Committee Meeting Minutes**

**IT WAS MOVED BY SUPERVISOR PEREZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ORTIZ TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 8 AYES, 2 ABSTAINS AND 4 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

|                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Councilmember Joey DeConinck   | <b>Aye</b>     |
| Councilmember Nancy Ross       | <b>Aye</b>     |
| Councilmember Neftali Galarza  | <b>Absent</b>  |
| Councilmember Russell Betts    | <b>Abstain</b> |
| Councilmember Donna Griffith   | <b>Aye</b>     |
| Councilmember Oscar Ortiz      | <b>Aye</b>     |
| Mayor Linda Evans              | <b>Aye</b>     |
| Councilmember Gina Nestande    | <b>Absent</b>  |
| Councilmember Dennis Woods     | <b>Aye</b>     |
| Councilmember Charles Townsend | <b>Absent</b>  |
| Supervisor V. Manuel Perez     | <b>Aye</b>     |
| Board Member Anthony Bianco    | <b>Absent</b>  |
| Director Alex Cardenas         | <b>Aye</b>     |
| President Nancy Wright         | <b>Abstain</b> |

**6. DISCUSSION / ACTION**

**A. Presentation on the Southern California Energy Innovation Network (SCEIN) and OASIS programs**

Rosibel Ochoa, from UCR, gave a presentation on UCR's OASIS program which is a sustainability innovation hub. Doug Kollmyer, from UCR, gave a presentation on the Southern California Energy Innovation Network and its current opportunities. Member discussion ensued.

There was no action taken as this was an informational item.

**B. South Coast Air Quality Management District: Coachella Valley Ozone Plan**

Zorik Pirveysian, of SCAQMD, gave an update on the current attainment status and ozone plan for the Coachella Valley. Member discussion ensued.

There was no action taken as this was an informational item.

**C. Introduction of CiviSpark Fellow**

Katie Barrows introduced the CivicSpark Fellow working with CVAG, Tory Brewster. Ms. Brewster previewed the projects she will be working on during her fellowship.

There was no action taken as this was an informational item.

**D. Semi-Annual Review of Committee Goals and Objectives for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Katie Barrows introduced the staff report reviewing the Committee's goals and objectives for 2020-2021. Member discussion ensued.

There was no action taken.

**7. INFORMATION** – The following item was provided in the agenda for information only:

**A. Attendance Record**

**B. Resolution of Support for UC Riverside Solar Valley Consortium**

**C. Regional Energy Network Update**

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next scheduled meeting via Zoom:

- Energy & Environmental Resources Committee – February 11, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.
- Executive Committee – The next meeting is expected to be held on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. CVAG staff does not anticipate holding a meeting in January 2021.

**10. ADJOURN** – Chair Evans adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Trisha Stull*