



Ventura County Special Districts Association

*Approved
Minutes*

VCSDA MEETING MINUTES

Approved: _____
Date: _____
Motion: _____
Second: _____

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

VENTURA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS

MEMBERS

Bell Canyon Community Services
Calleguas Municipal Water
Camarillo Health Care
Camrosa Water
Casitas Municipal Water
Channel Islands Beach Community Services
Conejo Recreation & Park
Hidden Valley Municipal Water
Ojai Valley Sanitary
Oxnard Harbor
Pleasant Valley County Water
Pleasant Valley Recreation & Parks
Rancho Simi Recreation & Parks
Saticoy Sanitary
Triunfo Water and Sanitation District
United Water Conservation
Ventura County Resource Conservation
Ventura Regional Sanitation
Ventura River Water
Ventura Port

The June 1, 2021 meeting of the Ventura County Special District Association was held via videoconference.

1. and 2. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE:

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by President Bruce Dandy, followed by everyone reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL: President Dandy

President Dandy welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members in attendance included:

Raul Avila, Scott Quady, Kristine McCaffrey and Andres Santamaria-
Calleguas Municipal Water District
Kara Ralston and Martin Daly - *Camarillo Health Care District*
Al Fox - *Camrosa Water District*
Kelley Dyer and Michael Shields, —*Casitas Municipal Water District*
Nellie Kerr Cusworth, Tom Hare, Susan Holt, George Lange and James Friedl - *Conejo Recreation and Park District*
Charlotte Holifield- *California Special District Association*
Mike Mishler—*Pleasant Valley County Water District*
Bev Dransfeldt, Mark Malloy, Elaine Magner, and Mary Otten - *Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District*
Michelle Kinnun - *Port of Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor District*
Elaine Freeman, Kathleen O'Brien and Dan Paranick - *Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District*
Janna Orkney—*Triunfo Water and Sanitation District*
Bruce Dandy and Kris Sofley – *United Water Conservation District*
Brian Brennan, Brian Pendleton and Todd Mitchell—*Ventura Port District*
Burt Rapp— *Ventura River Water District*

Members of the Public participating in the meeting included:

Alejandra Téllez, Program Manager, Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

President Dandy confirmed that a quorum was convened. Then Martin Daly, the newest member from Camarillo Health Care District, was introduced and provided a brief overview of his professional career.

4. Approval of Minutes from Board Meeting of April 6, 2021

Brian Pendleton provided corrections to the Minutes—the spelling of his last name and his District affiliation. Motion to approve the April 6, 2021 Minutes, with corrections, Brian Pendleton; Second, Brian Brennan. Voice vote: unanimous approval, none opposed, two abstained (M Daly and J Orkney).

President—Bruce Dandy
Vice President—Al Fox

Treasurer—
Secretary to the Board—Kris Sofley

5. Treasurer's Report—As there is no Treasurer at this time, and nothing has changed since the last Treasurer's Report was provided, President Dandy asked Kara Ralston to report on the potential Treasurer candidate.

6. Update from Search Committee re: Treasurer position:

Kara Ralston reported that Brian Pendleton of Ventura Port District had agreed to serve as Treasurer for the VCSDA providing that an assistant was in place to handle the basic bookkeeping. Mr. Pendleton will update financials and deliver the Treasurer's report. Ms. Ralston also said that Mr. Pendleton would bring a fresh look and independence to the position and recommended his approval.

7. Motion to approve Bookkeeping Services (\$80 per hour fee)

Ms. Ralston recommended Shalene Hayman of Hayman Consulting for the basic bookkeeping position in support of Mr. Pendleton's Treasurer role. Ms. Ralston reported that Ms. Hayman was also consulting Camarillo Heath Care District and Ojai Valley Sanitary District and was experienced in bank reconciliation, billing, finance statements, et cetera, and that once the in-person dinner meeting were reinstated, the \$80 an hour fee for Ms. Hayman's services would be money well spent. She added that Ms. Hayman had already signed an agreement with the VCSDA and once the agreement was approved and executed by President Dandy, Ms. Hayman would begin working with the VCSDA. Ms. Magner and Ms. Freeman asked questions regarding the scope of work. President Dandy asked if she would provide the relevant information needed by Brian Pendleton so that he could give the Treasurer's report and Mr. Lange said that it all sounds like a good idea. Mr. Fox requested that Ms. Hayman be instructed to only speak to or deal with Mr. Pendleton, to which all agreed.

Motion to approve the agreement with Hayman Consulting, Elaine Freeman; Second, Elaine Magner. Voice vote: all in favor, unanimous; any opposed, none; any abstaining, none. Motion carries unanimously.

8. Motion to nominate Brian Pendleton as VCSDA Treasurer

Motion nominating Brian Pendleton for VCSDA Treasurer, Al Fox; Second, Janna Orkney. Voice vote: all in favor, unanimous; any opposed, none; any abstaining, none. Motion carries unanimously

9. Reports and Announcements:

CSDA Report—Elaine Magner (Coastal Network Board Member): Ms. Magner reported that she was very busy advocating for Special District funding in the Governor's new budget and although she was hoping for the best, it didn't look very good. She reminded everyone of the GM Summit at the end of June and the Annual CSDA Conference in Monterey from August 29 through September 2, and that the event would be held in the new convention center with guests staying at the Portola and Marriott hotels.

CSDA Update —Charlotte Holifield: Ms. Holifield also commented on the Governor's revised May budget, which includes assistance for public utility debts, Ports relief and transit funding. She said that CSDA continues to push for funding for Parks and Open Space, Fire, Health Care and more, and will continue up until the budget is finalized on June 15. She reported that 46 legislators have signed the CSDA letter to the Governor advocating for funding for Special Districts and that AB 361, regarding the executive order for remote meetings had passed the State Assembly and was heading to the Senate and looking good at this point. Ms. Holifield reminded everyone of the June 8 Brown Act webinar. She also spoke about the court decision regarding prevailing wage and that ACWA and CSDA were evaluating next steps.

Legislative/LAFCo Update —Elaine Freeman: Al Fox asked Ms. Freeman if there were any discussions regarding zero emission or environmentally friendly auto purchases. Ms. Holifield said she would check and report back to the VCSDA.

9. Reports and Announcements, continued:

Tom Hare asked if there was infrastructure funding for charging station, especially at public parks? President Dandy stated that there is a phase out of gas engine autos and vehicles. Mary Otten added that the rollout of those phase out programs will begin with larger vehicles and will be based on tonnage. Todd Mitchell also asked about Southern California Edison “charge ready” financing for buying charging stations, saying he was pursuing the third option by the end of summer for financing charging states at public facilities. Ms. Freeman also stated that at the last LAFCo meeting, a budget had been passed.

Mike Mishler stated that the County was still refraining from holding public meetings, so he had no update to provide.

10. Guest Speaker—Alejandra Téllez, Program Manager, Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA)

Scott Quady, who had recommended a presentation from VCREA, introduced Ms. Téllez, who discussed County, City, and Special District Board utility funding and grants in Ventura County focusing on four areas: improving resident, local government, businesses and education and special district energy spending. Ms. Téllez shared a slide presentation with participants (see attached), which addressed electric vehicle and clean mobility charging infrastructure in Ventura County, which may begin offering charging station rebates beginning in July 2021. She also referenced a variety of ways that special districts could collaborate with VCREA and other entities for funding, technical advice and staff training and encouraged everyone to participate in local events that could be accessed through the website: 3c-ren.org/events

At the end of her presentation, Tom Hare said that he had worked with David Inger of VCREA 15 years ago and would be happy to work with VCREA again. Elaine Freeman asked where the funding comes from. Ms. Téllez said Public Utility Funds which are then invested in Ventura County and grants from the California Energy Commission. Brian Pendleton asked about battery storage, as a back up for when the power is shut-off. There is a three tier power program through Southern California Edison that has higher incentives and several options. Todd Mitchell asked if there was a mailing list regarding programs. There is a list being built of who’s interested in collaborating in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. By keeping tabs on meetings, participants can ensure the money stays in Ventura County. Ms. Téllez also mentioned a Power Safety bill, with grant based funding potential, and encouraged everyone to reach out to her with any additional questions or if they would like additional information.

11. New Business/Member Announcements:

President Dandy said that he would be sending out an email polling everyone as to their interest in reinstating in-person meetings, continuing the virtual meetings or having hybrid meetings that combined both options. Al Fox said the ideal location would be UWCD’s Boardroom. President Dandy also reminded everyone that the guest speaker for the August meeting would be a Special Agent from the FBI who would be discussing cybersecurity.

President Dandy adjourned the meeting at 6:39pm to the next VCSDA chapter meeting on August 3, 2021

ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT MEETING—Tuesday, August 3, 2021

Respectfully submitted

Kris Sofley

Kris Sofley, Secretary to VCSDA

