



P.O. Box 3694, Landers, CA 92285

All agendas, contact information and minutes are posted on www.hvccsite.org

AGENDA JUNE 20, 2016 MEETING

3:00 p.m. at Johnson Valley Community Center, 50567 Quailbush Rd.

Flag Salute

Roll Call/Delegate List

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes of MAY meeting

Treasurer's Report: Betty Munson

1. Guest Comments on items not on the agenda

2. Election of Officers We still have an unequal number of delegates from each organization. Each Council member please encourage more representation

3. SB County Fire Dept - Chief Scott Tuttle

4. SB County Sheriffs Dept - Capt Jeff Joling

5. CalFire - Chief Tony Snow

6. Jim Schooler -Field Representative from State Senator Jean Fuller

7. Slide Presentation - Lucerne Valley Solar Fields on Private Lands

HVCC letter to County Supervisor re: Solar Moratorium, in this agenda packet

8. Desert Cleanups; Grants for Rural Wells-reports by Lorrie Steely

9. County Mapping of Rural Roads

10. Report on LV-JV and Morongo Basin MACs

11. Committees:

Fund Raising/Events-(Joanna Wright)

Advisory-no meeting necessary

Public Outreach (Betty Munson)

Community Services/Improvements/Co-operation (Rick Sayers)

Scenic 247 (Betty Munson)

Audit-after June 30

12. President's Report

13. Action Items - Community Reports List - Announcements

Next HVCC meeting Monday, July 18, 3:00 pm

Flamingo Heights Community Center 55977 Perris Rd.

14. Adjourn

HVCC DELEGATES / COMMITTEE LIST

January 2015

INTERIM OFFICERS

President: Joanna Wright

Vice President: Rick Sayers

Secretary/ Treasurer: Betty Munson

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Members appointed by the 4 HVCC Organizations, residing in the community they represent.

Up to 3 voting members from each community, plus alternate to vote in case of an absence.

Adrienne Bishop	Landers	364-2345	
Beverly Burkitt	Landers	364-3684	bbur70@gmail.com
Cliff Carlson	YMIA	228-0031	mrcjc@yahoo.com
Jim Hanley	JVIA	364-4829	jhaflame@aol.com
Jim Harvey	JVIA	401-1015	johnsonvalley@gmail.com Alternate
Michael Krantz	Landers	364-2172	makrantz@gmail.com
Betty Munson	JVIA	364-2646	ranchotaj@gmail.com
Larry Parrott	FHCA	333-1196	larryparrott2@gmail.com
Rick Sayers	YMIA	574-6598	rick@ricksayers.com
Joanna Wright	JVIA	364-2207	henryspiano@aol.com

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Committee members not required to be members of the Council

Audit:

Marine Base Expansion: Chairperson: Amy Granat
Betty Munson, Michele Myers, Jim Harvey

STANDING COMMITTEES

Fund Raising/Events: activity postponed till further notice

Scenic 247 Committee Chairperson: Betty Munson

Advisory Committee Presidents of the 4 HVCC Community Associations

Community Outreach Chairperson: Betty Munson
Jim Hanley, Rick Sayers

Community Services / Improvements / Cooperation Chairperson: Rick Sayers
Jim Hanley

MINUTES MAY 16, 2016

Meeting of the Homestead Valley Community Council

3:00 p.m. at Landers Belfield Hall, 58380 Reche Rd.

President Joanna Wright opened with Flag Salute at 3:03 p.m.

Roll Call/Delegate List Present: Cliff Carlson, Jim Hanley, Betty Munson, Rick Sayers, Joanna Wright

Guests signed in: Roxanna Shamay, Melanie Buck, Landers Association; Dennis Staley, Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency; Barbara Harris, Morongo Basin Historical Society; Lib Koenig, SAC/RCA/MAC/Rotary; Michelle Meyers; Mark Lundquist, 3rd District Field Rep; Lorrie Steely, Mojave Communities Conservation Collaborative (MC3); Anthony Milnick, CalFire, with crew; Floy Creveling, Gary Creveling, Mike Proulx

Agenda approved

Minutes of April Meeting approved

Treasurer's Report approved

1. **Guest Comments** on items not on the agenda - none

2. **Election of Officers** Each appoints 3 council members, plus one alternate to vote should a regular member have to miss a meeting. Need equal representation for election of officers. Members to come to the HVCC meeting each month. County and State officials are always on our agenda.

3. **SB County Fire Dept** - Chief Scott Tuttle - unable to attend

4. **SB County Sheriffs Dept** - Capt Jeff Joling unable to attend this month. Questions to be sent to him by e-mail. Need follow-up information on arrests, convictions. Concerning a resident with no family, needing help to protect him from himself, Lib Koenig will give us contact information for Age Wise.

5. **CalFire** - Anthony Milnick, Administrator, Yucca Valley Station, reporting - all stations fully staffed, Yucca Valley will be bringing on second engine in about two weeks. Wildland fires are increasing. Residential burning still being allowed; get permit while you can. Readyforwildfire.org for tips on what to do, good information on evacuation kits. Jim Hanley asked about recent structure fire in Johnson Valley. Cal Fire did respond, County Fire handling investigation of cause, no information yet. Hanley said they could have used the water at Johnson Valley Station #43, always available; invited to use for fires or cleaning equipment. Connections should be inspected, but were working; this water free for firefighting. Can Cal Fire inspect burned-out house as a fire hazard? Possibly a report of hazardous conditions from Cal Fire could hasten mitigation. Will pass on the question.

6. **Jim Schooler** - Field Rep from State Senator Jean Fuller - unable to attend

7. **SPARC Forum** - Renewable Energy in the County General Plan.

Still accepting comments. Log on to sparcforum.org for updates and comments.

Lorrie Steely comment on projects approved by Planning Commission without consulting County Plan: MC3 is going to push for another solar moratorium. Not adhering to solar ordinance accepting applications, no ground-truthing. Low income housing; put solar down there where it is used. Urban built-up areas have medical, cultural, advantages; they come to the desert for open skies and recreation, they must be made aware of what they are losing if industrialization is allowed. Solar begets solar. Discussion: Rooftop solar should be mandatory. New construction mandated only to be "solar ready." Built-in is cheaper: it's a marketing tool. Myth that rooftops not able to support solar panels; if they support HVAC they will support solar systems. County's consultants are city people, too. HVCC to send letter to Supervisors recommending moratorium.

Lorrie added information: Record of Decision has been signed for **Soda Mountain Solar**, developer stated to be using 1800-acre ft of water for construction. Detrimental to bighorn sheep; questions about grade and scrape, dust, access right through OHV area. No business being installed in desert. Concerning **burned-out buildings, illegal dumping tires**, etc. Cal Recycle coming to meet with MC3, identify locations, send to Lorrie.

Barbara Harris reported **Giant Rock clean-up problem**, Contact in the Desert event coming up: propane tank dump reported to sheriff. Need to clean-up graffiti on Giant Rock. Lorrie proposed Urban Conservation Corps, will contact. Discussion clean-up with "elephant snot" product. Conditions very embarrassing, expecting over 2,000 visitors. No time, no army of volunteers. Marine Base suggested. Nails from burned pallets; prohibited by BLM.

Mark Lundquist commented: Code Enforcement has **app to identify trash dump locations**, over 50 tons been removed, but demand is very high. Using work-release crews.

Burned-out properties are a legal process, long queue, owners must be contacted.

Follow-up on criminal records: contact sb-court.org with criminals' names to find out where they are.

Graffiti clean-up kits available free at JT Farmers Market, does not stain or damage rock, no evidence left.

8. Homestead Valley Community Plan Update-

Fact Sheets handed out with agenda. Pay attention, process is all online now.

To get your name on the list for e-mail notifications, see the website address included on this agenda

9. SRA BOUNDARIES- Adjusting CalFire State Responsibility Area Boundaries in the Homestead Valley.

The letter was sent to the County Board of Supervisors and state legislators, supporting the LV-JV MAC recommendation to move the SRA boundary away from Hwy 247, to a higher altitude with more wildfire risk. The letter is posted on hvccsite.org

10. Report on LV-JV and Morongo Basin MACs

LV-JV MAC- Meets this Thursday, May 19, at Lucerne Valley Community Center. Camp Rock Solar Field on agenda.

MB MAC-Mark Lundquist-James Ramos is on record opposing this solar project. Lundquist not sure why Land Services not adhering to Community Plans. Hope the new County Plans will have more teeth; \$8 million dollars being spent on this; too costly to be ignored.

Solar Field at Joshua Tree Airport approved by Planning Commission 4-1, not under appeal. Power Purchase Agreement with Edison ends December 31; Edison says they have enough power when school rooftop systems are completed, reported will be Net Zero in the area. Statistics for self-sufficiency pretty well-known. Cascade Solar has gone bankrupt, in trouble with investors.

11. Committees:

Fund Raising/Events-(Joanna Wright) Poker Run next year. Add Landers for participation.

Advisory-no meeting necessary

Public Outreach (Betty Munson) Meeting notices to radio, newspaper, officials and interested parties.

Community Services/Improvements/Cooperation (Rick Sayers) No update on Verizon cell tower. Will call.

Scenic 247 (Betty Munson) Letter to Yucca Valley Town Council opposing Verizon cell tower at Aberdeen Rd. posted on scenichighway247.com and hvccsite.org

12. President's Report none

13. Action Items Letter to Supervisors re: Solar Moratorium

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Rodeo-**Grubstakes Weekend, May 27-28 National Police Rodeo at Homestead Valley Park in Landers. Tickets \$15. After the Rodeo will have a band and dance. Ale in Yucca Valley will be parade, carnival at Tractor Supply

• **July 3 Fireworks** - at Homestead Valley Park also will have a band, vendors.

• **Flamingo Heights** - Potluck 6 pm, speaker on rooftop solar. \$1 with a dish, \$6 without.

• **Yucca Mesa** - Rick- Friday May 27, Potluck, poultry program. Field Day in June, Barbara to speak on Giant Rock

• **Landers** - SC Edison invited to talk about rebates for planned power outages without notification

• **Johnson Valley**

- **Summer Potluck Dinner** Saturday June 4, at 5:00 p.m. 1.00 with dish; 4.00 without.

-The Johnson Valley Community Center kitchen is up-to-date and regularly receives an "A" grade from the health department. Available for use for fundraisers or other events.

We only ask for a donation to help with the overhead, and that it be left as you found it.

Check out the kitchen when you come to the Saturday Breakfast 7-10.

Thanks to Roxane for today's refreshments.

Next HVCC meeting Monday, June 20, at 3:00 pm

Johnson Valley Community Center

Larrea Rd. at Quailbush Rd.

14. Adjourn at 4:15

**HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
TREASURER'S REPORT
JUNE 2016**

HVCC Checking Account

BEGINNING BALANCE –5/1/16	\$2,324.94
INCOME	0.00
EXPENSES	0.00
ENDING BALANCE CHECKING – 5/31/16	\$2,324.94

HVCC Savings Account

BEGINNING BALANCE –5/1/16	\$4,139.40
INCOME	0.00
INTEREST DEP	0.03
ENDING BALANCE – 5/31/16	\$4,139.43

Total HVCC Assets\$6,464.37

CASH IN BANK:

US BANK – CHECKING	\$2,324.94
US BANK – SAVINGS	4,139.43
TOTAL CASH IN BANK ACCOUNTS	\$6,464.37

LEGEND:

CK - CHECK

DC - DEBIT CARD

DEP - DEPOSIT

EFT – ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER

BETTY MUNSON
TREASURER

**A RESOLUTION by the Homestead Valley Community Council
ADVOCATING REINSTATEMENT OF THE SOLAR MORATORIUM
Until the Renewable Energy Element in the County General Plan is Established**

WHEREAS industrial-scale renewable energy generation in the Mojave Desert is not just a desert issue, but also an urban problem: Why is the desert considered as the only renewable energy supply for city demands?

WHEREAS our property values and therefore County revenues suffer from these developments; and

WHEREAS we always ask County to steer solar energy development onto rooftops and parking lots at the point of use, instead of destroying desert acres with solar fields and miles of transmission lines; and

WHEREAS the County is achieving a substantial generating capacity already with solar installations at public schools, for community buildings such as the Senior Center/Community Center/Library complex in Lucerne Valley and the Johnson Valley Community Center, as well as powering commercial buildings such as the Lucerne Valley Market and Hardware; and

WHEREAS, the Homestead Valley Community Council seeks Scenic Highway designation for State Route 247 which links the four Homestead Valley communities of Johnson Valley, Landers, Flamingo Heights and Yucca Mesa, with Yucca Valley, Lucerne Valley and Barstow; and

WHEREAS Scenic Highway 247 will add to the thousands of visitors who come for the world-renowned California experience of open lands and open skies, unusual scenery, the variety of outdoor recreations, and the business of the film industry; and

WHEREAS industrial renewable energy projects diminish on all these natural advantages, as fully described in our resolution of October of 2013 (urging the extension of the Solar Moratorium, SEE ATTACHED); and

WHEREAS every negative prediction in the October 2013 resolution has come to pass as failures with industrial solar fields come to light; and

WHEREAS because of known harmful effects, since 2007 San Bernardino County citizenry have consistently rejected industrial-scale renewable energy projects, including but not limited to:

- Green Path North Transmission Line from the Low Desert to Apple Valley
- Marathon and Agincourt Solar Fields, now named Lone Valley Solar in Lucerne Valley
- High Desert Solar on the 115-acre Roy Williams Airfield in Joshua Tree
- Coolwater-Lugo Transmission Line from Barstow to Apple Valley
- Desert View Substation in Lucerne Valley
- Ivanpah Solar
- Soda Mountain Solar
- Longboat Solar near Barstow
- Bowman Solar in Landers
- Solar One on Camp Rock Road in Lucerne Valley
- Camp Rock Solar Farm in Lucerne Valley

WHEREAS a quick review by local residents reveals too often reveals misleading project applications; and

WHEREAS renewing the Moratorium will eliminate the drain on County resources considering these defective applications; and

WHEREAS, in the case of Bowman Solar, it took a site inspection by Supervisor James Ramos to affirm the misleading nature of their site description; and

WHEREAS contractors' construction practices and mismanagement of finished projects have resulted in severe ecological and health consequences, loss of energy production and in at least one case, bankruptcy; and

WHEREAS the continuing acceptance of defective applications subjects County employees and citizens to unnecessary waste of time and money.

THEREFORE, we urge the County for its own protection to restore the Moratorium on applications for development of industrial-scale solar projects.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED, AND ORDERED that this resolution:

URGING THAT San Bernardino County REINSTATE THE Solar Moratorium

until the Renewable Energy Element in the County General Plan can resolve the legal and environmental conflicts partly outlined above and in the attached resolution of October 2013, is hereby UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of June 2016

by the Homestead Valley Community Council.



Joanna Wright
President HVCC

c/c via mail and e-mail

Board of Supervisors:

Supervisor Robert A. Lovingood, 1st District

Supervisor Janice Rutherford, 2nd District

Supervisor James C. Ramos, 3rd District, Chair

Supervisor Curt Hagman, 4th District

Supervisor Josie Gonzales, 5th District

Laura Welch, Clerk of the Board

Gregory C. Devereaux, Chief Executive Officer

Jean Rene Basle, County Counsel

Tom Hudson, Director Land Use Services

c/c via e-mail

3rd District Staff

Phil Paule, Chief of Staff

Mark Lundquist, Field Representative

Beverly Lowry, Field Representative

October 29, 2013

**A RESOLUTION by the Homestead Valley Community Council
Opposing Lifting of the San Bernardino County Solar Moratorium
Until Amendment can be Made Addressing the Problems of Permitting
Industrial Renewable Energy Projects in Rural Living Zones**

WHEREAS, the Homestead Valley Community Council is a coalition of the four Homestead Valley communities of Johnson Valley, Landers, Flamingo Heights and Yucca Mesa; and

WHEREAS these desert communities share a common history and economy, and common goals as established by community consensus in the Homestead Valley General Plan of 2007; and

WHEREAS the Homestead Valley Community Council is currently seeking Scenic Highway designation for State Highway 247, which connects the communities with Yucca Valley, Lucerne Valley and Barstow; and

WHEREAS any industrial projects in the Homestead Valley will have a devastating impact on valuable scenic attributes and our largely visitor-generated economy, counter to our scenic designation mission; and

WHEREAS industrial projects will reduce the value of the properties in and around the project areas; and

WHEREAS most of the Homestead Valley is zoned by the County of San Bernardino as RL, Rural Living; and

WHEREAS private properties within the RL Zones have been bought and/or leased to industrial solar enterprises; and

WHEREAS the County deviations from the County and Homestead Valley General Plans of 2007 allowed detrimental alteration of the desert soils, air quality, drainage, water usage, vegetation, habitat, viewshed and community character by these industrial solar enterprises through the issuance of Conditional Use Permits, and

WHEREAS there was little or no publicity concerning these actions perceived by owners of nearby properties or other stakeholders until these alterations had commenced; and

WHEREAS industrial land use within RL Zones creates a Public Nuisance in violation of Cal. Civil Code §3480, San Bernardino County Ordinance §33.034, and the 2007 County General Plan; and

WHEREAS these violations negatively impact the rights and privileges of a considerable number of residents and property owners in the affected neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS other properties within the RL Zones already bought and/or leased by commercial solar enterprises were not permitted due to the County Solar Moratorium extended by the Board of Supervisors in July 2013; and

WHEREAS the County General Plan is the law, and trumps any ordinance on land use; and

WHEREAS so-called “spot zoning” with Conditional Use Permits allowing land uses incompatible with the General Plan is illegal; and

WHEREAS the General Plan must be amended in order for the County to allow such variances, just as exceptions to a constitution can only be allowed by the deliberate and more stringent amendment process; and

WHEREAS industrial/commercial renewable energy projects are by their very description incompatible with General Plan RL Zoning; and

WHEREAS if any Renewable Energy Zones may be established at all by amendment of the County General Plan, the residents and property owners in or near those zones could and would be better able to participate fully in the decision-making process; and

WHEREAS the amendment process will allow stakeholders to urge the benefits of alternative solar energy generation on the roofs of governmental and commercial buildings, schools, parking lots and housetops in already-built areas of the County, and allow the County to create local jobs, improve property values and enhance local revenues; and

WHEREAS the County's moratorium on permitting of industrial solar installations must stay in place until the General Plan can be reviewed and revised, always keeping in mind established community characteristics; and

WHEREAS land use ordinance can then be legally updated to fit into the parameters of the General Plan,

THEREFORE we urge the County for its own protection to keep the Solar Moratorium in effect until due diligence review and amendment of the General Plan can be accomplished.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED, AND ORDERED that this resolution
ADAMANTLY OPPOSING LIFTING OF THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SOLAR MORATORIUM
until amendment to the County General Plan can resolve these and other legal and environmental conflicts
partly outlined above, is hereby UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AND ADOPTED
this 21st day of October 2013
by the Homestead Valley Community Council.



President

c/c Board of Supervisors:
1st District Supervisor Robert A. Lovingood
2nd District Supervisor Janice Rutherford
3rd District Supervisor James C. Ramos
4th District Supervisor Gary Ovitt
5th District Supervisor Josie Gonzales, Chair

Laura Welch, Clerk of the Board

Gregory C. Devereaux, Chief Executive Officer
Jean Rene Basle, County Counsel
Christine Kelly, Director Land Use Services
Donna Munoz, 3rd District Field Representative
Beverly Lowry, 3rd District Field Representative