

P.O. Box 3694, Landers, CA 92285

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# **AGENDA MAY 21, 2018 MEETING**

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

Flag Salute

Roll Call/Delegate List

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes of MARCH meeting, included in agenda packet.

Treasurer's Report: Betty Munson

- 1. Guest Comments on items not on the agenda
- **2. Election of Officers** We 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 Trevis Newport
- **5.** CalFire Chief Tony Jones
- 6. Jim Schooler Field Representative from State Senator Jean Fuller
- 7. Scenic Highway 247 Presentation Slideshow
- 8. Renewable Energy Element of the County Plan

County Planning Commission Meets May 24, original Policy 4.10 and an alternative version preferred by developers included in this agenda packet

- 9. Report on LV-JV and Morongo Basin MACs
- 10. Committees:

Fund Raising/Events

Advisory-no meeting necessary

Public Outreach (Betty Munson)

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

Scenic 247 (Betty Munson)

- 11. Vice President's Report
- 12. Action Items Community Reports List Announcements

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

Johnson Valley Community Center, 50567 Quailbush Rd.

13. Adjourn

# HVCC DELEGATES / COMMITTEE LIST

January 2015

## **INTERIM OFFICERS**

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.

Dorothy Beasley FHCA 760-364-4174 Adrienne Bishop Landers 760-364-2345

Floy Creveling Landers 714-309-8677 g.creveling@att.net Jim Hanley JVIA 760-364-4829 jhaflame@aol.com

Jim Harvey JVIA 760-401-1015 johnsonvalley@gmail.com
Betty Munson JVIA 760-364-2646 ranchotaj@gmail.com
Rick Sayers YMIA 760-574-6598 rick@ricksayers.com
Roxanna Shamay Landers 760-333-2707 shamay@inreach.com

#### AD HOC COMMITTEES

Committee members not required to be members of the Council

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

Phillip Brown, Barbara Harris, Jim Harvey, Sarah Kennington, Sara Fairchild

**Advisory Committee:** Presidents of the 4 HVCC Community Associations

Community Outreach: Chairperson: Betty Munson

Jim Hanley, Rick Sayers

**Community Services / Improvements / Co-operation:** Chairperson: Rick Sayers

Jim Hanley

# HVCC MINUTES APRIL 16, 2018 Yucca Mesa Community Center

Guests signed in: Capt Trevis Newport, SB County Sheriffs Dept.; Pat Flanagan, Sarah Kennington, Morongo Basin Conservation Association; Chris Nichols, YMIA; Mary Coulombe, Judy Corl-Lorono, Gary Creveling; Court Prittie, JVIA

Flag Salute at 3:00 P.M.

Roll Call/Delegate List changes approved

Present: Adrienne Bishop, Floy Creveling, Jim Hanley, Jim Harvey, Betty Munson,

Rick Sayers, Roxanna Shamay,

Absent: Dorothy Beasley

Agenda - Approved

Minutes of MARCH meeting - Approved Treasurer's Report: Betty Munson - Approved

- 1. Guest Comments none
- **2. Election of Officers** HVCC needs equal representation from the 4 communities, in order to nominate and vote for officers.
- 3. SB County Fire Dept unable to attend
- 4. SB County Sheriffs Dept Capt Trevis Newport

2017 Annual Report: unincorporated area: 19,782 calls for service, 1,833 deputy reports taken, 502 adult bookings, 6 traffic collision investigations assisting CHP.

11,211 residents per deputy, better than most areas but geographically separated.

County/city areas: almost 16,000 calls for service, 6,012 police reports, 1,888 adult bookings, 284 traffic collisions. Downward trend, but violent crime increasing countywide.

Unincorporated area: violent crime 8% decrease, property crime decrease 14%.

Drop in previous years because of decriminalization of felonies to misdemeanors, misdemeanors to infractions, skewed numbers. This is first year of baseline since those changes in laws. More active shooter training, train the trainer to schools, site visits to schools. No opinion on armed officers in schools, no statistics. Winds, wildfires now a major concern.

- 5. CalFire unable to attend
- 6. Jim Schooler Field Representative for State Senator Jean Fuller, unable to attend

## 7. Renewable Energy Element of the County Plan & DRECP

Congratulations to Pat Flanagan winning Minerva Hoyt Award for Conservationists.

She invited everyone to presentation event May 8 at 29 Palms Inn.

Betty read alternative Policy 4.10 language included in agenda packet, a complete opposite to everything we have asked for.. Pat stated that Terri Rahhal in Land Use Services told her the

reason the original Policy 4.10, removed from the RECE in August, was taking so long before going to the Planning Commission is that "the public had lots of opportunity to say things. This time gave Land Use Services the opportunity to catch up with the developers to see what they had to say." Staff recommendations are developer-written weasel words. Pat cited the original County purpose to encourage development without conflicting with rural communities, for water conservation, dust control, promote point-of-use rooftop and parking lot generation.

She made suggestions how to frame our comments, preferring the community values Policy 4.10 prohibiting industrial solar projects, over the fantasy Policy 4.10 written to favor developers. This makes it plain to the Planning Commission they are either for the communities or for the developers. Planning Commission hearing, April 26.

# 8. Report on LV-JV and Morongo Basin Macs

MB MAC and LV-JV MAC: . Mobilizing people to go to Planning Commission hearing. Both support Policy 4.10 be reinstated into the RECE as written.

## 10. Committees:

Fund Raising/Events - no meeting

**Advisory** - no meeting necessary

Public Outreach (Betty Munson) notices by radio, newspaper, e-mails; circulated agenda.

Community Services/Improvements/Co-operation (Rick Sayers) - no report

Scenic 247 (Betty Munson) - did a ridealong with Caltrans Landscape Architect

Supervisor Rose Bishop on Thursday, March 29, on Barstow Road and from Lucerne

Valley to Johnson Valley. If intrusions affect more than 25% of the route, we could

segment the highway and delete a heavily-developed area. Committee has restarted the

visual assessment, collating miles of photos, pinpointing them to mileposts. Caltrans will advocating for scenic designation. Sarah Kennington working hard keeping everyone informed, working hard to get a Letter of Intent from County. Need to have public meetings to show presentation slideshow to urge citizens to support Scenic 247, possibly HVCC in May, LVEDA in June and the LV-JV MAC with signup sheets. Pat could take PowerPoint to MB. Both MACs should agendize Letter of Intent.

Council approved HVCC to write letter urging Letter of Intent because Caltrans already does support it.

## 10. Vice President's Report - none

11. Action Items - Scenic 247 Committee comment to Planning Commission on Policy 4.10 Letter of Intent. Visual Assessment for 247

# **Community Reports List & Announcements:**

Flamingo Heights - no report, potluck tomorrow, rummage sale.

Landers - Roxanna reported Grubstake Days Rodeo will be held at Homestead Valley Park, 15.00 ticket, May 25-26 before Memorial Day. Rodeo Dance only, 5.00.

Yucca Mesa - Mesa Madness swap meet, successful, 4th Friday Potluck at 6:00 p.m. Several private events in the center. Mesa Fest Sept 22.

Johnson Valley May 5 Cinco de Mayo Fiesta 1:00-5:00 p.m. with Taco Grill from 2:00-4:00 10.00 per person. Trains running in the garden.

**Landers Elementary School** president sent letter thanking HVCC for holding January meeting at the school. Invited us to have meeting there every January, School enrollment has increased since the meeting.

Next HVCC meeting Monday, May 21, 3:00 pm

Landers Belfield Hall, 58380 Reche Rd.

12. Adjourn 4:20

Betty Munson, secretary

# HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL TREASURER'S REPORT MAY 2018

HVCC Checking Account
BEGINNING BALANCE -4/1/18\$851.34
INCOME
EXPENSES:
ENDING BALANCE CHECKING – 4/30/18\$851.34
HVCC Savings Account
BEGINNING BALANCE 4/1/18\$4,140.09
INCOME
INTEREST DEP
ENDING BALANCE – 4/30/18\$4,140.12
TOTAL TITLES A COTTO
TOTAL HVCC ASSETS\$4,991.46
TOTAL HVCC ASSETS\$4,991.46
CASH IN BANK:
CASH IN BANK:
CASH IN BANK: US BANK – CHECKING\$851.34
CASH IN BANK:  US BANK – CHECKING\$851.34  US BANK – SAVINGS
CASH IN BANK:  US BANK – CHECKING\$851.34  US BANK – SAVINGS
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BETTY MUNSON TREASURER From Christina Garcia, Executive Aide to Supervisor James Ramos:

Please see the below information regarding the **Planning Commission meeting on Thursday, April 26, 2018.** It is important to attend the meeting via videoconferencing at the Joshua Tree Government Center to comment directly to the Planning Commission.

**Section 4.10** is important for the protection of our desert lands, including the Morongo Basin and Lucerne Valley/Johnson Valley.

UPDATED NOTICE REGARDING SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CONSERVATION ELEMENT **POLICY 4.10** AND DRAFT ALTERNATIVE POLICY LANGUAGE TO BE PRESENTED TO THE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING DATE: **April 26, 2018 9:00 a.m.** 

# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

On August 8, 2017, the Board of Supervisors adopted the Renewable Energy and Conservation Element (RECE) of the County General Plan. In the public hearing, most of the testimony centered on Policy 4.10, a policy proposed to limit adverse impacts on the quality of life and economic development opportunities in unincorporated communities.

Policy 4.10 proposed a prohibition of utility-oriented renewable energy project development in existing community plan areas and in Rural Living land use districts.

Policy 4.10 was very controversial, and since it had been added to the RECE after the Planning Commission considered the document, the Board of Supervisors adopted the RECE excluding Policy 4.10 and directed staff to review Policy 4.10 with the Planning Commission.

After the Board of Supervisors hearing, staff reviewed all of the comments made by the public, and by large-scale renewable energy proponents. Public comments were not supportive of Policy 4.10 as proposed. Overwhelmingly, the public comments recommended a more restrictive approach that would limit utility oriented renewable energy development to the five development focus areas previously supported by Board Resolution 2016-20, generally located near Kramer Junction, Trona, Hinkley, El Mirage and Amboy.

On the other hand, renewable energy developers found Policy 4.10 to be arbitrary and not consistent with the standards-based approach to other RECE policies.

Considering all of the concerns cited in the public hearing, staff has a revised proposal for Policy 4.10 that would require utility-oriented renewable energy development applications to address community compatibility in detail, on a site-specific basis.

The intent of this notice is to share both versions of Policy 4.10 with the public well in advance of the Planning Commission hearing. A full staff report containing the following versions of Policy 4.10 with additional analysis and background information will be posted on the County web site approximately one week before the Planning Commission hearing at: http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/Planning/PlanningCommission.aspx .

The Planning Commission may recommend either version of this policy as written or with amendments. Ultimately, all options will be presented for final action by the Board of Supervisors.

Please review the draft policy language in the context of the other environmental design and development policies 4.1 – 4.9, and the siting criteria in policies 5.1 – 5.8 in the adopted RECE: http://www.sbcounty.gov/uploads/LUS/Renewable/REC%20Element%20FINAL%2 0ADOPTED%20Version%208-8-17%20WEB.pdf

## POLICY 4.10 as proposed on August 8, 2017:

RE Policy 4.10: Prohibit utility-oriented RE project development on sites that would create adverse impacts on the quality of life or economic development opportunities in existing unincorporated communities.

RE 4.10.1: Prohibit development of utility-oriented RE projects in the Rural Living land use districts throughout the County.

RE 4.10.2: Prohibit development of utility-oriented RE projects within the boundaries of existing community plans, which at the time of adoption of this Element are the Bloomington, Muscoy, Bear Valley, Crest Forest, Hilltop, Lake Arrowhead, Lytle Creek, Oak Glen, Homestead Valley, Joshua Tree, Lucerne Valley, Morongo Valley, Oak Hills and Phelan/Pinon Hills Community Plans.

RE 4.10.3: Establish exclusion areas in the Development Code regulations for renewable energy development, beginning with the prohibitions in Policies 4.10.1 and 4.10.2 and provide for additional exclusion areas, such as new community plan areas, to be designated by amendment to the Development Code.

#### **REVISED STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR POLICY 4.10:**

RE Policy 4.10: Require utility-oriented RE project applications to include a community compatibility report to outline project benefits and measures intended to protect the quality of life and economic opportunities in existing unincorporated communities.

RE 4.10.1: The community compatibility report shall identify elements of the project site design that have been incorporated to enhance compatibility with surrounding properties and existing communities. The report may be preliminary upon submittal, and may be updated as application review and environmental analysis proceeds. The following subjects shall be addressed, if applicable:

- If the project site is located within the boundaries of an adopted community plan, include an analysis of consistency with community values and aspirations outlined in the community plan.
- Explain how natural features of the site, such as elevation, topography or vegetation, combined with project design, will minimize potential visual impacts of the project.
- Explain how planned improvements to the project site will minimize impacts or benefit other properties. This may include avoidance of natural drainage courses, making improvements that will reduce drainage impacts on downstream properties, allowing for wildlife movement through or around the site, or minimizing and managing impacts of blowing sand.
- Identify any benefits to public utilities or public services that may result from construction of the project. This may include energy transmission or distribution system improvements that would enhance energy reliability, water system improvements, or land use conversion that would decrease demand for public services.
- Detail anticipated on site or off site project improvements that will benefit the community at large or other properties, such as road and drainage improvements.
- Identify any commitment to employ the local labor force or cooperate with local job training or apprenticeship programs.
- Identify any planned efforts to engage County residents and visitors through marketing or public education that will enhance interest in renewable energy and appreciation of the project.