

**Joint meeting of the
Desert Edge, Indio Hills and Sky Valley Community Councils
Minutes**

6 p.m. Thursday, January 15, 2015

Sky Valley Community Center 20-905 Hot Springs Road, Sky Valley, CA 92241

1. **Call to Order** – Stephanie Greene, vice chair of Sky Valley Community Council, called the Tri-Community Council meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Stephanie Greene, vice chair of Sky Valley Community Council led the pledge
3. **Roll Call / Self-introduction of community councilmembers and their titles** –
 - A. Sky Valley councilmembers Michael Tennesen and Julie Casserly and Indio Hills councilmember Ron Feiro not present. All other council members present.
 - B. Supervisor Benoit, with staff members Michelle DeArmond, Mike Gialdini, Rita Massie, Joe Pradetto and Darin Schemmer present
4. **Riverside County 4th District Supervisor John J. Benoit**
 - A. Reviewed fiscal condition of the county, which is primarily funded by property taxes
 - B. Discussed progress of new facilities being built in Indio associated with the East County Detention Center. Pointed out good fortune to have the state of the art Emergency Center in Indio - best in California
 - C. Reminded us of upcoming Riverside County Fair dates – an important source of income and exposure
 - D. During Q&A session, residents touched on these topics:
 - a. Raise fines for illegal dumping
 - b. Large development on Dillon Road (Citrus Ranch) would tap already stressed water usage – Sup Benoit talked a bit about the aquifer which is being recharged and is higher than 10 years ago though it still needs more recharging
 - c. Suggestion to light stop signs with solar powered lights and be sure they are not obscured
5. **Discussion Items**
 - A. Tour de Palm Springs
Tim Esser, Tour de Palm Springs, 760-674-4700
info@tourdepalmsprings.com
Officer Christopher Prietto, California Highway Patrol, 760-772-8911
Cprietto@chp.ca.gov
 1. The event starts at 6:30 a.m. Feb. 14, with riders expected on Dillon Road from 7:30 a.m. to about 10 a.m.
 2. Safety is the number one concern. 17 officers will be dedicated to maintaining safety, more than previous events that had 4-5 officers
 3. Starting groups will be broken into smaller numbers to provide more spacing and safer conditions
 4. Huge charity fundraising event and all money stays in the valley
 5. People come from around the world making this a major income event for valley
 6. Dillon Road probably will not be eligible for riding next year unless a solution can be found for complying with new passing regulations requiring 3 ft.
 7. Some residents hope a solution can be found resurrecting the idea for Dillon Road bike lane possibility
 - B. Community Clean-Ups
Joseph Contaoi, Riverside County Waste Management Department, 951-486-3200 jcontaoi@co.riverside.ca.us
 1. Community cleanups scheduled Feb. 7
 2. Waste Management and Code Enforcement work together on illegal dumping – send pictures and location to identify problem areas
 3. Waste Management also helps with discarded tires and graffiti
 4. Flyer available for services
 - C. Trash Service
Mike Veto & Valerie Ward, Burrtec, 760-674-1032
vward@burrtecdesert.com
 1. Burrtec representatives reviewed services such as vacation stop service, recycling batteries availability, oil disposal, etc.
 2. Indio Hills councilmember Estelle Dahl asked if there was a way to force users to cover their trash to prevent litter and discourage dogs and ravens
 3. A resident asked if there is a waiver for low-income residents to use Edom Hill to help prevent illegal dumping.

D. Sheriff's Department Sergeant Danny Deviny (Desert Edge, Sky Valley), 760-863-1742
ddeviny@riversidesheriff.org
Lieutenant Johnny Rodriguez (Indio Hills), 760-578-1856
jrodrigu@riversidesheriff.org
Deputy Joe Ruiz (Recruiter/Personnel Bureau), 760-836-1690
jruiz@riversidesheriff.org, Palm Desert Station

1. Statistics given for all three communities – no significant trends seen
2. More deputies are available to cover the area
3. Effect of Proposition 47 discussed in limiting law enforcement activities
4. COP a reality in Desert Edge/Sky Valley, needs more participation
5. Actively recruiting for new Indio facility – want to hire locals

E. Code Enforcement Rusty Hannah, 760-393-3344 RHANNAH@rctlma.org

1. Send pictures and location of any items that need addressing
2. Private signs along Dillon Road are getting out of hand – can we change this to keep with its scenic drive status?

F. Fire Department Captain Eddie Moore, 760-329-1700
Eric Cadden

1. New captain Eddie Moore introduced himself and gave statistics
2. Eric Cadden shared upcoming CERT training classes. Residents asked for training earlier in year, before April, so snowbirds can participate
3. Reviewed basic preparation for water, food, animals, medications for home and vehicles. Cadden mentioned a week's supply of water should include a gallon per person per day.

G. Animal Services Frank Corvino, Deputy Director, Riverside County Department of
Animal Services, 951-358-7386 FCorvino@RCDAS.ORG

1. Stats on cases were presented
2. Provide pictures and locations for any offenses
3. Department is very understaffed, with 1-2 officers from Whitewater to Chiriaco Summit, a ratio of 1 officer per 30,000 residents in unincorporated Riverside County
4. The department is again making dogs available for adoption at the county fair, for \$20 per dog
5. Flyer available for services
6. Bernadette Schwenn status – next court trial readiness conference set for 2nd week in Feb. According to a resident, she is living on her property and dogs have been seen there. Animal Services answered that they are enforcing the court order against her being with animals and that the deputy district attorney and the Bureau of Land Management, which patrols this area, have been notified. If anyone sees her with an animal, they should take pictures and send to Animal Services.

H. CHP Officer Christopher Prietto, California Highway Patrol, 760-772-8911
Cprietto@chp.ca.gov

1. Gave stats for year

6. Public Comments

All persons wishing to address the tri-community council on items not specifically on the agenda or on matters of general interest should do so at this time. Please limit your remarks to 3 minutes.

- A resident spoke about a petition, signed by 50 people, regarding the lighting of a water treatment plant behind Dillon Estates. The details were given to the Sheriff's Department.
- Desert Edge councilmember Cindy Nance brought up an incident of cockfighting in Sky Valley. Code Enforcement responded that they handle this and enforced a rooster ordinance

7. Adjournment

Desert Edge Community Council next meeting: 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 10
Indio Hills Community Council next meeting: 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 17
Sky Valley Community Council next meeting: 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 10

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Desert Edge/Sky Valley Community Clean-Up, 8 a.m. to noon Feb. 7, 2015
Vacant lot in Desert Edge, 70-075 Dillon Rd., Desert Edge

Indio Hills Community Clean-Up, 8 a.m. to noon Feb. 7, 2015

Indio Hills Community Center, 80-400 Dillon Rd., Indio Hills

DESERT EDGE - Supervisor Benoit liaison Rita Massie, 760-863-8211 RMassie@rcbos.org				
Sharon Huddleston, Chair	Susan Lombardi, Vice Chair	Mary MacArthur, Secretary	Cindy Nance	Bob Ornelas
760-992-4748	760-559-5555	760-671-5169	760-251-1955	760-822-1101
INDIO HILLS - Supervisor Benoit liaison Joseph Pradetto, 760-863-8211 JPradetto@rcbos.org				
Ron Feiro, Chair	Ben Bluemm, Vice Chair	Marcy Chapman, Secretary	Estelle Dahl	Russell Joseph
760-578-0751	760-347-1455	760-342-5890	760-347-5034	760-342-1550
SKY VALLEY - Supervisor Benoit liaison Rita Massie, 760-863-8211 RMassie@rcbos.org				
Julie Casserly, Chair	Stephanie Greene, Vice Chair	Elin Holmberg-Rowland, Secretary	Michael Tennesen	Vacant
760-408-9738	760-251-9942	760-288-0687	310-892-9107	