

**THOUSAND PALMS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Thousand Palms Community Center**  
**31189 Robert Road, Thousand Palms, CA 92276**  
**Find these minutes on line at [www.rivco4.org](http://www.rivco4.org)**  
**9-22-2022**

	<b>In Attendance:</b>		<b>Christopher Mitchell</b> , Chairman, absent
		X	<b>Bill Senso</b> , Vice Chairman, conducting
		X	<b>Patricia Saleh-Swaim</b> , Secretary
			<b>Alice Tibbetts</b> , Council Member
		X	<b>Samantha Wright-Watts</b> , Council Member
		X	<b>Alexis Perez</b> , Liaison to 4th District Supervisor Perez, 760-863-8211
	<b>Call to Order:</b>		<b>Senso</b> opened the meeting at 6:10 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Secretary Patricia Saleh-Swaim called the roll. Senso asked for a vote to approve the minutes from March 24, and May 26, 2022. Minutes accepted as written.
	<b>Council Reports:</b>		<b>Senso</b> reported that the Chamber is now doing Bingo on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Meal \$10 and Bingo is free. Oct. 19 is next Bingo. Halloween Carnival will be on Oct. 31 at 6-8 pm. It will include walkaround parade at Desert Recreation Community Center with vendors, etc. Drawings for gift cards. Dec.3 will include meet Santa Claus and his Elves, which will be free.
	<b>Staff Reports:</b>		<b>Alexis Perez reporting</b> : Updates: <b>Community Cleanup</b> will be <b>November 5</b> , 8 am to 12 Noon. 951-486-3200. Off Road Participation Survey; it will be long-term feasibility study starting March to September 2022. State is doing survey for off road vehicle park. Studying for potential off road sites. 700 people responded to the survey. Rivco Parks has allocated funds to continue the survey. In our district, Coachella Valley South. The approved dispensaries in Thousand Palms: all three CPUs, were approved ; exact addresses unavailable. <b>James Rowland from County Clerk's-Assessors office gave presentation about what the Assessor's office</b> and other County offices (Recorders, etc. ) do. He said many things can be found on line now. Wants to inform us of what they do and that they're available for questions. They have 6 offices in Riverside County. County Archives kept there. Board of Supervisors minutes are kept there back to 1945. You must make appointment to visit the Archives. Website now has chat function: Tel: 951-955-6200. One more update is <b>Valleywide Employment Expo—Wed. Sept. 28, 9 AM -1 PM.</b>
	<b>Sheriff's Dept.</b>		<b>Sergeant Chris Gelinis reporting</b> March to June 4, 2022: 1,450 calls for service; 13 stolen vehicles 13 battery reports, 50 thefts, 29 burglary reports, 3 disturbing the peace, 89 miscellaneous, 0 off road reports. Stats are not available to the Secretary to verify the counts.
	<b>Hwy Patrol</b>		<b>NA</b>
	<b>CHP</b>		<b>NA</b>
	<b>Fire Dept:</b>		<b>Timothy Bingham reporting:</b> A lot of staff is currently gone supporting fires in other areas. Homeless calls were responded to on Ramon Rd. Otherwise pretty calm in Thousand Palms.

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<b>Code Enforcement:</b>	<b>Kevin Bachant Reporting:</b> Shares our area with <b>Belinda Valez</b> . They have full staff at Palm Desert office. 188 open cases in TP. 64 are still open. <b>Desert Moon noise complaint:</b> Reported by RWelch: His team was conducting operations in Thousand Palms, on Sept. 15, 2022. They took over noise complaint on Desert Moon and found 5 different noise violations for which they have issued citations. Caller reports go directly to him. Although he has a small team they are very effective. Can't respond after the event so it's important to call while the problem is happening. Wright was questioning about the homeless encampment cleanups near Sergio's. He referred the question to <b>Alexis Perez</b> or <b>Kevin Bachant</b> . Bachant said it's a lengthy process starting with notifying the owner of the property where the homeless encampment is located. By that time, the homeless in question have moved and others have moved in. Wright said that she gets repeated calls about this and wants to know how it can be speeded up. Bachant reported that they have a full staff now and it will make it easier to follow through. Perez said that she will investigate how to get the services the homeless need to help them. Wright said that she will send photos. Senso reported that an RV parks at Circle K and moves to other places.
<b>Desert Recreation Department:</b>	<b>Ana Velasquez reporting:</b> Summer was successful. They had up to 25 kids at one time, ranging from 5 to 13. In the past the teenagers weren't interested but that has changed. They have had several rentals—weddings, etc.
<b>Transportation Department:</b>	Per Perez, <b>Dennis Acuna</b> was not able to attend, but there is a \$300,000 grant for pedestrian walkways and more in Thousand Palms. Thousand Palms Canyon Road widening was completed as of August 15, 2022.
<b>Cathedral City Econ Develop.</b>	<b>Stone James reporting: Director of Economic Development. The City of Cathedral City - NA</b>
<b>New Business:</b>	<b>Acrisure Arena and Firebird Hockey Traffic Report by Riverside County Transportation Department :Traffic Engineer Kevin Tsang Reporting:</b> Mark Stevens, VP of Acrisure People and Culture, has said that most hirings are at \$20 an hour. Acrisure will host a series of job fairs starting Oct. 3 at the Rancho Mirage library, then Oct. 7 10 to 2 at Coachella Library, Oct. 11 from 10 to 1 at Desert Hot Springs Health and Wellness Center, Oct. 17 at Palm Desert Chamber oi Commerce; Oct. 18 at Indio Teen Center; Oct. 25 12 to 4 at Cathedral City Hall; Oct. 27, 4 to 7 pm.
	<b>Acrisure Ice Rink: William Deiter reporting:</b> They're making tremendous progress, on both outside and inside. Skin is on the outside of the building with scaffolding down. Roof is on and glass and glazing is taking place. Mechanical units are all being installed and wired up. Now that power is in the building they can proceed. AC coming in and water is getting ready to be hooked up. Curbs and Sidewalks are going in in colors; the east end has canopy for concessions. In West VIP lot is being graded and is adding glass and grading and putting in a parking lot. Moving into the building, the first seats in lower bowl are in; in the west end retractable seating is being installed. Practice Ice area is going to be installed to make ice on Oct. 10 and dasher boards will be installed. The first zamboni show will be near the snow mill dump by an overhead door. The second to last largest concrete pour will be near the marshalling yard. The last big pour will be at street level. They will then be out of the concrete construction business. Job is going extremely fast.
<b>Alice Tibbets</b>	Tri Palms Women's Club Luncheon will be held at Oct. 27, 2022. She will send an email announcement.

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	<b>NEW BUSINESS (Continued)</b>	<b>Sgt. Hernandez reported on Animal Services at CV Animal Campus:</b> Vaccination clinics are held weekly every Thursday from 10 AM to 12 Noon. Also, for the next three weeks these clinics will be held on Wednesdays. No appointments necessary. These are free for the month of September. \$18 per shot after Sept. Microchips are \$20. Altered dog licenses and more are available at 720 Petland Place. 210 dogs and 98 cats need forever homes. They also have a lot of rabbits. All adoptions are free of charge in month of Sept. Their hours are Mon-Sat., 10AM to 4 pm. Field stats; 279 calls for service. 7 assist the police call 9, assist the public calls, dead animal complaints including barking dogs, 15 bite investigations on domestic and wild animals, 2 kennel investigations, too many animals on property, 597 animal cruelty calls, 11 calls for strays confined and straying animal calls, plus animals on properties. There were 42 strays roaming animal calls, 32 stray sick animal calls—wild and domestic. Two yard assessments. Of those calls They have given citizens more time to get licenses, etc. due to financial hardships, etc. Yesterday correctable citations were being issued again. 2 citations issued August. 24 and dead animals were picked up. They impounded 64 animals—wild and domestic. They quarantined 7 of the biting animals. Volume is low in the summer because animals are inside.
	<b>Meet. Schd. 2022:</b>	November 17, 2022
	<b>Sand Issue on Robert Road:</b>	Rick, homeowner off Robert Road, and Samantha Wright reported that County has come out and bulldozed the sand. Wright asked if this can be tabled until the next meeting.
	<b>Palm Springs Unified School District Report:</b>	<b>Board Member Madonna Gerrell</b> reporting with <b>Joan Boiko</b> supporting. Gerrell takes over if President is gone. Invitation to come out <b>Oct. 1</b> ; they will have a big party at the PS Air Museum. It is a fundraiser for the PSUSD Foundation. It's going to be <b>Havana One Night Out</b> . Band and Classic Cars from Cuba— <b>\$35 per person</b> . Foundation offers scholarships, funding for teachers and projects. Spending a lot of money on social and emotional health so kids will remain connected to school. Parent Engagement Center near Palm Springs High School, including English for parents who want to learn. They have Cielo Vista Charter School, and one alternative high school off Landau in Cathedral City. They also offer the opportunity for zoom and campus learning, depending on the reason. Virtual K-5 is still operating. They one of the biggest Coachella Valley employers employing 2,700 people. Enrollment is coming back. Covid numbers are dropping at the County level. There is a declining enrollment trend but it's improving this year. They are concerned about meeting the needs for every student. They offer a baccalaureate program and bilingual education for students to be fully bilingual, plus digital arts and technology. Career Academies including safety credentials, automotive careers, etc. Magnet culinary arts academy still offered. In Palm Springs there are business and leadership academies, etc., welding academy. P.S.U.S.D. has a focus on the Arts and Sports. They offer full-time music teachers, band, orchestra, etc. They have good attendance, etc. They use 2008 bond issue to renovate schools and board has just approved new security system cameras, bus drop-offs, retrofitting for earthquakes, etc. They use solar panels—68% of their energy comes from them. <b>Public can use the solar charging stations to charge their cars.</b> Contact <a href="http://EDJoin.org">EDJoin.org</a> . to seek employment there. Always sending out information to all of P.S.U.S.D. partners, etc. Adidas matched the shoe donations, and gave out thousands of shoes.

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		<p><b>Mr. Holt Reporting: Bighorn Motorsport Complex (Continued):</b>  Encouraging as much solar as possible. Housing units will be owned individually. Their price will be \$600,000 annually for property taxes. Beautiful valley views. Will not whiteout the stars. Will be using canary palms along the driveway into the complex. People who have classic cars or race cars can keep their cars there. People with large car collections can put all of their cars in one place. Monster buildings have been put up in Indio. Demand is incredible for this. Land is so expensive that it's very hard to find storage.</p>
	<p><b>PUBLIC COMMENTS:</b></p>	<p>Madonna Gerrell wanted to know about the new Motorsport Complex at the Bighorn facility and will they obscure the night skies? Holt answered that there will be gas stations where the lights go on as you go by and shut off when you leave. Security will be provided 24 hours a day and perimeter cameras, etc.</p> <p>Wright asked if the project will be two stories and Holt said they're allowed 50 feet high but they will make them 20 feet. Colors will be sand colored to blend in with the desert.</p>
	<p><b>Agenda Items for Next Meeting:</b></p>	<p>Noble and IID Community Solar report—Noble not available this time. Traffic Plan for the Arena being line item Number 9 as a permanent addition to the agenda for the next year.  Wright would like a Code Enforcement update.  Holt would like to get approval on his project.</p>
	<p><b>Adjournment:</b></p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.  Next meetings: 2022: Nov. 17; 2023: Jan 26, March 23, May 25, Sept. 21 and November 16.—Approved by all.</p>
		<p><b>Respectfully Submitted,</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: auto;"/> <p><b>Patricia Saleh,</b>  <b>Thousand Palms Community Council Secretary</b></p>