

Sky Valley Community Council and CSA 104 Agenda

6 p.m. Tuesday, September 12, 2023

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

In-Person Meeting Only

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of the Minutes: May 9, 2023
5. Councilmember Reports and Comments
6. **Staff Reports:** *Presenters must direct their report to the council. At the conclusion of the presentation, Chair may allow questions. Each speaker must first be recognized by the Chair.*
 - A. Office of Supervisor Manuel Perez: Pat Cooper, 760-863-8211 pcooper@rivco.org
 - B. Code Enforcement: Francisco Mendez fmendez@rivco.org, Ivan Martinez IvMartinez@RIVCO.ORG, 760-393-3344, 760-393-3212
<https://www.rctlma.org/ce/Report-a-Violation>
 - C. Sheriff's Department: Sgt. Gelinas, cgelinas@riversidesheriff.org, 760-836-1639
 - D. CHP: Officer Rafael Espinosa, 760-772-5300 rafael.espinosa@chp.ca.gov
 - E. County/CAL Fire Station 56: Pete.Tierney@fire.ca.gov, Timothy.Bingham@fire.ca.gov
760-329-1700
 - F. Office of Economic Development/Community CSA 104: David Alvarez, 951-955-3313
dalvarez@rivco.org
 - G. Riverside County Public Health: Daisy Ramirez, Luis Garcia, 760-898-6163,
dramirez@ruhealth.org
 - H. Other Departments and Public Agencies
7. **New Business:**
 - A. **Property/Vacant Lot Rules – Riverside County Code, Sheriff's Dept (Informational Only)**
8. **Old Business (Information Only):**
 - A. **Traffic Safety/Thousand Palms Cyn Road Update – Richard Twiss, Pat Cooper**
 - B. **OHV Update and Placement of Signs – Elin Holmberg, Noel Ragsdale**
 - C. **CSA Funds for OHV Update– Julie Casserly**
 - D. **Status of Aqueduct Road and Roads Update – David Alvarez**
 - E. **Update of Noise Ordinance 847 – County Code**
9. **Public comments:** *All persons wishing to address the 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.*
10. **Agenda Items for next meeting to be held on November 14, 2023**
11. **Adjourn meeting**

2023 meeting schedule: January 10, March 14, May 9, September 12, and November 14

Noel Ragsdale
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Please visit Supervisor Perez's Web site to access more information: www.RivCo4.org If you would like to receive agendas and other meeting information for the Sky Valley Community Council, please send your email address to Pat Cooper at pcooper@rivco.org

SKY VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
SVCommunityCouncil@gmail.com
72985B Dillon Rd Sky Valley CA 92241

MEETING MINUTES

Sky Valley Chamber and Community Center * 20905 Hot Springs Rd, Sky Valley CA 92241
May 9, 2023

- I. **Meeting to Order:** Council Chair R Twiss called the in-person meeting of the Sky Valley Community Council to order at 6:03PM
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** N Ragsdale
- III. **Roll Call:** 4 council members present; 10 community residents, 9 county reps and topic presenters
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes:** Mar 14, 2023 minutes approved unanimously as is N Ragsdale moved/J Casserly seconded
- V. **Council member Reports and Comments:**
 - a. **Recent Police action on Ford (J Casserly):** For the benefit of the Ford residents, asked if the person they were looking for was found. The response was that they had.
 - b. **OHV update (R Twiss):** Contact was made with BLM supervisor overseeing this activity in El Centro. He referred R Twiss to the BLM supervising ranger for Sky Valley. R Twiss will make contact with this person when they return in 2 weeks. Mention was made of them being able to use overtime funds to support a enforcement presence in Sky Valley. N Ragsdale will forward information to R Twiss that she has about grant money BLM has that should be available for this activity.
- VI. **Staff Reports:**
 - a. **Office of Supervisor Manuel Perez:** Pat Cooper 760-863-8211 pcooper@rivco.org;
 - i. **OHV** – has not updated the flyer yet. Cooper had a meeting with Undersheriff Don Sharp and he is investigating finding some funding and enforcement for this activity despite staffing shortages.
 - ii. **Budget Process:** Budget hearings are beginning trying to address the staffing shortages
 - iii. **New Firehouse:** New firehouses are to be built in North Shore and Desert Center
 - b. **Code Enforcement:** Francisco Mendez fmendez@rivco.org, 760-393-3212
 - i. **Staff coverage:** Working on getting a dedicated officer since I Martinez has moved on. Others will fill in so it should be business as usual.
 - ii. **Recurring problems:** Asked the officers to be aware that more and more prefabs, comex boxes /shipping containers, and RVs are being placed on vacant lots. Mendez advised that vacant lots - with no primary residence – cannot have comex boxes/shipping containers and that prefabs must have a permit before being allowed to be placed on a lot.
 - iii. **Ordinance 847 (Noise):** It was noted that this ordinance is being reviewed for possible amendment to address complaints from the ranchos in the eastern county in the context of being fined for noise violations when hosting special events.
 1. **Residents:** Expressed frustration that recurring perpetrators are not fined. It was noted that it's very hard to fine these cases because they need quantitative measurements. There is now a noise engineer available with the proper equipment that can be used on enforcement ride-alongs. The noise code provides decibel level standards, but need decibel readings to support enforcement.
 2. **R Twiss** expressed the concern that we will lose the ability to use this ordinance as it has proved effective. P Cooper said the ordinance is still enforceable although the Board of Supervisors is considering possible exemptions for the ranchos. Ragsdale advised that the Council has been concerned about these issues and sent a formal letter dated 1/24/2021 to the Planning Department and Supervisor Perez opposing some provisions

of the proposed special events ordinance – including allowing them in areas zoned R (residential) - and the ordinance as enacted did not allow any commercial events in areas zoned residential.

- iv. **Special Enforcement Team (SET)** – This is the Sheriff unit that has been set up to enforce provisions of the special events and short-term rental ordinances, including noise violations. Call SET #(760)393-3344. This call line is monitored 24/7.
- v. **Larsen Lane:** Resident brought up the situation at Larsen Lane where mailboxes are too close to the road and need to be moved. They have tried to get help from Post office but were told to contact the County. No resolution as this is not a County issue.
- vi. Residents brought up certain problem properties and were encouraged to send in a complaint via email, call, or online <https://www.rctlma.org.ce/Report-a-Violation>
- c. **Sheriff's Department:** Sgt Gallinas; cgallinas@rivco.org 760-836-1639
 - i. **Stats:** Read the Jan – April stats so quickly I only heard that they had 150 vehicle thefts, 72 miscellaneous calls and 0 calls about OHVs. Gallinas was asked after the meeting for the stats but he said he couldn't share them.
- d. **CHP:** Rafael Espinoza 760-772-5300 rafael.espinoza@chp.ca.gov
 - i. **2 traffic collisions; 1 was DUI**
 - ii. **Staffing status:** They have 2 new officers who have finished training, but have lost one officer who was injured in a traffic accident. Still understaffed.
 - iii. **Abandoned Vehicles:** Please call in about any abandoned cars or RVs so they can be disposed of. Mobile homes raise special issues because if someone is living in the RV, it is considered their home and so code enforcement is complicated.
- e. **CAL Fire** – Chief Ray Richardson @fire.ca.gov 760-329-1700
 - i. 2 fires in Sky Valley still being investigated
 - ii. Stressed the importance of having working smoke and CO2 detectors
 - iii. Informed us that we are lucky to have Advanced Life Support (ALS) from our fire station which means that the paramedics are trained to a higher level of support and have more medications and life support equipment as opposed to BLS (Basic Life Support) that some areas have.
 - iv. Burn permits are now available online but soon won't be with the weather heating up
 - v. Reiterated that if someone sees a fire, they should call 911, not the local fire department because the local fire fighters might be away from their station responding to calls. Calling 911 ensures proper routing of the call to the available responders.
- f. **Public Health Daisy Ramirez Bell** dramirez@ruhealth.org (760) 898 6163 / **Emergency Management Department:** Michael Ornelas Micael.Ornelas@RivCo.org (951) 955-4700
 - i. Emergency Preparedness/CERT trainings coming up at various locations throughout the County. Reported that more emergency preparedness courses area available. Some are only 8-hour courses which should make them easier for more people to attend. The upcoming courses are 5/13 and 5/20 in Jurupa Valley, 5/15 and /19 Riverside and June 2 and 4 in Moreno Valley, In the fall, there will be more courses in the east Valley – it's too hot now. They want to establish more3 CERT-like teams. . Contact M Ornelas for info.
 - ii. Ms Bell provided an email to P Cooper re: Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Connect SoCal Survey. The survey collection is finished at the end of may form which they will prepare a draft Connect SoCal plan to be released in Fall 2023 for public review and comment.

- g. **Economic Development Agency/CSA 104:** No representative. David Alvarez 951-955-3313 dalvarez@rico.org. P Cooper shared info from David
 - i. **Fund Status:** Current balance \$571k; 80K income still to come this year California Transportation billed CSA \$80K through 4/23/23 for work completed.
 - ii. **Outstanding suggestions:** Chip seal Wide Canyon, slurry seal Henry, maintenance on Ford, Berry, and Safari. D Alvarez will bring us estimates at next meeting
 - iii. **Outstanding OHV signs:** Council needs to decide how many and where
 - iv. **Outstanding Trench on 20th** – David will check with Transportation about its repair; concern that someone may be opening a fire water hydrant there.
 - v. **New Road work needed:** Prospect for potholes and Marshall for grading/compacting

VII. Old Business:

- a. **1000 Palms Road Traffic Safety:**

P Cooper and R Twiss met with Road Department and Preserve staff to come up with some solutions including increased enforcement, enhanced signage, public education, programable signage especially on high-traffic times.

 - i. Enlarging the parking lot is a major expenditure that would require multi-agency collaboration and grant writing.
 - ii. PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF THE PRESERVE STAFF. They are volunteers and do not deserve the disrespect they have received from the public.
 - iii. Residents suggested signage to prohibit parking in the bike lane. The bike lane signs are too small. Perhaps larger signs or Bike Lane painted in the lane.
- b. **Desert Skies Property Activity:** No new applications have been made. Residents are keeping track of activity on the property.
- c. **CSA OHV signage:** N Ragsdale and E Holmberg visited Sky Valley Resort to drop of flyers and discuss the community’s concern. General Manager Jamie Mastaw said they tell their residents they are not allowed to ride off property. We will confirm with D Alvarez if Longvue and Henry are CSA roads. If they are, then placement of NOHV signs is suggested on these roads. The resort manager seemed to think it was OK for residents to ride on those roads. More community outreach and enforcement are needed and hopefully the contact with BLM will be fruitful (See above under Council Members reports)

VIII. Public Comments - NONE

IX. Agenda Items for next meeting

- a. OHV update and placement of signs
- b. Traffic Safety on Thousand Palms Road
- c. Status off road work and Aqueduct
- d. Update of Noise Ordinance 847

X. 2023 meeting schedule: September 12, November 14

XI. Adjourn meeting: The meeting adjourned at 7:40PM. The next meeting scheduled: Sept 12, 2023

Minutes recorded by E Holmberg.

SKY VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL:

Julie Casserly Co-Chair Jools@ aol.com (760) 408 9738	Rich Twiss Chair Rtwiss181@gmail.com (442) 347-5082	Elin Holmberg-Rowland Secretary elin1215@gmail.com 760) 251-3633	Noel Ragsdale Member noelrags@gmail.com (323) 791-5238	Vacant
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Please visit Supervisor Perez’s Web site to access more information: www.RivCo4.org
 Accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act are available upon request.
 Please contact Pat Cooper 72 hours before the meeting at
 (760) 863-8211 or email: pcooper@rivco.org