

SKY VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
SVCommunityCouncil@gmail.com

MEETING MINUTES

Sky Valley Community Center * 20905 Hot Springs Rd, Sky Valley CA 92241
November 12, 2025

- I. **Meeting to Order:** Chair J Casserly called the in-person meeting of the Sky Valley Community Council to order at 6:00PM
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Mark Astorga
- III. **Roll Call:** 4 council members present (Elin Holmberg-Rowland excused absence) , 22 community residents, 14 county reps
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes:** Sept 9, 2025 minutes approved as is, STosti moved/N Ragsdale seconded
- V. **Council member Reports and Comments:**
 - a. **Mission Creek Subbasin Workshop: N Ragsdale** reported on attending a Zoom meeting of the Mission Creek Subbasin Agency management committee that reviewed the actions being taken to develop a new Sustainable Groundwater Plan for the Agency. To view the presentation materials go to website www.missioncreeksubbasinsgma.org
 - b. **CVWD Board Meeting: J Casserly** reported on attending a meeting in Coachella to consider a proposal to replace CVWD by the Mission Springs Water District for communities in ID 8 which includes Sky Valley. Several Sky Valley residents were present to oppose the proposal and object to the lack of notice to the affected communities. The Board tabled it and referred it to the MSWD Board to review and consider a plan of action. **S Tosti** advised that the DHS city manager had scheduled an additional meeting with CVWD to consider joint management for the commercial property by the I-10 freeway.
- VI. **Staff Reports:**
 - a. **Sheriff's Department:** : Officer Efrain Santos, esantos@riversidesheriff.org, 760-836-1639 Sgt White/ROVE Update, twhite@riversidesheriff.org, 760-863-8927
 - i. **Stats: E Santos** 423 calls of which 73 written. Included 2 stolen vehicles; 7 assault/battery; 11 theft; 15 burglary; 38 misc.
 - ii. **E Santos** discussed the boundaries of the Thermal and Palm Desert Sheriff stations (Washington and 1000 Palms) and recent crossover between these divisions by Thermal staff recovering 2 stolen vehicles. May be more such crossovers since Sgt. White in Thermal office obtained a grant for OHV enforcement. Palm Desert may seek to get a grant.
 - iii. **General discussion:** Several residents raised questions about how OHV violations should be reported and which agency is responsible for enforcing the OHV law.
 - b. **Code Enforcement:** Frank Mendez@rivco.org, Lamont Reed, lareed@rivco.org 951-529-7412 / 760-393-3344,760-329-1700, <https://www.rctlma.org/ce/Report-a-violation> / 760-329-1700 Short-term rental and special Events Reports Issues: 951-955-2004, 951-955-3200

- i. **Stats: L Reed** reported 2025 YTD actions: 153 open cases, 205 closed cases. Breakdown: 33 open/12 closed excessive storage/rubbish; 18 open/4 closed construction without permit; 43 open/11 closed zone violations; 2 open/4 closed substandard housing; 44 open/4 closed including 125 vehicles removed; 1 open blowing sand; 2 open/6 closed water table discharge; 10 open/36 closed parking violations.
 - ii. **Short Term Rentals/Commercial Rentals:** Several residents raised questions about construction observed on properties that appeared to more like a hotel than a residence. Extensive discussion with Reed and TLMA representatives about regulations governing and what agency would address these issues.
 - iii. **Trespassing: L Reed** Reviewed procedure to fill out Form 602 to get a No trespassing sign with that notice on it. Then the sheriff has more clarity about who the owner is and then can ask for verifying ID.
 - iv. **Rivco Waste Resources:** For roadside dumping/pick up 1-800-870-6600 or download app – RivCoMobile
- c. **CHP:** No Representation
- d. **CAL Fire: County/CAL Fire Station 56:** Pete.Tierney@fire.ca.gov, Timothy.Bingham@fire.ca.gov, Capt. Ray Richardson, Raymon.Richardson@fire.ca.gov
 - i. **Stats:** YTD 2025 241 Service calls (@ 98% medical emergencies); 14 false alarms; 8 outside fires; 7 vehicle fires.
 - ii. **Division Chief Bryan White** (Bryan.White@fire.ca.gov 951-446-3945) and **Battalion Chief Ryan Kirby:** Reported new fire station #98 is being completed on Long Canyon in DHS and this station will also be able to respond to calls in Sky Valley.
- e. **Public Health:** No representation
- f. **RIVCO Animal Services:** Three representatives including Mary Martin, Director and Sgt. Hernandez
 - i. **Stats: Sgt. Hernandez** reported 18 calls including 1 dead animal, 7 cruelty cases, 1 stray, 1 wild animal, 6 impounds of stray/aggressive animals.
 - ii. **Staffing/services:** 8 new staff members hired; 1000 Palms facility now has surgery unit; capacity of mobile spay/neuter mobile unit expanding to include larger (60-80 lb. dogs); Tuesday free services for cats continued.
- g. **Economic Devlpmt/Community CSA 104:** David Alvarez, 951-955-3313 dalvarez@rivco.org
 - i. **D Alvarez** reviewed FY 25/26 spread sheet revenue and expense data. Cash balance \$436K with \$186K projected addition. \$120K approved maintenance with \$40K already spent. \$16K Sky Valley ¼ expense of new bobcat to support emergency road work without having to use outside emergency services. Will do ride-along with S Tosti to survey all SV roads and report at January 2026 meeting re recommended work and costs. March meeting to approve work.
- h. **Transportation Land Management Agency (TMLA):** Jesse Mendoza

jesmendo@rivco.org 760-863-7045/ Betty Sanchez beasanchez@rivco.org / 760-393-3217 Check website: <https://rivcoready.org/>

- i. **No Topics:** Representatives did not have any topic to address but came to be available for any questions
- i. **Office of Supervisor Manuel Perez:** Pat Cooper 760-863-8211
pcooper@rivco.org
Reported on recent activities in Supervisor's office including community clean-ups in Indio and Coachella, family resource fair, ribbon cutting for newly improved Lake Cahuilla Park and AQMD "dust summit" to review data showing more particulate matter throughout the Coachella Valley.

VII. New Business: None

VIII. Old Business:

- a. **FGPA Items: N Ragsdale** reported postponement of Planning Commission hearing for FGPA 240085 and assignment of case to new planning staff Edward Lincoln elincoln@rivco.org direct phone 951-955-8514. Upon query re whether applications have an expiration date, Lincoln advised no. Discussion of possibility Planning Director could take action to move along hearing process. P Cooper advised there may be some review of the general plan amendments process in 2026.

IX. Public Comments

- a. **Sky Valley Resort Traffic:** Resident of the resort described ongoing concerns about the safety of residents who are turning left into the resort when cars try to pass. Request to County transportation to add a left turn lane to address this problem. P Cooper and D Alvarez to follow up.
- b. **Resident** suggested providing information to new SV residents about some of the applicable laws in the area to forestall inadvertent violations.

X. Agenda Items for next meeting

- a. Possible ROVE OHV Sgt. White update
- b. CSA - Dave Alvarez
- c. Possible update re FGPA's

XI. 2026 meeting schedule (2d Tuesdays of the month): January 13, March 10, May 12, September 8, November 10

XII. Adjourn meeting: The meeting adjourned at 7:47PM.

Minutes recorded by N Ragsdale.

SKY VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL:

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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

