

Indio Hills Community Council

Minutes

6 p.m. Tuesday, January 25, 2022

Via Videoconference

In the interest of public health, and pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting will be conducted via Zoom Webinar/teleconference. There will be no in-person public access to the meeting location.

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*6 – Toggle mute/unmute

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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. Council members Marcy Chapman, Ron Feiro and Edward Box were present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. New Business: 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. Presentation on 24th Annual Tour de Palm Springs, Saturday, February 12, 2022 (information only)

Debra Griffith, Event Coordinator, C.V.S.P.I.N., 760-674-4700, info@tourdepalmsprings.com

Ms. Griffith made a presentation about the annual bicycling event to be held this year on Saturday, February 12. The event will be live (not virtual) and will begin in downtown Palm Springs at 6:30 a.m. with more than 3,000 riders and local jazz groups. Council member Edward Box asked if portable toilets could be placed at the community center and Ms. Griffith confirmed that they could.

4. 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 V. Manuel Perez – Darin Schemmer, 760-863-8211, DSchemmer@rivco.org

Mr. Schemmer encouraged the community to get vaccinated and boosted for Covid-19 and announced that four free at-home Covid tests could be ordered from the website www.covidtests.gov. He reported on the success of the Community Cleanup Day last Saturday and announced that the county is surveying residents for input on the location of a new public Off-Highway Vehicle Park. Interested residents can find more information and vote on location at <https://bit.ly/3EqbhS8>. He announced Riverside County's "North Lake Pilot Demonstration Project" at the Salton Sea, a \$19.25 million grant to restore habitat and control dust in the community of North Shore. He also announced "Thrillville" at the Riverside County Fairgrounds in Indio on February 18 to 27, a carnival-type event being held in lieu of the Date Festival, which has been cancelled since March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Ernest Sussman inquired about the Food Bank and the community was informed some have been canceled due to COVID, but it is now changed to once per month and to a morning time, and volunteers are much needed.

B. Sheriff's Department – Corporal Alex Quezada, 760-250-9692, aquezada@riversidesheriff.org
Corporal Quezada informed the community that, from October 21, 2021 to January 21, 2022, Indio Hills had only 15 calls for service, including three vehicle burglaries (at the hiking trails on Thousand Palms Canyon Road), three noise complaints and seven home alarms. He noted that there were no residential burglaries reports and that a firearm was stolen from a car at the hiking trails. He recommended residents install lighting on their homes and maintain their properties so they appear occupied (do not appear vacant). Council member Marcy Chapman announced that thieves have been stealing the copper telephone wires from the poles along Dillon Road. She asked that residents be vigilant and report suspicious activity to the non-emergency dispatch at (760) 836-3215 or 911 for an emergency situation.

C. California Highway Patrol – Officer Rafael Espinosa, 760-772-5300, Rafael.Espinosa@chp.ca.gov
No report.

D. CAL Fire – Captain James Kinda, 760-329-1700, RRU.SkyValleyStn@fire.ca.gov
No report.

E. Emergency Management Department – Eric Cadden, 760-863-8318, eric.cadden@rivco.org
Mr. Cadden recapped the CERT Training course which took place December 10-12 in Indio. Attendees were trained on various emergency situations and provided free backpacks, helmets and gloves. EMD has hired two Emergency Service Coordinators and are soliciting five more. Both Ed and Melizza Box shared their experiences at the course and thanked EMD and Eric for a great and informative event.

F. Code Enforcement – Juan Vega, 760-393-3406, JVega@rivco.org
Officer Vega was not present but Mr. Schemmer read a report he had provided. There are currently 25 open cases in Indio Hills for Accumulated Rubbish, Excessive Outside Storage and Construction without a Permit. He announced that the county has formed a “Special Events Team” to address the increased special events, both permitted and non-permitted throughout the county. He shared the county’s policies regarding “special events”:

- County ordinance regarding short-term rentals (under 30 days) where property owners must register and provide flyers to renters making them aware of the regulations.
- Temporary events ordinance (over 200 people) must acquire a permit 90 days prior to the event.
- A County matrix which indicates the event size vs property size
- Other methods the county is trying.

G. Desert Recreation District – Ana Velasquez, 760-343-3595, avelasquez@drd.us.com
Ms. Velasquez reminded residents that emergencies such as earthquakes, fire, and floods could occur in Indio Hills and residents should be prepared. She also reported that a water pipe broke in the community center, causing a flood. She announced a Valentine’s Day event and a future Community Yard Sale and Basketball BBQ, date to be determined.

H. Other Departments and Public Agencies

David Alvarez with Riverside Office of Economic Development reported on the status of the Indio Hills road fund:

Currently:	\$270,000
Additional Fund this year:	\$90,000
Payment to County for 2021	
Road project:	-\$150,000
Total:	\$210,000

He expects the fund to have \$210,000 by the end of the fiscal year (2022) when additional road work can be studied.

5. **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.

Council member Edward Box informed the community that residents can obtain a pass from Burrtec, at the Community Cleanup event to take oversize items to the transfer station themselves.

6. Agenda Items for next meeting

Mr. Schemmer will attempt to invite the new “Special Events Team” to a future meeting.

7. Adjourn meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m. to March 15th at 6:00 p.m.

2022 meeting schedule: Jan. 25, Mar. 15, May 17, Oct. 18, Nov. 15 (no Sept.)

(Additional meetings may be added if an urgent issue warrants input from the community council and/or community.)

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Please visit Supervisor Perez’s Web site to access more information: www.RivCo4.org

If you would like to get agendas and other important meeting information for the Indio Hills Community Council, please send your email address to Darin Schemmer at DSchemmer@rivco.org.

Riverside County Department of Animal Services (Coachella Valley Animal Campus) Number: 760-343-3644