

HVCC DELEGATES / COMMITTEE LIST

COUNCIL MEMBERS

*Members appointed by the 4 HVCC Organizations, residing in the community they represent.
Up to 3 voting members from each community, plus alternate to vote in case of an absence.*

Kim Abramson JVIA alternate 760-792-4555 dojasmomdc@gmail.com
Adrienne Bishop Landers 760-364-2345
Floy Creveling Landers 714-309-8677 g.creveling@att.net
Toby Gramm FHCA 760-668-7774 outforblood74@hotmail.com
Jim Hanley JVIA 760-364-4829 jhaflame@aol.com
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Betty Munson JVIA 760-364-2646 ranchotaj@gmail.com
Chris Nichols YMIA 760-285-3560 chris@wb6cdf.com
Rick Sayers YMIA 760-574-6598 rick@ricksayers.com
Roxanna Shamay Landers 760-333-2707 shamay@inreach.com

OFFICERS

President: Jim Harvey
Vice President: Rick Sayers
Secretary: Betty Munson
Treasurer: Floy Creveling

STANDING COMMITTEE

Community Outreach: Chairperson: Betty Munson
Jim Hanley, Rick Sayers

AD HOC COMMITTEE

Scenic 247 Committee: Chairperson: Betty Munson
Phillip Brown, Barbara Harris, Jim Harvey, Sarah Kennington, Sara Fairchild, Chuck Bell

Committee members not required to be members of the Council

MINUTES NOV 16, 2020 MEETING

3:00 p.m. at Flamingo Heights Community Center

Guests: County 3rd District Supervisor Dawn Rowe; Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle, Battalion Chief Donnie Vioria, County Fire Dept.; H.E.L.P. Director Jason Hansen; Kristina Brown, MCAGCC; Steve Bardwell, Morongo Basin Conservation Association; Stale Louis-Floki Terranova Nakken, John Burkhart, Steve J. Reyes, Court Prittie

Flag Salute 3:05 p.m.

Roll Call/Delegate List - absent Rick Sayers

Agenda Approved with additions

Minutes of OCTOBER meeting Approved

Treasurer's Report: Floy Creveling - approved--

1. **Guest Comment** - Query, use of County Covid Grants. \$2500 to replace planned fundraisers canceled by lockdown; Covid Compliant Non-Profit Grant \$2500 to cover ongoing future Covid-related costs for public meetings.
2. **SB County Fire** - Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle - Recently promoted to Assistant Chief, but will continue to come to HVCC meetings, office still in Yucca Valley, still serving in the Morongo Basin, now department manager. Division 9,000 square miles, extends from Morongo Basin to the Colorado River. Introduced Battalion Chief Donny Vioria who also has served a long time in this area. Station 42 now has new water tender, 1800-gallon, 500 gallon-per-minute mobile pump, 4WD for access and water in remote areas. Measure U currently failing, good news for the Fire Department, FP-5 may stay in place. Working to increase efficiency, increase staffing. Residents in State Responsibility Area south and west of Hwy 247, contact CalFire for burn permits. They are responsible for wildfires; County is first responder to structure fires and reports of bonfires, red flag days, etc. Typical 3-foot bordered campfire needs no permit. Required: is water available? shovel handy? adult in charge?
3. **SB County Sheriffs Dept** – unable to attend - Jim Harvey reported Capt. Niles said at the MAC meeting, calls for service last month are up from the average 1800 to over 2000.
4. **California Highway Patrol** - unable to attend
5. **Morongo Basin Ambulance - Matthew Welsch** - unable to attend
6. **29 Palms Marine Base** - Deputy Director of Internal Affairs Kristina L. Brown - reported the Shared Use Area in the Johnson Valley OHV Recreation Area reopened Nov 9; next closure in the spring, Apr 30-May 10. The BLM/USMC Resource Management Group annual meeting canceled due to Covid; will be doing a project update notice in about two weeks, with opportunity for public participation via e-mails or phone. Recent closure quieter due to a non-live-fire exercise. Easier to do inspection with BLM; safer for public, but did have about 2,000 Marines moving through the area. Query: With increased use of OHV Area due to Covid, did more people come during the closures who did not get the memo? No, they were directed to the northern part of the OHV Area still open and accessible. In the first two days, about 90 vehicles stopped on Boone Road. By the end only two vehicles showed up. People were positioned to help RV's turn around. Roving Military Police and Conservation Officers covered the trails between Boone and Bessemer Mine Roads.
7. **SB County 3rd District Supervisor Dawn Rowe** – discussed why she encouraged HVCC and other non-profit community organizations to apply for Covid-Compliant Partnership grants; because the organizations are the only representation these communities have, besides Supervisor Rowe herself. It's a long way to San Bernardino to have our voices heard. County CARES Act funding is for people trying to be compliant and safe. Our communities stand in place of government and take care of their own. They do fundraisers like the Solstice Fest to cover their activities, keep community centers going, helping neighbors, keeping people safe. More funding will be available soon; the various boards will decide if they need take advantage of them as well. She encourages non-profits to apply, to have reserves for unforeseeable restrictions being mandated in the future. County also may use unallocated CARES funds for more help to small businesses like restaurants.
 - Recent high winds blew down a Joshua tree in Rowe's front yard; but now can't be touched. It fell right into the roadway causing a public danger. The town put out flashing lights and road hazard cones. She now has special permission from Fish and Wildlife to remove the tree; after documenting who was moving it, when and where. Then Dept of Fish and Wildlife discovered they did not have the authority to grant that permit. A great dry run for enforcing the hands-off restrictions: the first tree to fall is in a County Supervisor's yard. Now they are working on rules for removal for public safety.
 - Update on illegal cultivation of marijuana: Jim Harvey working on method for eradicating this as much as possible, both in Homestead Valley and Lucerne Valley. Enlisted Dominic Heyden to get help from State Senator Grove to reverse the Prop 64 decriminalizing illegal growing. Rowe has reached out to California State Association of Counties (CSAC) for best practices in operation in other counties.Suggested actions: Streamline the County administration citation process to implement an automatic hearing to comply immediately.
 - Create a dedicated hearing officer tasked only with ruling on illegal cannabis cultivation.
 - Improve property lien process to make asset forfeiture less cumbersome at the County level.

Will meet with California Department of Food and Agriculture Cannabis Licensing Division to discuss redirection of funds used to regulate illegal retail operations, to deal with illegal cultivation also.

CSAC cautioned that the Stanislaus County level of penalties, \$1000 per day per plant, is dismissed by liberal judges as being too burdensome and unfair. Conversations coming up with Tuolumne and Humboldt Counties about their measures addressing illegal cultivation.

Capt Niles reported in MAC meeting the Marijuana Task Force closed 55 illegal pot farms recently, and 55 self-eradicated. Some move inside a house for winter harvest.

Discussion continuing to address this at the State level, and raise awareness of this problem. Residents please report locations, even if they have been reported before, and keep watch for water trucks. The stated intent for legal, regulated, growth has failed. We also should get the lobbying entities for legal cultivation to help us.

Bighorn-Desert View water agency now starting a tiered rate system, for high-volume users/agriculture. See BDVWA.org.

Sheriffs can arrest pot growers for felony if stealing water or power. Lucerne Valley aquifer has dropped.

HVCC can help if Supervisors plan a tour of the area.

-Query: Code Enforcement doing anything about Dollar General replacing lights with unshrouded LED lights; Dawn to follow up.

8. Homestead Valley H.E.L.P. – Jason Hansen

-501(c)3 designation is approved. Selecting a bank good with working with non-profits, so donations can be accepted. Now have three sworn directors for the organization: Jason, Roxanna Shamay and Timothy Peth.

Working with Sheriffs Department to get credentials for the Ground Operations Team, Drone Operations Team and the Animal Rescue Unit for use in a disaster, and with CHP to get flashing lights, etc. for disaster workers emergency vehicles.

Applied for grants to help become deployable.

Contacted by California Office of Emergency Services who heard from State Sen. Shannon Grove that H.E.L.P. is up and running.

OES put them on the list for deployability anywhere in California. They will assist with local and countywide growth. Jason was told that they were at a level that would usually take seven to eight years; H.E.L.P took seven to eight months with a lot of people helping and working hard.

Supplies donated include 300 large powder-free gloves, 300 medium powder-free gloves, 300 face shields, 350 surgical masks, two lipreader masks, 500 disinfecting wipe kits. More donations anticipated.

Started seventh unit: Feeding Neighbors, possibly to be at Flamingo Heights, last Wednesday of every month, 10:00 a.m.

9. Stagecoach Solar HVCC Opposition Letter and Sup. Rowe/Lovington Opposition Letter

Slide show pages from HVCC letter arguing the project cannot be compatible with scenic highway designation.

Steve Mills coalition letter, Morongo Basin Conservation Association letter, Lucerne Valley Economic Development letter, all refer to the Scenic 247 proposal.

Jim Harvey read paragraph in the comment letter written by Supervisors Dawn Rowe and Robert Lovingood which also refers to Scenic 247 and the backlash from the affected communities if the Stagecoach project goes further.

10. Committees:

1. Standing: Public Outreach (Betty Munson) - no report. Agenda posted as always on www.hvccsite.org

2. Ad Hoc: Scenic Highway 247 (Betty Munson) - Land Use Services decided to make just one presentation to the Board of Supervisors, by including the Corridor Protection Plan in the package. Committee to work on that, including the federal and state protections already in effect in the scenic corridor. The County must hold one public meeting and the ridealong with Caltrans to include in Letter of Intent.

11. President's Report - covered in Agenda items. Council canceled next scheduled meeting, Dec. 21, close to Christmas. We could communicate via e-mail, or call a special meeting if needed.

12. Community Reports List – Announcements -

Landers - Food boxes on Nov 21, at the Homestead Valley Park.

FHCA- Raffle, Betty Butler quilt, tickets 1.00, 6/5.00. Drawing Dec. 21. Kim Abramson has tickets.

JVIA - Tailgate Swap Meet Saturday, Nov. 28th, 7:00-noon, or later if anyone wants to stay

Saturday Breakfast-To-Go now offers an omelette with cheese, choice of bacon, ham or sausage, side hash browns, 6.00

YMIA- Polling Place earned the Community Center \$750, only income this month, but still doing OK

Next HVCC meeting Monday, January 18, at 3:00p.m.

Landers Belfield Hall, 58380 Reche Rd.

If a Special Meeting is called in December:

Yucca Mesa Community Center, 3133 Balsa Ave

Adjourn 4:21

Betty Munson, Secretary