

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
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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 SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 MEETING

3:00 p.m. at Landers Belfield Hall

Guests signed in: County 3rd District Supervisor Dawn Rowe; Mark Lundquist, 3rd District Field Rep; Chuck Bell, Lucerne Valley Economic Development Assn; Mike McClintock, SBCounty Fire; Homestead Valley H.E.L.P. Director Jason Hansen; Andres Castillo, US Census; Matthew Welsch, Morongo Basin Ambulance; Stale Louis-Floki Terranova Nakken, David Simmons, Digna Cassens

Flag Salute 3:10 p.m.

Roll Call/Delegate List - absent Adrienne Bishop, Rick Sayers

Agenda Approved with addition and change of order

Minutes of August meeting Approved

Treasurer's Report: Floy Creveling - approved

1. Guest Comments on items not on the agenda - none

7. Humanitarian Emergency Lifeline Project H.E.L.P. - Jason Hansen

Animal Rescue meeting reviewed success taking in 130 animals at YMIA during Apple Fire.

Held first meeting with ground operations team and triage unit. Volunteers include Jeep off-road group, some with fire, military and EMT training. Negotiating with drone companies for air operations including live 2-way audio visual, night sensing, for search and rescue.

Kawasaki will be donating 3 or 4 four-seater off-road vehicles.

Now have 57 volunteers from Lucerne Valley to Yucca Valley; talking to others all the way to Wonder Valley.

YMIA have taken H.E.L.P. under their 501(c) - to donate, make check to YMIA, memo: HELP.org.

2. SB County Fire - Battalion Chief Mike McClintock - Had Apple Fire in July, August burn 33,000 acres. Now have 20 units at El Dorado fire, started Sept 5, had a firefighter fatality. At west end of the County, the Bobcat Fire, burned 10,000 acres in wilderness and now about 10 miles from County line. Though resources are stressed to the limit, all stations still fully staffed. Now going into peak fire season; McClintock urged everyone to sign on to TENS "reverse 911" text or call warning system. Recreational fires allowed in the desert, up to 2x3 feet, under calm conditions; report larger fires of concern to you. Mountain recreational fires limited to propane only. Please, propane weed torches not allowed. Review FP-5 fire stations. Evacuation warning: prepare for evacuating seniors, those without transport, animals. Mandatory evacuation: leave.

Added. Morongo Basin Ambulance Service - Matthew Welsch - Last month Landers had eighteen 9-1-1 medical calls, including traffic accidents; 11 transported to hospital; traffic calls down 50% from 2019 due to COVID shutdown. Landers is exclusive MBA operating area which requires them to be on scene in fewer than 29 minutes, 59 seconds, but average response is 15 minutes in Landers; Johnson Valley and other outlying areas, 98% on scene in less than 30 minutes. Subscribe at MBAmbulance.org. Will be at HVCC meeting in Johnson Valley next month.

3. SB County Sheriffs Dept. - Roxanna Shamay report - Capt. Niles said 1800 calls last month, none too serious. Morongo Basin deputies have been assigned to the marijuana team. Ask public to keep calling in information and location of marijuana farms. The OHV team have their new vehicle will be patrolling in two weeks.

4. Cal Fire - unable to attend.

5. California Highway Patrol (CHP) - unable to attend

6. SB County 3rd District Supervisor Dawn Rowe - Non-profit community organizations with fixed address and "storefront" now can apply for Covid Compliant Partnership grant, formerly available to small businesses with fewer than 100 employees.

-Board of Supervisors discussing substantial fines for large illegal gatherings, raves, etc. spreading virus.

-Illegal marijuana cultivation occurring all over desert area; joint enforcement team working on this continuing problem.

Answer why this is considered a misdemeanor rather than a felony: because marijuana now recreational, allowed in CA. However, large-scale production of beer, wine and liquor for sale is heavily regulated with felony charges.

-Fish & Game Commission one-year study of protection for Joshua trees and their habitat under Endangered Species Act; as of Sep. 22, no more building if a Joshua grows anywhere nearby. A property owner may have to hire a biologist to certify there are none. Need to balance with property rights. Current County regulations say you must get a permit from Land Use Services before destroying or moving a Joshua. Agriculture Dept. to place a notice that trees available to adopt, however they use SB Sun, a paper nobody here reads.

-Reviewed conditions returning homeowners found when evacuation lifted around Forest Falls: fire burned power; to prevent explosions firefighters had shut off propane tanks, which propane service must turn back on; food left in refrigeration spoiled. Firefighters were preventing people from sneaking in before allowed, finding strayed animals such as chickens and cows, protecting houses from looting, assuring access for Sheriffs, CHP, and trash trucks. Chief Munsey said for the first time in twenty years he may have to revoke all time off because there are not enough resources statewide to service all the fires. Rowe thanked all the men and women involved in these efforts, and the meeting agreed.

8. US Census Bureau - Andres Castillo - urged us to spread the word: be sure census form goes in before Sep. 30, to be sure you will be counted for government representation and funding. Discussion receiving e-mails, mail, phone calls even after returning forms, and this waste of resources. All Census information based on address and who was there on Apr. 1.

9. Measures J and K on 2020 SB County Ballots - Registrar of Voters non-partisan analyses included in HVCC agenda packet this month.

-Detailed two measures now on SB County ballot, initiated by The Red Brennan Group (discussed last month). Measure J, in the works for over a year, modernizes County Charter written in 1853 and not amended in 100 years.

Measure J stipulates:

a County Supervisor may be elected for only three terms of four years;

Supervisor salaries would be an average of salaries in surrounding counties, but not to exceed 80% of the salary of a Superior Court judge;

other updates on filling Board vacancies, review of health policies, an independent redistricting commission, and lobbyist transparency, modernizing language.

Measure K creates a part-time Board of Supervisors serving one 5-year term, and reduce salaries and benefits to 60,000.00 a year. If a measure gets 50%+ one vote, it passes. If both pass, but J has more votes, K goes away. If K has more votes, the new Charter would go into effect, but with 60,000.00 annual salary and one 5-year term, ineligible for retirement benefits.

HVCC voted to support Measure J Charter amendment, but did not see how a County Supervisor serving on 12 different boards, with 3-hr. drive time to San Bernardino, could represent our interests, Council voted to state our opposition to Measure K.

10. Committees:

1. Standing: Public Outreach (Betty Munson) meeting announcements; still no newsletters,

2. Ad Hoc: Scenic Highway 247 (Betty Munson) Visual Assessment sample printed to send to Caltrans in Sacramento; second sample printed to show this meeting. Chuck Bell repeated LVEDA can help with printing expenses. Committee has made addition and clarifications to County's draft Letter of Intent to Caltrans; will be working on Committee's suggestions for Scenic Corridor Protection Plan.

11. President's Report - HVCC approved for the COVID Business Partner Program.

-Need to buy one more screen for audio-visual in Johnson Valley. Agreed 60.00 expenditure.

-Attended LVEDA meeting on illegal pot farms, not controlled even if it is illegally produced. Non-taxable.

-Jim read update from Dominic Heiden, Sen. Shannon Grove's field rep, on last-minute State legislation. One member Senate Republican caucus tested positive, entire caucus quarantined. Bills were rewritten without sending to committees; majority limited speech and debate (reversed about halfway through last day of session).

Majority rushed to get bills through before constitutional deadline, one passed illegally after midnight.

Worst bill SB145, supposed to protect LGBTQ, but could allow a person ten years older to interact with a minor, without having to register as a sex offender. Passed by one vote, signed by Gov. Newsom.

70% increase in unemployment compensation cases with no payments since government shutdown. We have called for audit.

Sen. Grove continues to fight for regional variance in COVID19 response.

-Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Association has lost its final case in court to get refunds on the illegal SRA tax we paid for four years, even though we filed protests.

12. Community Reports List – Announcements

No events. Landers Thrift Store in operation, FDA food giveaway in boxes this Thursday 10:00 a.m. includes dairy;

Johnson Valley still serving outdoor Saturday Breakfast-To-Go, may have Tailgate Swap Meet in November.

Flamingo Heights Community Center floor remodel finished, planning cleanup and repairs for reopening;

Yucca Mesa took in 294 animals from Morongo Valley during Apple Fire evacuation warning; Supervisor Rowe says to expect reimbursement for rental of portable restrooms.

13. Review Action Items From This Meeting -

1) Statement of HVCC support for Measure J, opposition to Measure K.

**Next HVCC meeting: Monday, October 19, 3:00 p.m.
Johnson Valley Community Center, 50567 Quailbush Rd.**

Adjourn 5:23 p.m.

Betty Munson, Secretary