



P.O. Box 3694, Landers, CA 92285 www.hvccsite.org

Agenda for the **August 15th, 2011**, Homestead Valley Community Council Meeting
3:00 P.M. at the Johnson Valley Community Center, 50567 Quailbush Road

Flag Salute

Roll Call / Delegate List

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

Treasurer's Report – Tory Preston

1. **Guest Comments**

2. **SB County Code Enforcement** – Mike Romage

3. **SB County Fire Dept** – Dave Benfield

4. **Committee Reports:**

Fund Raising / Events (Earlene McCloskey)

Advisory (Nancy Sammons)

Public Outreach (Betty Munson)

Community Services / Improvements / Cooperation (Rick Sayers)

Scenic Hwy 247 (Barbara Harris)

5. **Pipes Canyon Windmills Update / Element Power Letter**

– Cherry Good, Deborah Roberts, Jim Harvey

6. **Assembly Bill X1-29 Fire Prevention Update** – Betty munson

7. **Landers Landfill Public Hearing Recap** – Betty Munson, Jim Harvey

8. **Homestead Valley Community Maps**

9. **President's Report**

10. **Action Items and Community Reports list**

11. **Adjourn** – next meeting September 19th in Flamingo Heights 3:00 P. M.

HVCC Delegates/Committee list

08/15/2011

Officers

President: Jim Harvey **Vice President:** Rick Sayers **Secretary:** Betty Munson **Treasurer:** Tory Preston

Council members

Adrienne Bishop	Landers	364-2345	
David Cooper	YMIA	809-2590	david.cooper@us.bureauveritas.com
Dale Fredenburg	FHCA	364-3788	Shellrswift@hotmail.com
Jim Hanley	JVIA	364-4829	jhaflame@aol.com
Jim Harvey	JVIA	401-1015	johnsonvalley@gmail.com
Ken Jones	FHCA	660-0369	Kenjones461@hotmail.com
Earlene McCloskey	YMIA	365-8422	emac-r@msn.com
Betty Munson	JVIA	364-2646	ranchotaj@gmail.com
Tory Preston	FHCA	364-3373	torypreston2@gmail.com
Nancy Sammons	YMIA	365-8507	Nansam@mojavewifi.com
Rick Sayers	YMIA	574-6598	rick@ricksayers.com
Joyce Wheeler	JVIA	364-3392	shipitshop@peoplepc.com
Linda Willgues	Landers	364-9203	linda-1954@live.com
Alan Rasmussen	Third District	228-5400	arasmussen@sbccounty.gov

Ad Hoc Committees

Nominating: April to present officers slate at May meeting for June meeting election

Audit: June to submit the audit results by September meeting

Scenic 247 Committee: Chairperson Barbara Harris

Standing Committees

Fund Raising / Events: Chairperson Earlene McCloskey
Nancy Sammons, Adrienne Bishop

Advisory: Chairperson Nancy Sammons,
Presidents of the 4 HVCC community organizations:
Dave Cooper (YMIA), Lee Gardner (Landers), Betty Munson (JVIA), Tory Preston (FHCA)
Alan Rasmussen, Third District Field Representative

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

Community Services / Improvements / Cooperation: Chairperson Rick Sayers
Jim Hanley, Betty Munson, Joyce Wheeler

**HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING
IN YUCCA MESA, JULY 18, 2011**

Opened with Flag Salute at 3:00 pm

Present: Dale Fredenburg, Jim Hanley, Jim Harvey, Ken Jones, Earlene McCloskey, Betty Munson, Tory Preston, Nancy Sammons, Rick Sayers, Joyce Wheeler, Linda Willgues, Alan Rasmussen

Absent: Adrienne Bishop, David Cooper

Guests: Derwood Andrews, Mike Lipsitz, Z107.7 News; Cherry Good, Save Our Desert; Barbara Harris, Morongo Basin Historical Society; Chuck Bell, Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association (LVEDA); Frederick T. Alexander; Maryan Barkley; Dean Caldwell; Juanita & David Crouse; William Hampton; Fritz Koenig; Robin Maxwell & Max Thomas; Michelle Myers, Jon Nolte; Deborah Roberts; Jennifer Thacher; Rebecca Unger, Joanna Wright.

Delegate list: OK

Agenda approved with addition

Minutes of June meeting, posted to www.hvccsite.org in draft form; approved with one change.

Treasurer's report: Beginning balance 8,073.47, ending balance 8,621.75.

1. Guest Comments: Rebecca Unger questioned why funds for Marine gifts are a special drive and not taken from HVCC reserves. Reserves are for rainy day fund, emergencies, donations for the community; want to raise more. Another guest asked about a petition against the wind farm on the buttes (Item 5)

2. SB County Code Enforcement - Mike Romage unable to attend.

3. SB County Fire Dept - Dave Benfield unable to attend

[Order of Agenda items changed.]

5. Save Our Desert-

Presentation by Cherry Good about the proposed wind farm to be sited on Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa, above Pipes Canyon. Wind measurement towers being erected by speculators for feasibility study for planned installation of 40-story-high wind turbines with 180 ft blades, twice as large as is usual. BLM permitted installation using helicopters; no public notice. Where will the transmission lines be routed? No infrastructure available. Corridor S along Hwy 247 needs to be stopped. New book, "Wind Turbine Syndrome."

Alan Rasmussen pointed out the military objections to high towers in flyover routes.

Website: www.saveourdesert.com E-mail: info@saveourdesert.com Mail: PO Box 298, Pioneertown CA 92268

Council voted to donate \$200 from HVCC reserves toward the cost of delivering Save Our Desert mailing to every mailbox in the 4 Homestead Valley communities, postal codes 92284, 92285. Surplus funds, if any, to be applied to printing costs.

6. HVCC position letter: renewable energy on public lands

President Jim Harvey read letter, loud applause from the guests. Letter is written to be sent to any agency. To be posted on www.hvccsite.org.

8. Assembly Bill X1-29 - CalFire State Responsibility Area. Homestead Valley Communities, Flamingo Heights and Johnson Valley part of areas designated to pay \$150 fee per habitable structure per parcel for various fire prevention measures. Council to send letter of support to Supervisor Neil Derry who opposes this hidden tax very strongly. Copy to other supervisors. County Counsel is being consulted.

7. HVCC Position letter - Voted to send letter supporting inclusion of Lucerne Valley in the 3rd District, citing more shared land-use, socioeconomic and rural connections with Homestead Valley rather than the heavily urbanized Victor Valley and Apple Valley to their west. Johnson Valley and Lucerne Valley share same school district.

9. Homestead Valley Community Maps

Barbara Harris working on Yucca Valley Ford ad on cover; Scenic 247 theme.

10. SB County Third District - Alan Rasmussen

-reviewed some community "wish list" projects.

-Tourism Committee, changing name of basin to Joshua Tree Gateway Communities..

4. Committee Reports

- **Fund raising / Events:** Packing day for boxes of gifts to be sent to VMU-3 Marine Unit in Afghanistan: Thursday July 28 at 9:00 am at Yucca Mesa Community Center.

- **Advisory Committee:** no meeting.

- **Community Outreach:** e-mail notices of meeting and Marine packing day to Fire Dept and Code Enforcement, radio and news column.

- **Community Services /Improvements /Cooperation** - highway signs.

- **Scenic 247 Committee-** Barbara Harris. No meeting this month. Website www.scenichighway247.com has been set up, needs photos and more information.

11. Rural High Speed Internet- Barbara Harris. From USRecovery Act funds. Actually satellite service from Hughes.net and wildblue.net free installation (which is usual) \$39 per month for life. 30 day trial. Reviews online not very good.

12. President's Report

13. Action Items and Community Reports List - \$200 check for Save Our Desert postal costs. Letter to Supervisors opposing \$150 fire prevention tax. E-mail letter to Alan on redistricting.

12. Adjourn 5:15 - Alan is impressed. Next meeting in Johnson Valley, August 15, at 3:00 pm

Betty Munson

Secretary, 760-364-2646

**HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
TREASURER'S REPORT
JULY 31, 2011**

HVCC Checking Account

BEGINNING BALANCE – 6/30/11		\$4,484.09	
INCOME:			
7/14/11	DEP	MARINE FUND DONATION	\$ 380.00
7/15/11	EFT	MARINE FUND DONATION	\$ 19.12
7/25/11	EFT	MARINE FUND DONATION	\$ 23.97
7/27/11	DEP	MARINE FUND DONATION	\$ 343.00
7/28/11	DEP	POKER RUN INCOME – YM	\$ 38.60
TOTAL INCOME			\$ 804.69
EXPENSES:			
7/18/11	CK 648	US POSTMASTER – P.O. BOX RENTAL	\$ 76.00
7/18/11	CK 649	SAVE OUR DESERT – DONATION	\$ 200.00
7/25/11	CK 650	JIM HARVEY – MARINE BEEF JERKY	\$ 476.57
7/25/11	DC	DOLLAR STORE – WYLLERS, CRACKERS	\$ 291.00
7/26/11	DC	DOLLARSTORE –MARINE WAFERS	\$ 327.00
7/26/11	DC	FOOD 4 LESS – MARINES SUN SEEDS	\$ 235.20
7/26/11	DC	WAL-MART – MARINES CRACKERS	\$ 212.80
7/28/11	DC	USPS – MARINE BOX MAILING 69 BOXES	\$ 893.55
TOTAL EXPENSES			(\$ 2,712.12)
ENDING BALANCE CHECKING – 7/31/11			\$ 2,576.66

HVCC Savings Account

BEGINNING BALANCE – 6/30/11		\$ 4,137.66	
INCOME			
		INTEREST	\$ 0.03
ENDING BALANCE SAVINGS – 7/31/11			\$ 4,137.69

Total HVCC Assets **\$ 6,714.35**

LEGEND: CK - CHECK
 DC - DEBIT CARD
 DEP - DEPOSIT
 EFT – ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER

TORY PRESTON
 TREASURER

HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

BANK ACCOUNTS

JULY 31, 2011

CASH IN BANK:

US BANK CHECKING	\$ 2,576.66
US BANK SAVINGS	4,137.69

TOTAL CASH IN BANK ACCOUNTS	\$ 6,714.35
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MARINE FUND:

BEGINNING BALANCE – 6/30/11		\$ 1,345.06
DEPOSITS	\$ 766.09	
EXPENSES	2,436.12	

ENDING BALANCE – 7/31/11		\$ (323.97)
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TORY PRESTON

TREASURER



Element Power
421 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 1000
Portland, OR 97204
503.416.0816
jaclyn.kossmann@elpower.com
www.elpower.com

July 29, 2011

Dear Community Member:

My name is Jackie Kossmann and I am a Project Manager for Element Power, a renewable energy developer based in Portland, Oregon. You may have already heard of us, as we recently installed wind-testing equipment on Flat Top and Black Lava Butte mesas. We understand that there have been some inquiries about the wind-testing equipment and we would like to provide you with some information.

The State of California has an aggressive renewable portfolio standard (RPS) for adding new renewable energy to reduce the environmental impacts from traditional energy sources and to spur investment and job creation. The state's utilities need to add many thousands of new megawatts of renewable energy and, therefore, there is a clear need for new, additional clean energy projects. When sites are selected to investigate for potential for wind energy development, many factors are considered. Key factors include wind resource, availability of land, proximity to transmission, and lack of environmental constraints. There is the potential for Black Lava Butte and Flat Top to have strong wind resource, which is why we applied with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to install temporary meteorological testing towers to assess the wind conditions.

We have been issued a three-year wind-testing right-of-way grant by the BLM for the land owned by the BLM on Black Lava Butte and Flat Top. The grant allows us to install temporary meteorological equipment to assess the wind conditions and to evaluate the potential for wind energy development on the designated land. This type of grant is referred to as a "Project Area Grant for Testing and Monitoring" – for more information, please see BLM Instruction Memorandum 2009-043. This grant does not authorize construction of a wind energy facility.

In late June of this year, we installed two temporary 60-meter meteorological testing towers (one on each of the two mesas) to test the wind conditions. Testing the wind is the first step in the investigatory process and we will collect wind data for at least one to two years.

Before installing the two temporary meteorological testing towers, we performed initial field studies on a total of 52 acres. On these 52 acres, no sensitive species or archaeological sites were found. After studying the resource, if the collected wind data suggests that the site is potentially viable for wind energy development, we will perform further field studies throughout the site to determine the existing environmental and cultural resources. Element Power is dedicated to being a responsible steward of the environment and works to avoid, minimize and mitigate environmental impacts during any development activities.

If you have any questions about the meteorological towers, Element Power or wind energy, please feel free to contact me at 503-416-0816.

Sincerely,



Jackie Kossmann
Project Manager