

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, BORREGO SPRINGS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 6, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

In-person at the Borrego Library, 2850 Country Club Rd, Borrego Springs & also via Zoom

Agenda Packet:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1YBY63ngZr-U_ihLxIhFSPfowX91-L9Mb?usp=share_link

THE PUBLIC IS ALWAYS WELCOME TO OUR MEETINGS

WE REPRESENT YOU WHEN ADVISING THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO ON LAND USE ISSUES

- A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL.** Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. Chair Rebecca Falk, Vice-Chair John Peterson, Julie Gerson, Bruce Durbin, Bill Haneline, Nancy McRae and Judy Haldeman present. Bill Berkley attended through ZOOM. Jim Dax absent as he was attending the Watermaster Board meeting. Community members David Garmon, Nikki Symington, Mary Watkins, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Bob Krasowski.
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF March 2, 2023.** MOTION: Approval of the Minutes of March 2, 2023. Peterson M, Haneline S. Unanimous approval.
- C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (may be limited to 3 min): Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Group on any subject matter within the Group's jurisdiction that is not on the posted agenda.** David Garmon commented that there was a technical memo in the agenda packet regarding groundwater dependent ecosystems; however an incorrect map was used which excluded 250 acres of the mesquite bosque. Elizabeth Rodriguez commented that there were past citations against Dollar General which should have held up the permitting process for grading. Nikki Symington commented that the new policy for fire protection should have a clause for protective species.
- D. ACTION ITEMS:**
- 1. San Diego Traffic Engineering Study of Trucks on Montezuma Grade.** Does BSCSG approve the recommendations? If so a BSCSG letter will be sent, the recommendations will go to the County Traffic Advisory Committee on 4/21 and to the Board of Supervisors on 9/13, followed by signs prohibiting trucks over 60' as outlined in the report. See agenda packet for the study. R.Falk, N.McRae presenting. Falk will try to have a staff member from traffic attend the May meeting for questions. MOTION: To request attendance by a traffic engineer at the May meeting to answer questions. Peterson M, McRae S. Unanimous approval.
 - 2. Update on meetings to secure a backcountry representative on the SANDAG Board and consideration for comments on or in-general approval of proposed changes to Policy I-1.** See agenda packet for proposed changes by the group (provisional name: Coalition of Sponsor and Planning Groups—CUSP) and an email reporting of the last meeting. Since Policy I-1 governs Community Planning and Sponsor Groups, BSCSG members should look this proposal over carefully. J.Gerson and R.Falk presenting. MOTION: To withdraw from the group and not to support changes to Policy I-1 but to attend as needed. McRae M, Haldeman S. Unanimous approval.
 - 3. Updating Standing Committee Membership/Meeting Times.** Updates from Community Signs Committee and Water Committee, if available with BSCSG approval or comment. McRae announced that there is a meeting scheduled on April 19, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Borrego Valley Endowment room at the Mall and that an outreach meeting will occur in the fall.
- E. NON-ACTION ITEMS:**
- 1. One 2MW solar project permit has been received for BSCSG comment, but without information about transmission capacity.** Developer, County and Chair have agreed not to consider this project until more information is forthcoming (from SDGE) in a few months. Information item only.

2. **Update on Regional Decarbonization Framework (RDF)/Question of more utility scale solar in Borrego.** May 24, 2023 Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting on the RDF report. We've been advised to bring community members to the BOS meeting. D. Garmon, R.Falk.
3. **Cannabis Social Equity Board of Supervisors directed public outreach.** See agenda packet for information. Upcoming public outreach workshops in April for comments. B.Haneline presenting.
4. **Correction: County Capital Improvements Plan public workshop is on April 20th (not March 20th).** See agenda packet for flyer and information.
5. **Climate Action Plan (CAP) Co-Benefits.** See agenda packet to take a 5 minute survey to give your input and read information from the last workshop. Go to the webpage to sign up for emails: [CAP Update \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](https://sandiegocounty.gov).
6. **La Casa Solar Project Beautification.** La Casa is still waiting to receive energy credit from SDG&E for its installation and will then recommence the beautification project. It is delayed but will happen. John Wells of La Casa warns that County approval will take time once the beautification plan is in place.

F. GROUP BUSINESS:

1. **Announcement and Correspondence Received:** Jim Wermers will decide if and where Tesla charges will be placed on his property.
2. **Discussion Items:** Expanding the box at the end of the agenda that now highlights BSCSG members' names to include emails. Does anyone prefer not to have his/her email published?
3. **Subcommittee Reports:**
4. **Meeting Updates:**

G. ADJOURNMENT MOTION: To adjourn meeting. Peterson M, Gerson S. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Secretary Judy Haldeman,

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2023, 5 pm at the Borrego Springs Library Community Room, 2850 Country Club Rd, Borrego Springs, California and via Zoom.

UPCOMING STANDING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Water and Land Use--Watco, email Chair John Peterson at petersonenv@hotmail.com to be put on the email list for the agenda. **Next Watco Regular Meeting will be held at the Borrego Springs Library on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 3 pm.**
Community Sign Program, email co-chairs Bruce Durbin, mocassin1@yahoo.com, and Nancy McRae, 1nancysue@gmail.com.

The Chair has appointed the following BSCSG Members to serve as points of contact for the following areas:

a) Dollar General Store, Bruce Durbin, b) Road Maintenance, Bill Haneline, c) 18-Wheel Trucks on S-22, Nancy McRae, d) SANDAG/Transportation Unincorporated Areas, Julie Gerson. Emails sent to the Chair at rebalk7@gmail.com will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

To sign up for County of San Diego email or text notices about various programs and topics that you can choose, visit: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CASAND/subscriber/new?preferences=true#tab1> or search for the program at the county you want to find and scroll down to their email sign up link.

Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group Members:

Chairperson: Rebecca Falk, Vice-Chairperson: John Peterson, Secretary: Judy Haldeman
 Members: Bill Berkley, Jim Dax, Bruce Durbin, Julie Gerson, Bill Haneline, Nancy McRae