

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, BORREGO SPRINGS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 1, 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/16QKLXtmX6UJLQLPW8eRP5PJ-vxedMOCV?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. Present Chair Rebecca Falk, Vice-Chair John Peterson, Nancy McRae, Bill Berkley, Bill Haneline, Julie Gerson, Jim Dax, Bruce Durbin, Judy Haldeman.
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF May 4, 2023.** MOTION: Approval of the Minutes of May 4, 2023. Peterson M, Haneline S. Falk added some clarifications to Items D. 3. and D. 4. Approval as amended. Unanimous.
- 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.** Tammy Baker asked to have an item added to a future agenda regarding volutaria weed and asked that the Sponsor Group take action to request a more aggressive eradication policy by the county.
- D. ACTION ITEMS:**
- San Diego Traffic Engineering Study of Trucks on Montezuma Grade.** The BSCSG had questions about the study before being able to make a recommendation. Zoubir Ouadah, County Traffic Engineer, presenting, with Murali Pasumarthi, Acting Deputy Director, Department of Public Works via Zoom. See agenda packet for the study. Ouadah presented the report to the Sponsor Group and explained the recommendation to post signs prohibiting trucks over 60 feet from using Montezuma Grade. MOTION: To accept the recommendation. Peterson M, Berkley S. Falk, Peterson, Berkley, Haneline, Gerson, Dax, Durbin and Haldeman aye. McRae abstained.
 - San Diego Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update, Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), smart growth alternatives.** The County conducted stakeholder outreach to provide input on smart growth alternatives, including input on location (e.g., where smart growth should occur) and incentives/disincentives to develop smart growth areas. We are meeting with your group again to make sure we have the smart growth locations requested and to capture any remaining input. PDS will begin to write the Alternatives Chapter in May/June. See: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/sustainability/climateactionplan/sgamaps.html> for maps. Darin Neufeld, Director Environmental Planning/Compliance, Harris and Associates. One map in agenda packet. Neufeld reported that the climate action team will continue working on this and reach out to the Sponsor Group at a later date and stated that ways to encourage development were on the table. Falk reported that plans were underway to create a new fire station and senior living adjacent to the library and Durbin commented that VMT was appropriate for senior housing. Neufeld added that affordable housing was also exempt from VMT.
 - Update from SDGE on last power outage and upcoming Sunday, June 6th - 7th overnight outage, 7:30 pm – 6:30 am.** Dallin Young, Public Affairs Manager, SDGE, presenting. Young stated that this outage was planned in order to complete the work that was not done in May and responded that the micro grid could not be used in this case as the large generator was not operating. Young stated that the micro grid should be online by next year. Durbin commented that this is why Community Choice is growing.
 - Two or three nominations needed for Watermaster Board Community Representative Alternate because Martha Deichler, who has held that position, has resigned.** Nominations come from the BSCSG, the ABDSP, the BVSC--each group nominating at least two (or three) people for the positions, and the BS Unified School District nominating one person, and then a hearing and vote is held at the Borrego Water District to choose the community representative from the nominees. There are requirement to fill the position. See agenda packet for the process to elect a replacement. Sponsor Group nominees will be affirmed by BSCSG vote. MOTION: To recommend Jim Dax and Gary Haldeman for the alternate position. Peterson M Berkley S. Unanimous approval.

5. **Updating Standing Committee Membership/Meeting Times.** Updates from **Community ID Signs Committee--** (Bruce Durbin and Nancy McRae Co-Chairs, Committee Member Jim Dion, affirm addition of Community Members Ellen Fitzpatrick, Betsy Knaak and Alicia Wszelaki. MOTION: To add Ellen Fitzpatrick, Betsy Knaak and Alicia Wszelaki to the committee. McRae M, Durbin S. Unanimous approval. **WATCO/Water Committee**, Chair John Peterson, Committee Members Jim Dax, Bill Berkley and Diane Johnson. Confirm additional member Gary Haldeman to take effect if also voted in at the next WATCO Committee meeting. MOTION: To support the addition of Gary Haldeman when the committee meets in the fall. Falk M, Dax S. Unanimous approval.
6. **Affirm BSCSG in summer recess in July and August. Next regular meeting September 7th unless urgent business requires a special meeting.** MOTION: To approve summer recess until September. Gerson M, Berkley S. Unanimous approval.

E. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Supervisor Desmond's item passed unanimously at the May 24th Board of Supervisors Meeting:** INCREASING UNDERSTANDING OF DECARBONIZATION EFFORTS BY CONDUCTING A LOCAL ANALYSIS OF EXISTING RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND OTHER INFILL RENEWABLE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY AND IDENTIFYING REMAINING AVAILABLE ROOFTOP, PARKING LOT AND OTHER INFILL CAPACITY FOR FUTURE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS (DISTRICTS: ALL). This is good news! See the item that passed in the agenda packet. Read about an additional item that passed at the same meeting regarding housing: https://www.countynewscenter.com/county-removes-barriers-to-housing-production/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=county-removes-barriers-to-housing-production
2. **Update on meetings to secure a backcountry representative on the SANDAG Board**, Julie Gerson presenting. Gerson stated that this item has been referred to SANDAG for approval.
3. **Update Borrego Valley Stewardship Council**, BVSC presenting. Howard Blackson reported that the issues, values and priorities will be worked on this coming year. Falk commented that the BVSC should not assume that the Sponsor Group supports all aspects of the Community Plan and that the Sponsor Group wants and needs to be intimately involved in this process.
4. **Update Revitalization Committees Public meeting with Jim Desmond.** See agenda in agenda packet. RFalk. Falk stated that the intriguing idea of a public facility campus adjacent to the library was presented and also stated that she had met with Elizabeth Rodriguez and Marsh Boring on infrastructure long-range planning.

F. GROUP BUSINESS:

1. **Announcement and Correspondence Received:** a) Jessica Turner is no longer the Community Planning/Sponsor Group County liaison. Ken Melton is temporarily filling that position. CommunityGroups.LUEG@sdcounty.ca.gov. b) See correspondence about air quality and a second round of County EJ outreach coming, in agenda packet. c) See agenda packet for information to register for a zoom community forum on San Diego County's energy future, put on by Protect Our Communities Foundation: Monday, June 12, 6 – 8 pm.
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:**

G. ADJOURNMENT MOTION: To adjourn meeting. Berkley M, Dax S. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Judy Haldeman, Secretary.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 7, 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 Committee/Watco, email Chair John Peterson at petersonenv@hotmail.com. Next Watco Regular Meeting will be held at the Borrego Springs Library on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 3 pm.

Community Identification Sign Program Committee, next meeting is on Thursday, June 7, 2023, 5 pm, at the Borrego Valley Endowment Fund Meeting Room at the Mall, 587 Palm Canyon Drive, suite 128, 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.

If this Agenda is revised, a revised copy will be posted 72 or more hours prior to the meeting. The final Agenda may include additional Administrative or Non-Action items. For further information and to be added to the Sponsor Group email list to receive agendas and agenda packets, contact the Chair at rebalk7@gmail.com. Address U.S. mail to: Community Sponsor Group, P.O. Box 1371, Borrego Springs, CA 92004-1371. For agendas, minutes and Community Plan, visit: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/borrego.html> .

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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