

County of San Diego
Jacumba Community Sponsor Group (JCSG)
Final Minutes for the JCSG Meeting at 6:00 pm on Monday, October 13th , 2025
Highland Senior Center, 44681 Old Hwy 80, Jacumba Hot Springs, CA 91934

A. Call to order/Roll call: Meeting was called to order 6:00pm Seat 1. Steve Perelman (Secretary); Seat 2. Greg Curran (Vice-Chair); Seat 3. Corbin Winters; Seat 4. Jeffrey Osborne (Chair); Seat 5. Katrina Westley; All members present.

~4 members of the public were in attendance and Joel Anderson's representative and KPBS reporter.

B. Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Approval of the draft minutes for the JCSG meeting held on September 9th , 2025

Secretary misidentified which lake hosted the Kumeyaay demonstration. Vote taken with 2 edits.

Motion to approve: Osborne/Westley. **Vote 5-0-0** Motion Passes

D. Public Communication: The public may comment on any subject within the JCSG's jurisdiction that is not on the posted agenda. (Speakers are limited to 3 minutes and no action can be taken on non-agenda items.)

Cameron from Joel Anderson's office filled us in on Joel's recent accomplishments. He allocated funds in the budget to keep local lakes and reservoirs open for more days or a longer season. He also directed road resurfacing funds for 101 miles of County roads. Cameron invited us to a Legislative Open House on Dec. 1st at the Lakeside Rodeo. He pointed out the 2 grant programs available through Joel's office; Neighborhood Reinvestment Program and Community Enhancement Program.

E. Action items:

1. Review Responses RE Community Benefit Funds from JVR

There was extended discussion of Nick Koutoufidis's responses to the letter from JCSG.

1. Jeff confirmed that the endowment concept was the chosen option.
2. Nick agreed that the County would enforce the terms of the agreement and would be the defendant in any lawsuit which reduces any liability for the JCC.
3. Nick agreed that SDF will not charge fees for collection of receipts and documentation to present to the County.
4. SDF fee increase(was .75% now 1%)
5. Unused funds. Option to put into a high yield savings account which would be in the unendowed account.
6. \$4M vs \$3.55M We contend that the B.O.S. vote at 4:08:54 was for \$4M to be used to mitigate the effects of the solar project on Jacumba, for the benefit of Jacumba. The funds previously allocated by BayWa r.e. have not gone through our vetting process and are arguably for the benefit of others. \$250K to JCSD has a local benefit, but \$200K to SYH and IVDM not so much. This could be worth litigating.
7. JCC fee is proposed at 5% of the 5%(25 basis points) of distributed funds. 3rd party scoring is an additional cost covered by the distributed funds.
8. Verbiage will be placed in the funding agreement between JCC and CSD concerning "if JCC ceases to exist".

Jeff agreed to make 2 *edits* before sending the letter.

Motion to Approve letter back to County: Westley/Curran. **Vote 5-0-0** Motion Passes

F. Group Business

- 1. Announcements and Correspondence Received**
- 2. Community interface reports.**

- a. Highland Senior Center. Tanya stated that the shared kitchen scheme has worked with the hotel and that there is a new client coming soon. A new 8'X12' shed has been purchased to replace the falling down shed. The estimate to repair the slow drain from the hand washing station is \$3,500 by Ivan. The underground line also services the floor drains in the kitchen. It has been rooter-ed and scoped, evidently needs to be replaced. 2 new volunteers have joined the kitchen staff and more are desired which could facilitate a weekly dinner at the Senior Center.
- b. Real East County Fire Safe Council. No updates
- c. JBRA (Revitalization). No updates

G. Updates

1. JVR Energy Park 90MW Solar and Battery Facility in Jacumba Valley Approved by Board of Supervisors 8-18-21

- a. **Project: Construction not Started. No Grading Permit Issued.** Minor Deviation Approved. Draft Plot plan has been shared. Only 300' setback from Community Park. 943' Setback North of Old 80. JCSG has submitted comments demanding the developer be held to the minute order minimum of 400 with a striving for 1,000 North and South of Old Highway 80, adjacent to the Community. If the desired setbacks are not documented adequately, we are ready to litigate. Jeff is expecting to hear back from Vince Nicoletti, Director of PDS who may decide it is better to work with us.
 - b. **Community Benefit Fund:** Final terms being established. Currently discussing an Endowment Fund managed by San Diego Foundation. JCSG will be Submitting comments back to SD County Regarding Fund Terms. See Item E.1. above.
2. **Jacumba Fire Station 43** – Project is in Value Engineering phase, awaiting redesign to align with budgets.
3. **Starlight Solar 100 MW Solar and Battery Facility in Boulevard off Jewel Valley Road EIR Released 7/31/25 PDS2022-MUP-22-010** Draft EIR is available online or in hard copy at the Jacumba Library.

There was conversation about the cost of the project and actual size. Though listed as 100MW of ac power it will have 217.4MW of BESS and 300K PV modules. ~588 acres located on the Hagen Ranch but developed by Empire Ranch LLC. It was estimated to be a \$500M project but \$700M may already be committed.

Batteries may be the newer lithium iron phosphate by NextEra or Lithium 1 by AES which have been catching on fire. They don't have an interest in any saltwater batteries which are less energy dense.

G. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 ½ after discussion about whose watch was fast/slow.

The next JCSG meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 10th, 2025 at 6 pm.

For more information, contact the JCSG Chair at jacumbacsg@outlook.com

Minutes approved at the Meeting 12-15-25