



- Members of the community asked a number of questions related to SDG&E management and the efficiency of the company. Rob Knudsen attempted to answer a number of questions that were asked by Planning Group and community members.
- Mr. Littlejohn asked a question related to the status of the project along Cole Grade Road. Mr. Knudsen shared that SDG&E has put a pause on some of its projects until the County completes road improvements.
- Ms. Rattray asked a question related to the length of time power is shut down. Dryness throughout the County led SDG&E to shut down power. She also asked a question about the potential power line that might cross Palomar Mountain. SDG&E has no involvement with this project, as it is a federal power program.
- Mr. Ciupitu asked a question about the communication lines that share poles. A question was asked where old poles are placed once they are removed. A question was asked about reasons that the California Public Utilities Commission provides the budget for SDG&E.
- Ms. Hodson asked a question about the portable generator program that SDG&E offered before it expired in 2024. SDG&E could have potential shutdowns up until May 2025.
- Ms. Bothof asked a question about abandoned SDG&E easements. SDG&E has coordinated the Cole Grade Road project with the County of San Diego. They will wait until the County completes the bridge before completing this undergrounding project.
- Chair Harmes asked a question about undergrounding other utilities when SDG&E trenches.
- Mr. Garritson made a comment that California is becoming similar to a third world county, as shutting down power hinders business, education, and commerce. It is essential for people to have access to reliable energy.
- Mike Van Zant shared a map that explained how the Valley Center Substation works. He shared some of his thoughts about possible solutions that SDG&E can provide to fix a number of present problems. He proposed a new Scada-Mate Switch. A majority of the cost of undergrounding is due to trenching. Mike shared that this project proposal would possibly only take three weeks if SDG&E had a couple of good crews. Mike believes that this proposal is not an inexpensive project, but it would be very worthwhile for the community.

**Community Comments:**

- Eddie Lain Blackman introduced himself and the location of his property. He is concerned about bright lights that are violating dark sky ordinances. He shared a flyer that can help businesses repoint, shield, and redirect lighting violations.
- Chair Harmes took a copy of the flyer and shared that the Planning Group will revisit the dark sky lighting ordinance. Eddie made the suggestion that the County create unique street light poles that have old world designs.
- Cathy Handzel introduced the Dark Sky San Diego County organization and how it works to limit poor lighting designs. She urged the Planning Group to collaborate with future developers to create good lighting designs. Palomar Observatory is currently ranked number 26 in observatories.

- Laura Maloney shared that she represents an organization to Keep Valley Center Rural. There was a catastrophic battery storage event at Moss Landing that damaged a lot of the ecosystem. AB 303 is a bill that she would like our community to consider supporting.
- Kevin Smith shared that he was disappointed with the behaviors of Chair Harmes, Bob Littlejohn, and Jon Vick. Mr. Smith shared that internet access at the Community Center is very unreliable. Kevin will share information about AB2449 with the Chair after tonight's meeting.
- Zee Ryken provided an update about the progress that was made with the Valley Center County Library. She requested that the County consider donating land to the organization for an Art Gallery. The County has gifted the County Library walls for art exhibits. Zee shared that there will be an event on March 23, 2025.
- Hans Haas shared that he was raised from childhood in Valley Center. He would like people in Valley Center to protect dark sky policies.
- Michael O'Conner shared his concerns about the divisions among members of the Planning Group. He did not believe it was appropriate for members to post complaints about members in the Valley Roadrunner. He would like members to always respect differing opinions.
- Dorothy Kennedy shared that the Planning Group needs to work together.

#### **E. Action items (VCCPG advisory vote may be taken on the following items)**

**1. Capital Improvement Projects (CIP): Department of Public Works is requesting our input on prioritizing capital improvement and maintenance projects for county-maintained assets. Project may be related to safety, capacity, accessibility, and operations. Review Project Request Form and return our lists by March 30, 2025. Types include:**

- **Road Reconstruction/Reconfiguration/New Roads: Adding/modifying street lighting, drive lanes,**
- **turn lanes, bike lanes, roundabouts, new striping, paving a dirt road, or improving a road slope.**
- **Bridges Repair/Reconstruction: Adding/modifying street lighting, lanes, or bike lanes.**
- **Sidewalks/Pathways/Pedestrian Access Ramps: Adding/modifying sidewalks, pathways, and ramps.**
- **Drainage: Improvements and cleaning of publicly maintained roadways and waterways, as evidenced**
- **by trash accumulation, blocked drainage, or other indicators of persistent historical flooding.**
- **Intersection Improvements: Repair traffic signals or install new signals and turn lanes.**

- **Road Resurfacing: Maintenance such as asphalt resurfacing, approximately 1 mile or less. It takes 2 years for a road to be evaluated and placed into a resurfacing project on our annual maintenance list.**
- Tina McCord (who attended with her husband, Kurt McCord) would like the County to pave a portion of W Oak Glen Road and W Oak Glen Way. She shared concerns about how this road is used for dirt bikes. There is an extensive amount of dust that is created on this road. She shared that her quality of life suffers because of increased traffic. This county road has 300 feet that is unpaved.
- Ms. McCord also described a drainage problem that has caused flooding into their garage. They requested that repairing the drain is also included on the list. Ms. Adams will create a Capitals Improvement List that the County has requested. Input from the community will be added to the list.
- The Capitals Improvement List must be approved by March 28.
- Ms. Norwood asked a question about which agency is responsible for maintaining drainage problems within the County. Adrienne Cisneros-Selekman will contact the County.
- Ms. Norwood handed Chair Harmes a list of recommendations that she had compiled from members of the community.

**2. Exterior Lighting at Valley Center Market: (Update)**

- Adrienne Cisneros-Selekman shared that Supervisor Desmond will always look into common sense solutions to problems.

**3. Proposed change to Standing Rules Election Procedure: (Littlejohn) See attached proposal. (Vote) [ATTACHMENT]**

- **Motion: To adopt the Standing Rules Election Procedure proposed by Bob Littlejohn.**

- **Maker/Second:** Littlejohn/Fajardo

- **Motion FAILS 5-10-0 (Y-N-Ab)**

- |                          |                       |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| ● Lisa Adams - N         | ● Susan Fajardo - Y   | ● Bob Littlejohn - Y  |
| ● Chris Barber - N       | ● James Garritson - N | ● Matt Matthews - N   |
| ● Michelle Bothof - N    | ● Mary Hodson - Y     | ● LaVonne Norwood - N |
| ● Delores ChavezHarmes-N | ● Steve Hutchison - Y | ● Dori Rattray - N    |
| ● Vlad Ciupitu - N       | ● Karen Lieber - Y    | ● Tom Stinson - N     |

- Mr. Littlejohn presented a proposal to use a specific roll call procedure for the election of chair on this agenda, and if it was found to be effective, it might become the basis for a future revision of the officer elections section of the Standing Rules. Ms. Norwood would like the Planning Group to consider adopting some type of voting procedure. Dr. Matthews asked a question about what happens if the Planning Group does not gain the minimum of 8 votes.

#### 4. Election of Officers & Subcommittee Chairs: (Vote)

- **Motion: To choose the nomination of either Delores ChavezHarmes or Steve Hutchison to serve as the chair of the Valley Center Community Planning Group.**
  - **Maker/Second:** Rattray/Garritson
  - **Delores ChavezHarmes = DCH (7 votes) | Steve Hutchison = SH (7 votes)**
  - **Delores ChavezHarmes and Steve Hutchison did not receive the minimum number of 8 votes to become the chair. Delores ChavezHarmes received 7 votes. Steve Hutchison received 7 votes. Dr. Mathew abstained from this vote. A roll call process was utilized for this vote.**
- |                                    |                                |                               |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ● Lisa Adams - <b>SH</b>           | ● Susan Fajardo - <b>SH</b>    | ● Bob Littlejohn - <b>SH</b>  |
| ● Chris Barber - <b>DCH</b>        | ● James Garritson - <b>DCH</b> | ● Matt Matthews - <b>Ab</b>   |
| ● Michelle Bothof - <b>DCH</b>     | ● Mary Hodson - <b>SH</b>      | ● LaVonne Norwood - <b>SH</b> |
| ● Delores ChavezHarmes- <b>DCH</b> | ● Steve Hutchison - <b>SH</b>  | ● Dori Rattray - <b>DCH</b>   |
| ● Vlad Ciupitu - <b>DCH</b>        | ● Karen Lieber - <b>SH</b>     | ● Tom Stinson - <b>DCH</b>    |
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- Ms. Rattray asked members to consider how proactive Chair Harmes has been in working with elected officials, Chief Napier, the highway patrol, and other community leaders.
  - Ms. Fajardo shared concerns she has about Chair Harmes continuing as the chair of the Planning Group.
  - Ms. Bothof shared comments about how the Planning Group needs to serve the community. Mr. Stinson shared that all members are here to work together. Ms. Norwood shared that she believes that change is a good thing. Mr. Garritson shared that there has been division within the group in past years.
  - Ms. Rattray shared her reasons for posting an editorial in the Valley Roadrunner. Mr. Littlejohn shared comments about the vote that took place between Mary Hodson and Tom Stinson at the September 2024 meeting. There was discussion about this vote and reasons for the Planning Group waiting until the November 5, 2024 election.
- **Motion: To choose the nomination of either Dori Rattray or Steve Hutchison to serve as the chair of the Valley Center Community Planning Group.**
  - **Maker/Second:** Norwood/Matthews
  - **Dori Rattray = DR (9 votes) and Steve Hutchison = SH (6 votes).**
  - **Dori Rattray received 9 votes and became the Chair of the Planning Group after this roll call vote was taken. Dori Rattray had 9 votes. Steve Hutchison had 6 votes.**
- |                                   |                               |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ● Lisa Adams - <b>SH</b>          | ● Susan Fajardo - <b>SH</b>   | ● Bob Littlejohn - <b>SH</b>  |
| ● Chris Barber - <b>DR</b>        | ● James Garritson - <b>DR</b> | ● Matt Matthews - <b>DR</b>   |
| ● Michelle Bothof - <b>DR</b>     | ● Mary Hodson - <b>SH</b>     | ● LaVonne Norwood - <b>DR</b> |
| ● Delores ChavezHarmes- <b>DR</b> | ● Steve Hutchison - <b>SH</b> | ● Dori Rattray - <b>DR</b>    |
| ● Vlad Ciupitu - <b>DR</b>        | ● Karen Lieber - <b>SH</b>    | ● Tom Stinson - <b>DR</b>     |

**5. Brown Act & I-1 Policy: (Informational)**

- Chair Harmes shared that members must share information with the Chair.  
Note: There is no hard requirement for this, though it is recommended.

**6. Project Assignments and Clarification: (Informational)**

- Chair Harmes shared that there is a rotating list of members who receive projects when they come up.

**F. Subcommittee Reports:**

**1) Emergency Evacuation**

- Chair Harmes has attempted to facilitate a meeting for the leaders of the community to create an evacuation route map. The Emergency Evacuation Committee only meets quarterly.

**2) Cannabis Subcommittee**

- No update.

**3) Parks & Rec/Trails**

- No update.

**4) CPU**

- The Supervisors will review the Corridor Study on February 26 and March 12.

**5) Mobility**

- No update.

**6) Revitalization**

- No update.

**F. Related Reports**

**1) Design Review Board**

- No update.

**2) Tribal Liaison**

- No update.

**3) Association of Planning Groups**

- Mr. Hutchison shared that the Association has requested more information about how transit tax money is spent. The Association is still trying to have a voting Seat on SANDAG. It was proposed that SANDAG tour our community to help determine an evacuation route for the Valley Center community.

**4) Board: Form 700 due April 1, 2025 / Ethics Training due April 1, 2025**

- Complete Form 700 and Ethics Training.

**G. Adjournment**

- Next regular meeting of VCCPG: **March 10, 2025 at 7 p.m.**
- **The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.**
- **Minutes were approved on March 10, 2025**

**James Garritson, Secretary**

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**Appendix VCCPG February 10, 2025 Minutes  
IMAGES BEGIN on the NEXT PAGE**

### Procedure to Elect the Chairperson at the February 10, 2025, Regular Meeting of the VCCPG

#### Process:

1. The Chair calls for nominations for the position of Chairperson. Nominations are made and seconded.
2. The Secretary records the names of all properly nominated candidates.
3. The Chair reads the first and last names of all properly nominated candidates and announces the start of the roll call vote.
4. A nominee cannot withdraw his or her nomination after the first vote is cast (after Step 5 begins). If they do choose to withdraw after Step 3, they must do so now. Immediately go back to Step 2.
5. The Secretary calls the last name of the first eligible voting member. Voting shall be by last name in alphabetical order (see below). When called, the member shall state who they are voting for by saying their chosen candidate's last name (e.g., "Brown" or "Smith"), or "abstain." If two or more candidates have the same or similar last names, the Member shall state both the first and last name of their chosen candidate. A vote for someone other than a properly nominated candidate is illegal and will not be counted toward the total. No "write-in" candidates are therefore allowed.
6. The Secretary says aloud the voting member's name and who they voted for (or that they abstained), and records the vote: "Mr. Jones votes for Ms. Smith." If a member is attending virtually, their vote is called for, made and recorded as if they were present in the room. If a member votes for an illegal candidate (e.g., "Mickey Mouse"), then the Secretary says "the vote cast by Mr. Jones was not for a qualified nominee."
7. The Secretary calls the last name of the second eligible voting member in alphabetical order, and the voting continues one-by-one following Steps 5 through 7 until all member's votes are made and recorded.
8. The Secretary announces, "All votes have been made and recorded."
9. The Secretary then asks: "Does anyone wish to change their vote?"
10. If a Member desires to change their vote (this can include abstentions and votes previously cast for an illegal candidate) they can do so now, but not after the Chair announces that the voting is closed in Step 13. To change their vote, they must say: "I wish to change my vote. I vote for Ms. Smith."
11. The Secretary says the member's name and who they voted for (or that they abstained), and records the vote.
12. If a Member changes their vote the Secretary amends the vote totals.
13. The Secretary asks again if anyone wants to change their vote. If a vote change is requested, go back to Step 10. If not and after a ten-second pause, the Chair announces: "The voting is closed." Go to Step 14.
14. The Secretary hands the recorded vote totals to the Chair.
15. The Chair reads the results, first by saying the candidate's last name and then by saying that candidate's vote total. This continues for each candidate until the vote totals for all qualified nominees have been announced. The Secretary will confirm that the totals read by the Chair accurately reflect what the Secretary recorded by saying, "I agree with the results read by the Chair." If the Secretary does not agree with the vote totals read by the chair, the Chair will work with the Secretary to determine why. If necessary, go back to Step 5 and vote again on the same nominees until the Secretary and Chair agree on the outcome of the election in Step 15. If the two agree, go on to Step 16.

16. If one candidate has received eight or more votes, the Chair announces the winner: "Ms. Smith has been elected as Chairperson." Go to Step 17. If no candidate receives eight or more votes, another round of nominations and voting is required. The chair announces, "As no candidate has received eight or more votes, another round of nominations and voting is required." Go back to Step 1. [Note: It is possible to have a different set of nominees in each round of voting.]
17. The Chair asks, "Does any Member dispute the result I just announced?" If no, move to Step 18. If yes, the dispute is discussed and resolved. Once resolved, move to Step 18.
18. The Chair announces that the election of the chair is over. and moves on to the next agenda item.
19. The Secretary records each round of voting and the results in the draft minutes, including summaries of any discussions involving discrepancies or disputes.

**ORDER OF VOTING**

<b>Seat #</b>	<b>Last Name</b>
6	Adams
11	Barber
1	Bothof
8	Ciupitu
14	Fajardo
12	Garritson
5	Harmes
13	Hodson
2	Hutchison
7	Lieber
9	Littlejohn
4	Matthews
10	Norwood
3	Ratray
15	Stinson