



## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL

City Council Chambers  
100 West California Avenue  
Ridgecrest, California 93555

September 17, 2014  
5:30 pm

This meeting was recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by City Council. Meetings are recorded for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

### CALL TO ORDER

### ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Clark, Council Members Marshall 'Chip' Holloway, Jim Sanders, Lori Acton, and Steve Morgan

Council Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Dennis Speer; City Clerk Rachel J. Ford; City Attorney Keith Lemieux (via teleconference); and other staff

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Closed session items added*

GC54956.9(d)(4) *Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation - Hi-Desert Construction v. City of Ridgecrest*

GC54956.9(d)(4) *Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Kyeong Corbin V. City of Ridgecrest*

***Motion To Add Two Items To Closed Session Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Roll Call Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent***

***Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended Made By Council Member Sanders, Second By Council Member Holloway. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.***

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION**

- None Presented

### **CLOSED SESSION**

GC54956.9(d)(4) Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Liability Claim Of Ada Seymour – Claim No. 14-10

### **REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.**

- Pledge Of Allegiance led by Lana Jenkins
- Invocation

### **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

- Closed Session
  - Conference with legal counsel – anticipated litigation – liability claim of Ada Seymour – Claim No. 14-10. Council received report, claim denied. City Clerk directed to send rejection notice.
  - Conference with legal counsel – existing litigation - hi-desert construction. Received report, no reportable action.
  - Conference with legal counsel – existing litigation - Corbin. Received report, no reportable action
- Other
  - None

### **PUBLIC COMMENT opened at 6:18 p.m.**

Randy Jenkins

- Read prepared statement about truth and a quote from Earnest Hemingway.
- Expressed his belief in Jesus and read scripture from the Bible.

Dan Brunet

- Resident since 1970
- Spoke on City receipt of offer to sell Sand Canyon to Mojave Desert Land Trust.
- Appraisal completed by licensed appraiser.
- Stated that City turned down the offer in hopes to get \$600k.
- Commented on water preservation and possible incompatible use in the future.
- Spoke on meeting with Mayor Clark and Council Member Sanders.
- City currently reviewing the decision and hoping for a favorable decision to sell at \$450k to the Mojave Desert Land Trust.
  - Lori Acton – asked if the current grant had some money left for the conservation program with local schools.
- Reviewed various school programs that have participated in water conservation training.

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### Allison Lavender

- Acquisition manager for the Mojave Desert Land Trust
- Explained the purpose of the Mojave Desert Land Trust for preservation and permanent conservation.
- Listed the statistics of current land ownership and explained the process used to acquisition land.
- Still interested in the Sand Canyon parcel.

### Penelope LePome

- Urged Council to consider the previous speakers proposal.
- Spoke on the current overdraft issues related to water.
- Commented on letter sent to various agencies to conserve water.
- Listed areas the City could conserve and preserve water.
  - Keith Lemieux – spoke on new legislation drafted and will provide to Council.
- Provided printed statement.

### Nick Coy

- Chairperson for veterans stand-down next Friday from 9-2
- More resources available than previous stand-down
- Made brochures available.
- Meeting times in October will be second Tuesday of the month.
  - Dan Clark – 25<sup>th</sup> is set-up for Stand-down beginning at 3:00 p.m. and asked for volunteers for set-up, tear-down, and during the event.

### Jerry Taylor

- Ridgecrest military banner program will reposition banners from Ridgecrest Blvd. to Norma and Downs street.
- Thanked Terry May for his assistance.
- Applicants still waiting to be processed. Apologized for the delay.
- Commented on the support for the program and trying to keep up with damaged signs.
- Chamber of Commerce is no longer the storefront and will be establishing the storefront at the swap sheet in the near future.
- Try to accommodate locations for applicants.
- Requested Council look at joint development program with Burroughs for quality of life. Base is working with school for lighting and other needs and asked Council consider artificial turf joint agreement.

Public Comment Closed at 6:43 p.m.

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**PRESENTATIONS**

1. **Presentation Of Employee Service Awards** **Clark**
  - Council presented service awards to employees who have reached years of service milestone.
2. **Presentation Of A Proclamation Recognizing Constitution Week** **Ford**
  - Council presented a proclamation to Pat Richard, representing the Daughters of the American Revolution

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

3. **Adopt A Resolution Approving Program Supplement Agreement No. 036-N With The State Of California, Department Of Transportation, Under Master Agreement No. 09-5385R And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Agreement For The Signal Synchronization On South China Lake Boulevard From West California Avenue To College Heights Boulevard** **Speer**
4. **Adopt A Resolution Amending The Professional Services Agreement With Willdan Engineering To Provide Additional Design, Bidding Services And Construction Inspection Services For The Federal Safe Routes To School Cycle 3 Project And Authorizing The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Execute This Agreement** **Speer**
5. **Adopt A Resolution Awarding A Construction Contract For The Federal Safe Routes To School Cycle 3 Project To Griffith Company And Authorizing The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Execute The Contract** **Speer**
6. **Adopt A Resolution Approving Authorization To Award A Construction Contract To Griffith Company For The Road Rehabilitation And Resurfacing Of South China Lake Boulevard From Upjohn Avenue To Bowman Avenue And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer To Execute The Contract** **Speer**
7. **Adopt A Resolution Approving A Letter Of Commitment To Participate In The Fresno State Office Of Community And Economic Development (OCED) East Kern County Economic Development Program** **Speer**

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8. Adopt A Resolution Approving A Community Development Activity Agreement (CD# 17.13.1) With The County Of Kern For The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding For The Senior Center Improvements (Design Only), And Accepting The Terms Of The Receipt Of CDBG Funds And The Authorizing The City Manager, Dennis Speer To Sign The Agreement Patin
9. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing Application For And Acceptance Of The State Of California, Office Of Traffic Safety STEP Grant Strand
10. Adopt A Resolution Approving A Proclamation Recognizing Freedom From Workplace Bullying Week And Authorizing The City Clerk To Mail The Proclamation To The Requestor Ford
11. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council/Successor Redevelopment Agency/Financing Authority/Housing Authority Minutes For Regular Meeting Dated August 20, 2014 Ford

Items Pulled From Consent Calendar

- Item Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10

*Motion To Approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 3, 4, 5, and 11 Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

Item No. 6 Discussion

Dave Matthews

- Questioned some of the terms. Avenue v. Road

Jerry Taylor

- Google maps listed Bowman Road
- Asked about bicycle lines
  - Steve Morgan – new law requires a 3 ft. distance from Bicycles
  - Dennis Speer – will stripe and sign based on regulations. Yes there is a line.

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### Item No. 8 discussion

Dave Matthews

- Asked what modifications will be performed at the Senior Center.
- Kitchen was recently updated.
- Commented on NARFE contribution of original PA system and other equipment that belongs to NARFE. Concerned about the equipment being lost or thrown away.

Jason Patin

- Design for ADA compliance and building repairs.

### Item No. 9 discussion

Dave Matthews

- Commented on money being used for Radar guns and speed detectors. Asked if we use those in the City.

Mike Neel

- Page 2 of resolution, asked if each enforcement would be separate activities.
  - Ron Strand - Part of the DUI checkpoint.
- DUI checkpoint supplies, is there something else City needs.
  - Ron Strand - \$10,500 for supplies will provide a list. Lighting, street pads and other items.
- Commented on previous monitoring of DUI checkpoints and quoted statistics. Between 300 and 500 to 1 driver that is a law abiding citizen.
- Encouraged saturation patrols which statistically are more effective.
- Commented on getting special attention if a person tries to avoid a checkpoint.
- Encouraged Council to remove DUI checkpoints from the list and have conversation about saturation patrols.

### Item No. 10 discussion

Dave Matthews

- Asked who the requestor is for the resolution.
- No objection to the proclamation I just does not see the need.

***Motion To Approve Item Nos. 6, 8, 9, and 10 Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.***

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### Item No. 7 discussion

Dennis Speer

- Presented staff report
- Template letter received after posting of the agenda which includes an in-kind contribution.
- Staff offers use of meeting room as in-kind contribution equivalent to \$4,000
- Additional request for catered meals and cost for box meals in amount to be determined by Council.
- Purpose is to determine Council desire to participate and establish level of participation.

Jim Sanders

- Want to participate.

Steve Morgan

- Agreeable with meeting room but do not agree with providing meals.
- Commented on another grant writing group and asked about possible joint effort.

Lori Acton

- Want to participate and suggested those attending pay for their meals.

Dennis Speer

- Commented on possibility of in-kind contribution being a discounted rate for meals.

Chip Holloway

- Approach is unique and dinner is a component of the group bonding process. If you break bread on consistent basis then get more cooperation from them. Want to do what Fresno State suggested and keep it within a reasonable budget

Jim Sanders

- Asked we check with local restaurants and determine the cost.

Dan Clark

- Asked how many would be participating and would they be sharing the cost.
  - Dennis Speer – between 75-100 and hope they share the cost.

### Public comment

- None presented

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Dan Clark

- Comfortable with accepting as presented with meeting room and meals.
  - Dennis Speer – asked for an amount for the food.
- Modified suggestion to approve participation and \$4,000 in-kind for meeting room.

Chip Holloway

- Meals are for 9 meeting held in Ridgecrest.

Dennis Speer

- Suggest costs come from Economic Development TAB funds.

*Motion To Approve Item No. 7 For In-Kind Donation Of Meeting Room In The Amount Of \$4000 And Up To \$3500 CAP For Meals, Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

## ORDINANCES

**12. Second Reading And Adoption, Ordinance No. 14-01, An Ordinance Of The Ridgecrest City Council Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code As It Relates To Conflict Of Interest** Lemieux

Dan Clark

- Presented staff report.

Public Hearing – Ordinance No. 14-01 – opened at 7:15 p.m.

- None Presented

Public Hearing Closed at 7:16 p.m.

*Motion To Waive Reading In Full And To Adopt By Title Only, Ordinance No 14-01, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code As It Relates To Conflicts Of Interest Made By Council Member Holloway , Second By Council Member Acton . Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

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### Ordinance No. 14-01 *(continued)*

*Motion To Adopt, By Title Only, Ordinance No. 14-01, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code As It Relates To Conflicts Of Interest Made By Council Member Morgan , Second By Council Member Holloway . Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

## DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

### 13. Adopt A Resolution Supporting Kern Citizens For Energy

Holloway

Chip Holloway

- Presented staff report

Tracy Leach

- Presented overview of Kern Citizens for Energy and listed other cities that have or are preparing to adopt resolutions.
- Asked for Council support

### Public Comment

Dave Matthews

- Encouraged Council to support this program.

Justin O'Neill

- Commented on research being incomplete.
- Asked where Kern Citizens for Energy stand on transparency in terms of companies involved. Asking those companies to provide list of chemicals being injected by fracking and contamination.
  - Tracy Leach – asking for general support for the industry. Do not have a problem with transparency and fully support the EPA environmental impact report currently being prepared. Feel the industry is worthy of the general support as it is important to Kern County. Oil industry is fine with regulating and adjusts and adapts. Want to give a shout out to this industry.
- Asked Council to ask for transparency whenever possible.

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Chip Holloway

- SB 4 passed last year is the most restrictive legislation in history regarding fracking. Opponents will come up with another question because their goal is to create a statewide moratorium or threaten it to discourage investments. Ultimate goal is to force public to renewable fuels and that would devastate Kern County more than losing our water issue. The goal is to create awareness. Already lost 2000 jobs in Kern County because it is easier to drill somewhere else.

Tracy Leach

- Goal is education and would rather have the jobs here and produce our own energy

***Motion To Approve Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.***

**14. Conduct A Public Hearing And Adopt A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest, County Of Kern, State Of California Approving Revision Of Countywide Siting Element Of The Kern County And Incorporated Cities Integrated Waste Management Plan Speer**

Dennis Speer

- Presented staff report and introduced Nancy Ewert from Kern County Waste Management Department.

Nancy Ewert

- Reviewed the history of the Integrated Waste Management plan and the revised Siting Element.
- Commented on effective participation for hazardous waste program.
- Siting Element identifies disposal capacity.
- Newly defined disposal site utilizing cement plant requires a revision to the siting element.
- Approval is discretionary action by resolution and requires a double majority approval of cities and board of supervisors.

*Public Hearing opened at 7:38 p.m.*

Dave Matthews

- Did not hear mention of e-waste, is that in the plan.
  - Nancy Ewert – this siting plan is for solid waste. E-waste is not part of this plan rather the household hazard waste plan.

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Dave Matthews *(continued)*

- Conversion facility, where is it located?
  - Nancy Ewert – Lea-Hi cement is making application to convert to a facility. Engineered municipal solid waste. Siting element has to list the facility before Lea-Hi application can move forward.
- Related experience as a young man. Steel mill town that dumped their trash into an incinerator.

Randy Jenkins

- Asked if the landfill trash would be transported to Tehachapi.
  - Nancy Ewert – possibility for the future but currently has to meet specific specifications to use that material. Is a possibility for converting kern county waste to reusable energy in the future but not at this time?
- Asked for statistics on how much of the landfill capacity would be saved.
  - Nancy Ewert – can take no more than 200 tons of material per day. Does not count as diversion, rather disposal. Bakersfield disposes of 800-1000 tons per day. Processing has to occur and there will still be material that will not go to this engineered solid waste. Do look at any option for future energy conversion and very supportive of the technology. First step in the process and helps offset greenhouse gas emissions.
- Commented about pollution factor and asked about 100% recycling systems.
  - Nancy Ewert – have heard of zero waste goals but there is still some waste. Companies are adopting zero waste goals and committing to reducing disposal. State of California has a zero waste goal and they are about 70%-80% there. Pollution factor, if still landfilling in 30 years then shame but it will happen because not possible to do 100% recycle. Explained studies which indicate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- Asked if County was willing to pay for transport or does City have to pay.
  - Nancy Ewert – currently operating on a business model. Currently cost effective over burning.
- Commented on past trash issue so interested in finding ways of dealing with these issues and possibly generating revenue. Is there is a potential for revenue to City for our disposed waste from Ridgecrest.
  - Nancy Ewert –economic benefit is disposal cost would be less than current. I understand Ridgecrest has a heightened awareness of solid waste issues.
- Referencing supply and demand, the companies that would use this as alternate resource and we have the product, then steps we take should include a price for revenue. Revenue could be used to provide our needs with regards to solid waste.

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Steve Morgan

- If City in future wishes to build a facility and transport then would be willing to support it but more likely the company we hire to pick up our trash will receive the benefit. Asked public to review all incorporated cities in Kern County which will show Ridgecrest is the only City with voluntary recycling and trash.

Chip Holloway

- Asked about bio-solids and prohibition for fuel sources.

Jim Sanders

- Asked how the engineered solid waste is not considered diversion.
  - Nancy Ewert – explained 3 types of disposal facilities. Transformation counts as disposal. Core belief is not to turn solid waste into energy but recycle only. Cement kilns are trying to meet their greenhouse gas emission levels and this is a way they can accomplish the goal. Step in the right direction and hope legislation will catch up.

Lori Acton

- Question regarding recycling green waste. Companies can compost at a higher rate. Does Kern County compost at this time?
  - Nancy Ewert – mandatory commercial organic recycling legislation currently being chaptered. Composting still costs with transport and facility regulations. Provided numbers for City of Bakersfield. Looking at process to roll out mandatory recycling and county working to be prepared for it.

Dan Clark

- Thanked Nancy for coming from Bakersfield to answer the questions.

***Motion To Approve Integrated Waste Management Siting Element Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Holloway. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.***

### **15. Adopt A Resolution Requesting Acceptance Of The Speed Zone Survey Report And Authorization To Post The Speed Zones Accordingly Speer**

Dennis Speer

- Presented staff report
- Norma Ave from Ridgecrest Blvd to Las Flores will increase from 25 mph to 30 mph

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Dan Clark

- Asked if this is a recommendation or requirement
  - Dennis Speer - responded

Steve Morgan

- Not just the speeds traveled as part of this recommendation. Other factors considered are residential dwellings in that area
  - Dennis Speer – safety considerations allows the recommended speed to be reduced which is what has been done with this recommendation.

### *Public Comment*

Robert Gould

- Commented on Norma south of Las Flores being residential and expressed concerns that current speed still makes it difficult to back out of driveways. Concerned about increases and asked for resources to monitor and slow the traffic down.

Dave Matthews

- Agreed with previous speaker and California law in residential requires 25 mph. When will we stop increasing based on drivers deciding to not follow the laws? 30 mph is not reasonable, should stay at 25 mph. Residents living on that street can't back into or out of their driveways. Don't think it should be raised.

Randy Jenkins

- Concur with the two previous speakers. Related incident of walking in that area and a little boy chasing ball into the street. There was a car parked and drivers were coming fast, had the child run out farther he would have been hit and killed.
- Statistics is an average but have seen drivers go thru quite often at race car speeds with no care for the laws. Commented on safety. As soon as you up the speed drivers will begin going even faster. With regard to the people living in that area, passing thru then 25 mph is a safety factor. Government guards to safety of the public and takes care of the infrastructure. Regardless of the fact that someone wants to get somewhere faster, request safety be the governing factor.
  - Steve Morgan – if we do nothing and leave it at 25 mph then cannot enforce any speed limit according to the law. This is an unfortunate reality that occurs when road surfaces are improved.

Tom Wiknich

- Asked Mr. Speer to relate his experience with this issue.
  - Dennis Speer – complied. Will have to do a speed study on Ridgecrest Blvd and am opposed with a study from Norma to China Lake. Cannot use radar unless a study is completed. Back in time, someone should never have requested a speed study because now we have to abide by that law.

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Chip Holloway

- Perfect example of the law having unintended consequences. This law came about to prevent speed traps but no one saw the long term implications.

***Motion To Approve Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.***

*Adjourned Council meeting and convened as Successor Redevelopment Agency at 8:30 p.m.*

### **16. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency Approving The Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) 2014-15B** **Parsons**

Gary Parsons

- Presented staff report and identified the changes made from the previous ROPS.

Public Comment opened at 8:35 p.m.

Mike Neel

- Commented on ominous undertones regarding the \$3 million wastewater loan. If the loan is not paid by ROPS will fall back on the City.
  - Gary Parsons – if DOF does not approve, then City could choose to sue the state similar to AMG issue. City Attorney indicates we have a strong case.
- Asked who loses out, does wastewater lose the funds or does City general fund have to pay the loan?
  - Gary Parsons – if these issues cannot be resolved then could utilize RDA Bond funds we have to pay the loan.
- Stated it would have been better to leave the wastewater fund alone.
  - Dan Clark – this was done by previous Council but cost effectiveness with the Solar then was an excellent use of funds. Only reason this issue exists now is the RDA was dissolved by the State. Most cities leverage money to save money. Was a good decision at the time, saved a lot of money being paid for energy and loan would have been paid off by 2015 with a 20 year savings?
- Suggested funneling some of these savings into a reserve fund.

Stan Rajtora

- Agree, at the time it was a good decision.
- RDA represented by the same people that represent the general fund so would hope that if this is not approved by the state then general fund should repay the loan.

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Randy Jenkins

- Commented on broader ramifications than money and taxes. Referenced previous discussions of the needs of the future wastewater plant. I am conservative and not a person for higher taxes, over several years the burden of money borrowed because the tax burden for sewer is going to be tripled. Could have done a smaller increase over longer period of time.
  - Steve Morgan – the increase Council passed had nothing to do with the loan. City Council had not increase fees for a long period of time as good stewards and could not continue to do that. Wastewater loan for the solar field was going to be paid back to RDA. We were borrowing our own money.
- Money would have been used for wastewater plant. Increasing the sewer fees is an unreasonable tax hike. Referenced the Boston Tea Party.
  - Steve Morgan – our sewer fee is below other cities.
- What we do here is what matters and we have always had reasonable taxes. This was not reasonable.
  - Dan Clark – presented scenario of the need to build the plant and no money in the fund. Past Councils did not do their job and this Council did by raising the fees. If we had not done this we would not have a facility in five years. When sitting here there is a responsibility to make these decisions even if they are unpopular. Point is well taken, many Councils ago should have raised the fees and did not, and therefore it was dumped on this Council.
- Suggested setting a precedent of funding great ideas with a loan and then triple the taxes. What is to stop us from doing it again?

***Motion To Approve Made By Council Member Holloway, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Clark, Council Members Holloway, Sanders, Acton, And Morgan); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.***

***Closed Successor Redevelopment Agency Meeting At 8:52 P.M. And Reconvened To City Council Meeting.***

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### **Activate Community Talents And Interventions For Optimal Neighborhoods Task Force (ACTION)**

Members: Jim Sanders, Dan Clark

Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month at 4:00 P.M., Kerr-McGee Center

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Dan Clark

- Reviewed statistics of Teen Court and Campus Police showing that it is working.
- Commented on 25% of police contacts suspected of Methamphetamine use.
- Neighborhood watch moving forward
- Police education program coming soon.

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### Veterans Advisory Committee

Members: Dan Clark

Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month At 6:00 p.m., Kerr McGee Center

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Dan Clark

- VET access to care by choice, transparency act of 2014 allows private provider for medical needs

### Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Chip Holloway

Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Chip Holloway

- Read Directors Report (*Attachment A*)

## OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Lori Acton

- Announced the Methamphetamine Prevention Task Force, east training room of the commonwealth building on Truxton in Bakersfield

Chip Holloway

- Kern COG meeting tomorrow

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

Dennis Speer

- October 1 meeting has two Council members attending the ICSC meeting with Mr. Parsons. Asked Council to check calendars to ensure there will be a quorum.
  - Steve Morgan – 3 reasons that I cannot attend the ICSC meeting so will be at the Council meeting.
- Met with Dr. Hogue regarding office space and it meets their needs so startup date for iDEA Hub is October 15.
- Paving on west Ridgecrest Blvd. will begin in the next week so asked Council to begin considering dates for a ribbon cutting.
  - Lori Acton – asked about equipment that was damaged today
- That was City equipment and not used on the Ridgecrest Blvd. project.

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### MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Steve Morgan

- With other legislation coming there is a new law requiring a 3 foot buffer to bicycles regardless of whether they are in a bike lane or not. Encouraged public to be responsible, this law is enforceable.
- Groundwater laws, a lot of good information received from the community. Suggestions of working with water district are valid and working with wastewater treatment plant for tertiary component is definitely something we have to do but will increase the cost of the plant.
- I was on the Council that listened to the public asking us not to raise sewer rates and now it caught up. When we construct the new plant will have to borrow less money than previously at a high interest rate.
- League of California Cities conference discussion on astro plants. Provided information to Jason Patin showing fake trees. This is a possibility for subsequent projects and medians. Don't have to go live or waste water. There is an expense but am intrigued with the idea. Things being done with walls and a plasticized concrete and will ask Jason to look at it also. Will be personally looking at this for fencing at my house. These are the types of things we receive at League of California Cities and we leave with staff.
- On the issue of lighting and SCE poles. Spoke with several companies regarding LED lighting and could be of interest for us.
- League did not have anyone at the conference regarding financial systems.
- Kosmont document provided to Gary Parsons in reference to TAB Bonds. Ken Herrera called and was at the League booth. An opportunity for refinancing bonds and thanked Gary Parsons for bringing Kosmont to us.
- ICSC conference is important to attend because that is where developers are who are looking for empty buildings. There are benefits to aid this community in attending this conference.

Lori Acton

- Attending ICSC. Good things happening in our community with industrial development. Thanked Gary Parsons for all the hard work he put in on these projects. Excited to see these things develop.
- Asked Mr. Neel about statement of not getting a response. Want to make sure that you are getting what you need.
- Desert renewable energy conservation plan. Information requested for future agenda. Need to get the updated information which can affect our use of the land for desert races and other activities.
- Want to discuss Waste Management's proposal for recycling for compost materials.
  - Dennis Speer – will talk with consultant and return with information.
- September 21 is thank a police officer day

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Lori Acton *(continued)*

- Past weekend was dance walk for multiple sclerosis. Sister has MS and is progressing quickly. Fun Mud Run coming up and encouraged people to participate.
- Taking tour of Boron Borax plant.

Jim Sanders

- Appreciate good meeting with a lot of good topics
- Toured wastewater facility a couple weeks ago and it was very educational. Saw first-hand the horrible conditions of parts of the facility, other parts are in good condition. Goal was to understand how we can use wastewater at the end of the cycle. Spoke with staff including John Bracken. In order to do anything with the water then have to have a tertiary component. Anytime the public can come into contact with the watered grass then has to be treated with tertiary component.
- Parade of 1000 flags. Thanked the exchange club and community who put this event together. First great impression of Ridgecrest was that parade and sealed the deal for me with Ridgecrest.
- Regarding Constitution week, read favorite founding father quotes from John Adams. We are a patriotic community and a moral people and that is why freedom succeeds here in Ridgecrest more than in other communities. Read other quotes by Samuel Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Liberty is not a calm sea and exercising Liberty and Freedom there are undue cause but good does come from them.

Chip Holloway

- Congratulate community on the 1000 flags parade. Seems to be growing. Posted pictures and received the most comments from people who had left Ridgecrest
- Astro turf at Burroughs is a money saving thing and could also be a branding item. When attending games out of town and they have astro-turf I remember them.
- League of California cities keeps getting shorter for cost savings but there was more to do. Commented on a Cal-recycle grant and now there is a colored bark that is attractive like rock. Want to pursue that idea.
- Attended one session that LaQuinta went to a pay for performance system rather than step system and 65 classifications to 15.
- Attended presentation of police chiefs from antelope valley, we have so few problems from ab109 than the other communities in the state. Early releases went from 7,000 to 11,000 in 2 years and now county jails will start being released even earlier. We have been shielded from the effects of AB109.
- Met with the people from the HERO program. Several houses have taken advantage of the HERO program. Website is heroprogram.com with water and conservation products for the home. Goal is to get contractors on there and residents using the program.

## MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

September 17, 2014

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Chip Holloway *(continued)*

- Hydrogen cell project for the state of California is the future of California. The success of the hydrogen highway program does not rely on converting our City fleet to be successful. Interesting where they are going and we have a unique situation where our remoteness may benefit us.
- If there is anything we can do to minimize the impact Ridgecrest Blvd. construction has had on the small businesses. The problem was not our fault, is the utilities that delayed the project, but would like to do something to help these businesses.
- Received unsolicited praise for Gary Parsons work in this community. Want to publicly let you know. People were seeking us out because of your efforts.

Dan Clark

- Thanked Randy Jenkins, Eddie Thomas, Peggy Breeden, Steven, and Chip. Vote for those who are attending the meetings and paying attention to this community.
- Thank you letter from Tom Sepulvic for memorial plaque and tree for his wife.
- Petroglyph lapel pins are available. Excited about the petroglyph festival and the rocks are going up which will be part of the educational component. Thanked supervisor Gleason for his assistance.
- Met with the Paiute tribe who will put together a Native American encampment and the language of the tribe.
- Met with a cub scout and encouraged attendance at the youth advisory committee. Spoke on the empowerment that comes with participating on the youth advisory committee. Disenfranchise formerly seen in the classroom is gone and the youth advisory committee played a part. Had approximately 70 students attend the last meeting. Encouraged Council members to participate and spend time with the kids.
- Thanked the exchange club for the parade of 1000 flags. District representative attended and relayed a conversation with him regarding the exchange club. Possibility of speaking at the desert mountain club.
- Thanked everyone for attending.

**ADJOURNMENT at 9:43 p.m.**



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Rachel J. Ford, CMC  
City Clerk

# ATTACHMENT A

## Monthly Director's Report for RACVB For September 3, 2014 Held at Best Western China Lake Inn

- ❖ August 11, 2014 - Chamber of Commerce meeting with a Luncheon presentation from Doug Lueck, Mayor Dan Clark, and Harris Brokke with others as well as Ramon Jaime having a video presentation for upcoming Petroglyph Festival.
- ❖ August 13, 2014 - Visit California conference call for an hour, which Doug Lueck was a part of pertaining to Tourism, in general and the outcome was to give content on the website as to what to see and do in Ridgecrest.
- ❖ August 20, 2014 - Doug Lueck and Ramon Jaime met with John Watkins of the Daily Independent. Now the Daily Independent is one of the RACVB's sponsors for the upcoming Petroglyph Festival.
- ❖ August 22, 2014 Doug Lueck gave an interview with Fritz Freiberg, who is Station Manager of KZGN a local Television station, about general tourism and excitement generated with mention of upcoming Petroglyph Festival.
- ❖ September 1, 2014 - Ramon Jaime of Film Liaisons in California Statewide (FLICS) announced that Ridgecrest Film Commission is featured on homepage of FLICS website. Site receives approximately 1,000 unique visitors each month of location managers and production professionals who are looking to film in California
- ❖ Legislation approves AB 1839 on August 30, 2014. Once Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr signs this "law it will make key improvements in Film and Television Tax Credit Program and put thousands of Californians to work". The "agreement increases tax credit to \$ 330 million a year for five years beginning with fiscal year 2015-16".
- ❖ September 24, 2014 - Doug Lueck, invited by Joanie Haenelt to attend Showcase for Kern County with a display, it will be held at the "Old Museum in Bakersfield", begins at 4 PM.
- ❖ The RACVB has a new display, donated from HSUMD/City of Ridgecrest drop by RACVB office to check out the "Shadow Box" display of "Things to See and Do" in Ridgecrest.
- ❖ RACVB is challenging businesses in town to have Petroglyphs painted on their buildings by artist Nick Null. Initially Doug & Meris Lueck painted Petroglyphs where Daily Independent sign is and so far SASS, TOSS, IWV Insurance, Swap Sheet, Kristy's and Casey's Steak & BBQ have taken on the challenge! Doug Lueck of RACVB has a goal of 30 business to get Petroglyphs painted on them, with **proceeds going to Ridgecrest Animal Shelter**, please contact RACVB for more details on this challenge.

See next page

**FILMING: Ridgecrest Regional Film Commission**

**ReKon Productions**

**Type of Filming:** Music Video

**Cineaste Films**

**Type of Filming:** Music Video

**Big Monocle**

**Type of Filming:** Music Video

**Inyokern Airport:**

**TOOL Filming**

**Type of Filming:** Volkswagen Car Commercial

**Total Revenue Generated for August 2014: \$ 115,000.00**

Next Board of Director's meeting will be Wednesday, October 1, 2014, location to be determined.