

### **MINUTES**

Meeting Location - Online Zoom: Webinar Join Zoom Meeting at www.zoom.com Webinar ID: 896 7408 5265 Passcode: 211269

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To allow for public interaction, you may submit comments and questions by filling out the comment/question form on the CATC web site <a href="https://www.castaictowncouncil.org">www.castaictowncouncil.org</a>. Please include your name, address, and which agenda item your comment and/or question is regarding. Web site comment/question forms must be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. the day of the scheduled meeting.

During the meeting you may submit your comment and questions on the Zoom link using the chat link but must include your name, address, and agenda item number. If you make a Request to Speak you will be limited to 3 minutes per person (please state that you are making a Request to Speak and you will be called on during discussion of that agenda item).

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER @ 6:38PM.

### 2. ROLL CALL

REGION	PRESENT	NAME (TITLE) SERVICE TERM 2021-2024	PRESENT	NAME (TITLE) SERVICE TERM 2023-2026
ı	AB	ANDREW CHAMBERS	Х	JASON GARDNER
II	Х	ABIGAIL DESESA (VICE PRESIDENT)	X	OSHEA ORCHID
III	Х	DAVID BOYER (SECRETARY)	X	MICHAEL MINOR
IV	Х	JEFF PREACH	X	BOB LEWIS (PRESIDENT)
V	Х	JIM D'ADDARIO (TREASURER)	Х	CHRIS DITTES

### 3. INVOCATION



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### 4. COUNCIL OFFICERS FOR 2024

President - Bob Lewis

Vice-President - Abigail DeSesa

Secretary - David Boyer

Treasurer - Jim D'Addario

Motion by M.Minor. Second by C.Dittes. Vote 9/0/0.

### 5. HEARING SESSION

A. Approval of Agenda

Motion by A.DeSesa. Second by J.D'Addario. Vote 9/0/0.

items will be discussed during agenda item #12 Open Discussion.

B. Questions and Comments \_\_\_\_\_.

Note: If a question/comment form is sent regarding a matter that is on the agenda, the question or comment will be read when the agenda item is brought up. Questions or comments on non-agenda

# 6. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

- A. Public Safety.
  - 1. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. Deputy Ortiz-Vences / Captain Justin Diez.
- Deputy Ortiz-Vences unavailable.
  - 2. California Highway Patrol Officer Wilson.
- Officer Wilson: Sent CHP statistics by email. 1,293 citations for December. 196 in Castaic including I-5. 3 parking citations on Castaic Rd. 29 Collisions. 8 Injury and 1 Hit and Run. No fatalities. Council: Is Lake Hughes road now open? Capt. Kruesey; signs gone now. Julian Garcia: Road is reopened but may close for repairs as further investigation and work is completed. Council: Discussions re: what roads CHP enforces on. Officer Wilson: Re: Motorcycle riding near Sloan Canyon/Hillcrest. Resident requesting information. If on private road is issue enforcing. Will work with resident to see what CHP can do.
  - 3. Los Angeles County Fire Dept. Community Services Liaison Maria Grycan.
- Sent out LACO incident report by email to Council Members. Maria Grycan: Nov/Dec stats reviewed. 156 responses in November. 189 responses in December. Providing CERT training at Val Verde Regional Park on Monday, 2/26/2024, 7 consecutive Monday meetings for program. Training is free. Disaster Preparedness, Search and Rescue, Incident command, etc.. CERT: Community Emergency Response Team. Helps train citizens to be self-sufficient in a major emergency situation. Chief Sprengel; Incident at Chiquita Canyon. Chief Mario, Chief Fernando Flores, Chief ?? Incident: 1/15/2024 responded to CCL with reported issue. Light smoke coming from flange at base of cylinder. Tank was off line and isolated from system and had no contents. Material smoldering in tank was cleaning materials, carbon particles. Fire extinguished with water without incident. No threat to personnel on scene, to landfill or community. Council: Is tank for leachate? Chief Mario and Chief Fernando Flores: Tank had nothing to do with leachate. Collects gases, pushes through filter system. Is a filter for gases not for leachate. Public Question: Is fire insurance for Castaic area considered high risk? Chief Sprengel; Majority of Castaic falls within high or very high fire severity zone per mapping from CalFire/State. LaCoFire mandated by State law to follow. Maps date back



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to 2007. Maria Grycan; Insurance companies do their own risk assessments with their own criteria for risk assessment.

### 7. SPECIAL REPORTS

- A. Chiquita Canyon Landfill Update on odor complaints, Notice of Violations, mitigation.
- Council: Agencies first, landfill report following. New information only/requested.
  - 1. AQMD Updates on odor complaints, Notice of Violations (NOV), Order for Abatement.
- Meeting yesterday did not finish, unsure if was continued. Larry Israel: Approx. 700 odor complaints and 7 NOV's issued in December. January 300 complaints with 4 NOV's issued to date. Primarily in Val Verde with Live Oak and Hasley Hills also reporting issues. Yesterday commenced hearing before South Coast Air Monitor ing board. Unanimous decision to accept, completely stipulated, modification. Conditions re; community monitoring and real time monitoring available to community as done with Aliso Canyon. Leachate seepage events for past 6 months and getting handle on that. Excavated waste material handling excavation manage ment plan requiring permit. Council: H2S is Hydrogen Sulfide and Benzene. Larry: yes. Council: Monitoring in Val Verde and at Live Oak Elementary. Larry: Yes. Council: Lot of conversation in hearing about Benzene. update re: this chemical. Larry Israel: Benzene outside his area of expertise. Noted high reading in No vember. Did get elevated ambient air readings in mid/late October. Collected at fence line of CCL. Findings from hearing will be posted online. Public: Tim Trotter: Why is it we need more testing and why compare to other locations? Larry: As long as odor complaints and as long as reaction is on-going. Something community is asking for and is proper to be doing. Tim Trotter: Why need more testing for dump? Why keep comparing to other failed dumps? Larry: Is information benefitting community. Includes from other agencies. Council: If don't do testing, don't know if is getting better, worse, etc.. Testing is facts to determine if landfill is in compliance or not. Tim Trotter: Today went outside and eyes burning, headaches, etc.. Feels have enough testing to act on at this time. Kerry Frohling: Benzene level is located near Live Oak Elementary School at 6.96. AQMD need evaluated further. What is being done to evaluate? Larry: Issue was validity of data of QAQC, was sampler that is not AQMD sampler, but from existing sampler. Testimony was with respect to trying to validity information and show more accurate data. Work in progress. Council: What agency responsible for closing landfill? Asked to be addressed by agency during this agenda item. Does AQMD have ability to close landfill? Larry: No. Public: Richard: Who is doing testing for AQMD and who is paying for it? Larry: AQMD is paying for the testing they conduct. Landfill has permit from AQMD to operate, if AQMD pulls permit, would they be able to continue to operate: Larry: Permit is for operating gas, not day-to-day landfill operations.
  - 2. County Taskforce Update from L.A. County Public Works & L.A. County Regional Planning.
- Mickey Esposito, LA County PW representing County Task Force; Supv. brought motion in October 2023. One directive in motion coordinate with regional water control board to assess surface and ground water quality. Also formation multi-jurisdictional EPA level task force of Federal, State and Local agencies. Water Control board is lead for water in California. Regional board will attend CAC meetings moving forward. Assembled water quality team of experts. Samples are collected and tested on a regular basis, so have robust existing data base. Assembling and analyzing data to report in February CAC. Currently don't see effects, but want time to analyze fully before reporting. Imiko Thompson re: Flare, PW: Application for flare #4 filed in October. Waiting on CCL to file building permit application. Council: CAC = Community Advisory Committee, meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at Castaic library and is online. Council: LA County Regional Planning, oversees community use permit for landfill, does Regional Planning have power to enforce the CUP and power to withdraw permit and close landfill. Steve Jerrod?: Are conditions in CUP that do allow County Planning to or der cessation of operating landfill. Is not Regional planning alone to make that determination. Are receiving requests from public to close landfill. CUP is instrument to make closure happen. Decision on County side would be action of Task Force and County Counsel. Council: As of today, has Regional Planning found Landfill CASTAIC AREA TOWN COUNCIL TOWN HALL MEETING PAGE 3 OF 7



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to be in violation of CUP? Steve: Yes they have. Issued NOV which is tied to a technical agency. Only if land-fill not working with that agency, would they elevate. Look to technical agencies for direction re: enforcement. Council: Specificity of violation? Steve: ai-Viet Huynh: Had to do with nuisance and with not following AQMD order. Steve: Condition 12 and 63 of CUP. Ask is to work with AQMD to implement remedial measures. Council: Santa Clara River Watershed meeting did not mention, anything heard? Mickey: Haven't heard anything either from them at PW. Mickey: Will mention this to regional board and reach out to them. Public: Lori: If landfill is closed, who is responsible for stopping the underground reaction? Steve: Are post closure requirements to be implemented. Mickey: Would be a specific legal question to be posed to County Counsel. Understanding is responsibility would track to landfill owner. Will take it back to attorneys and respond to public. Sara Olaguez: Is leaking of leachate another violation of CUP? Steve: Will be something he will need to look into. Will take it back to management and will get back to Sarah directly with more information.

- 3. Public Health Update from L.A. County Public Health.
- Dr. Nichole Quick: Still in process of conducting Human health evaluation. Benzene is a compound they are looking at for cancer risk. Firm is contracted and doing air sampling and benzene will be addressed in that. Council: When talking about Benzene in hearing levels did exceed risk levels. Ongoing testing for Benzene was not currently being done. Recommendation made to test for Benzene needing to be done in the Val Verde community. Items testing in landfill not same as in community. Dr. Quick: Benzene elevations reported by CCL, do necessitate follow up and testing within the community. Council: Public health doing monitoring? Dr. Quick: No. Council: H2S common symptoms? Dr. Quick: Smelly and results in nausea, headache, respiratory and eye irritations. Council: Common symptoms of Benzene? Dr. Quick: Usually associated with cancer risk. More concerned due to many years of exposure. Concerned is cancer risk many years in the future. Reported conditions more associated with LFG. Council: Benzene levels were acute as reported in hearing. Dr. Quick: Investigating report from Live Oak Elementary acute level reported. Public: Kerry Frohling: Wants to make sure cancer rate in Castaic is being tracked and LA health getting data? Dr. Quick: Don't have specific cancer data collected for area. Assessment is current conditions and if projected forward. Tim Trotter: Did submit email disclosure of health last 18 months. Dr. Quick: Are keeping track and responding to individuals reporting symptoms. Asked it be resent to ensure response is followed up. Sara Olaguez: If Benzene only now being reported, how do we know haven't been exposed for years. Dr. Quick: Health assessment due early this year. Council: Does findings of public health effect lead to closure of landfill? Dr. Quick: No. Council: Locations, are there discussions of new landfills being made? Dr. Quick: Not a Public Health topic. Public: Natalie: Over 23 years and cancer cluster in tier I, this is not a new event.
  - 4. Local Enforcement Agency Update from L.A. County Public Health.
- Enforcement on behalf of Cal Recycle. Shikari Ota: Enforces State standards. Do monthly inspections. Issuing 2 violations; a) Methane Exceedance and b) Reaction to Violation. Is not in a state of reasonable repair. Re: Mitigation measures. All communications shared with Regional Planning. 4 items in 11/21 LEA letter: 1) require plan to conduct soil reaction break, temperature monitoring probes, 2) Cover. LEA required 24 inches of compacted soil. CCL doing 30mm geosynthetic cover instead of soil and accepted that alternative, 3) Re: CCL monitoring fissure and tension cracks have been complying. Issued contingency approval for slope stability analysis. Council: Can find LEA enforcement on County website and is available on Cal Recycles website; Calrecycle on google will lead to site and SWIS search and enter Chiquita Canyon Landfill to access documents.
  - 5. Chiquita Canyon Landfill (A Waste Connection Company) Update Steve Cassulo & John Perkey.
- Steve Cassulo: N.W. corner prepped and will place liner over next week. 28 acres will be covered over next 3-5 weeks. Will surround 20 ac reaction area with temperature probes to collect data. Gas collection system will be operated under liner. Have installed 25 new wells. Planning on adding 70 additional wells.



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Key to controlling is extracted gases and liquids. John Perkey, Attorney: Updated conditions from hearings, additional oversight. Additional meetings with AQMD. Improving and adding additional mitigation measures. Will roll out 28 day continuous monitoring program. 24 hour sampling. 10-12 locations. Based upon com plaint data received thru AQMD. CCL does quarterly monitoring required to be submitted to EPA that in cludes Benzene level reporting. All testing done on-site and perimeter. Council: RE: Permit for building pad for flare #4, when will this be completed. Steve: Finalizing Flare #3 permit. Requires engineering de sign that involves earth work. Weeks away from getting 2nd application submitted. Same flare type as flare #3. Council: Steve previously stated was reaching out to other landfills who have had this issue. What is his best guess when will this odor issue be mitigated? Steve: By this summer. Reaction will be ongoing for years, but odor mitigation by summer. Council: RE: 24 hour monitoring, is that monitoring different from real time monitoring results available to community? John Perkey; Yes. Is in addition to the two real time monitors. Real time monitoring are being ordered and will require coordination with agencies affected at sites. Hope to have installed within 60-75 day timeframe. Public: Tim Trotter; Did they watch or attend hearing last two days and re: comments regarding past liner history from Mike ?? Steve: Did get history from previous engineers re: earthquake damage that was done to the liner. Everything was repaired. Was part of a side slope liner that wasn't in use at that time. Public: Sarah Olaquez: Will landfill relocate residents until odors are mitigated? John Perkey: evaluating based upon health impacts and related actions taken re: Aliso Canyon event. Will provide update on this at future meetings. Public: Susie Evans: How long before stench is gone.

- B. Report from 5th District; Los Angeles County Supervisor's Office of Kathryn Barger Stephanie English.
- Council: Utility relief program moved to Val Verde Park. Craig Woods is helping applicants apply for relief program. Next two Wednesdays will be available to public, 10:30a=3:30p.
  - C. I-5 Task Force L.A. County Dept. Public Works Deputy Director Steve Burger.
- Julian Garcia; Northbound I-5 fully opened in November. Southbound still one lane closed for next couple of months. Have been a couple of Snowflake warnings, but no closures implemented yet on the Grapevine.
  - D. I-5 North County Enhancement Project Update Saroya Sandiford L.A. Metro.
- Saroya Sandiford: Went thru upcoming construction efforts. Council: I-5 Southbound Sound Wall will this affect The Old Road. Saroya: Will get clarification. Julian Garcia: Requires permit to close county roads so task force will monitor and share traffic control plans. Any full I-5 closure would require detour.
  - E. Traffic Safety Committee Michael Minor.
- Mike Minor: Sent update by email to Council: Cambridge and Hasley is approved and estimated 2 year timeframe to get implemented. Will install left turn signals at intersection. Council: Turn signals will be on Hasley not on Cambridge? Julian: Yes, will analyze but this is the plan. Council: Roundabout at Hasley and Old Road, can look at crosswalk to see if feasible to put in flashing lights to delineate the crosswalk? Mike: Will add to the safety committee work to follow up. Julian: Will add to roundabout analysis.
  - F. Legislative email updates.
- No updates to share with Council.

#### 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Land Use Committee Chair Jim D'Addario.
- Jim D'Addario: Nothing to report or upcoming.
  - B. Parks and Recreation Email updates.



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- Aquatic Center doing lifeguard ready training on Mondays and Wednesday 4-6pm. Reviewed other programs ongoing.

### 9. TREASURER'S REPORT

- A. Treasurer's Report Jim D'Addario.
- Sent out by email.
  - 1. Budget for 2024.
- Jim D'Addario; Fund raiser \$7,500 goal. Council: Re: Webinar/ZOOM cost is lower if done yearly. Jim: Will look into this and pay yearly lump sum. Council: ZOOM and website costs are two biggest expenditures. Feels paying too much monthly for ZOOM. Wondering if cost for website are worth cost? Request motion to delay approval of budget until next month to give time to review. Council: Wouldn't hurt to review various ZOOM options; year in advance, or different kinds of accounts? Need volunteer to review. Jim: Need to say approve to expend funds for current month, or can't pay bills. Director Dittes: Table his motion. Motion to approve budget with caveat to study ZOOM and webs hosting for cost savings; Motion: B. Lewis, Second: C. Dittes 9/0/0.
  - 2. Audit for 2023 Audit Committee Chris Dittes & David Boyer.
- Recommendation audited and approved.

#### 10. OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Parks project list update.
- B. Town Council priorities list.
- Will review in February meeting.
  - C. Fundraising Update Charity Car & Bike Show at Castaic Lake Saturday, May 18, 2024
- Insurance form will need to be filled out. Bob working with Supervisors office regarding admission.

### 11. NEW BUSINESS

### 12. OPEN DISCUSSION

- A. To ensure that the public's business is conducted openly, State Law Section 54954.2 prevents any action or discussion on items not listed on the Agenda. (Note: Council members may briefly respond to comments made or questions posed.) Heather Turpin/Tree People: Wildfire restoration efforts. UFMP set vision for how to protect and maintain trees in Castaic. Help grow urban forest, parks, residential, etc.. Shade equity main program goal. Seeking feedback to shape regional forestry management plan for this region. First 25 registered get free fruit tree and dinner.
- = Tree people sent flyers and will get posted on website and bulletin board. Street trees, residential, etc.. Council: Community going thru a process about fire inspections and fire safety. If haven't spoken to LACo Fire, need to do so re: placement of trees to comply with fire restrictions.



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### 13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of minutes from Town Hall meeting of October 18, 2023 & November 15, 2023.

October: Motion by C. Dittes. Second by J. D'Addario. Vote 9/0/0.

November: Motion by C. Dittes. Second by J. D'Addario. Vote 8/0/1.

### 14. CORRESPONDENCE/COUNCIL INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- A. Notice of Projects from Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning and other correspondence and/or Council Information.
- B. Discussion of any items on the Notices that may require action prior to the next Town Council meeting.

#### 15. CONSENT CALENDAR

Next Castaic Area Town Council Agenda Planning Meeting: 1st Wednesday of each month - February 7, 2024 Next Castaic Area Town Council Land Use Committee Meeting: 1st Monday of the month - February 5, 2024 Next Castaic Area Town Council Committee Meetings: TBD

Next Castaic Area Town Council Town Hall Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of each month - February 21, 2024

### 16. ADJOURNMENT @9:35PM.

Motion by J. D'Addario. Second by J. Gardner. Vote 9/0/0.