



Regional Parks

Beahta R. Davis
Director

José F. Cañedo
Deputy Director

**MINUTES
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
REGIONAL PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
2:30 P.M.
Wednesday, May 14, 2025**

1.0 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 2:34 P.M.

2.0 ROLL CALL:

Commission Members Present:

Thurston Smith, First District
Steven Farrell, Member-At-Large
Louis Gamache, Third District
Michael Kreeger, Fourth District
Bob Mitchell, Member- At-Large
Mirna Ruiz, Fifth District

Staff:

Beahta Davis
Heather Placencia
Jose Canedo
Blane McNally

Commission Members Absent:

Anahi Perez, Second District

3.0 GUESTS/MEDIA

None

4.0 REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 9, 2025

The Commission requested to add the Mojave Narrows and Mojave River Forks Site Visit to the April 9, 2025 meeting minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Kreeger

Second: Commissioner Farrel

Abstain: None

Minutes approved.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

None

6.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COL. PAUL COOK (RET.)
First District

JESSE ARMENDAREZ
Second District

DAWN ROWE
Chairman, Third District

CURT HAGMAN
Fourth District

JOE BACA, JR.
Vice Chair, Fifth District

Luther Snoke
Chief Executive Officer

TRAILS

Regional Parks is still working with the San Bernardino County Information Technology Department to finish mapping the trails. There will be a presentation to the Commission once the refinements are complete.

PARK MAINTENANCE PROJECT UPDATES

Staff reported that pool preparation has commenced, and all necessary inspections and pre-inspections have been completed. Facilities will be ready for the start of the upcoming swim season.

Glen Helen Regional Park is nearly fully staffed with lifeguards. Regional Parks is actively conducting interviews to fill ten remaining lifeguard positions at Yucaipa Regional Park. Three pool managers have been assigned to each park, and an additional senior guard has been added at Yucaipa Regional Park.

Director Davis provided the Commission with an overview of the process for becoming a certified lifeguard. Commissioner Gamache suggested the Yucaipa water polo team as a potential recruitment resource. Commissioner Mitchell inquired whether outreach had been made to the YMCA to support lifeguard certification efforts.

Lifeguard Orientation is scheduled for May 23, 2025, at Glen Helen Regional Park. Additionally, preparations are underway for the activation of splashpads at all Regional Park locations.

7.0 DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL PARKS REPORT

Director Davis presented several items that have been forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for approval, including an Interim Use Permit with Southern California Edison, separate agreements with Skyline Productions and the Maria De La Paz Vasquez Family Reunion, and an appropriation adjustment from the Reserve Fund. The purpose of the appropriation adjustment is to transfer funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Festival, which costs approximately \$15,000. Director Davis explained that the Fish and Game Commission did not receive sufficient external funding to cover festival expenses.

Director Davis reported that amendments to the KTUA and Bergman contracts have been submitted for approval by the Board of Supervisors. Once approved, these master plans will be brought before the Commission for review. A discussion followed regarding the incorporation of agricultural-themed design elements throughout the regional park system.

Director Davis discussed the need for a new reservation system that would include online purchasing capabilities to help reduce wait times at park entrances. Many of the newer systems also offer advanced tracking and data management features. Chair Gamache inquired about compatibility with the existing Point of Sale (POS) system, and Director Davis explained that some vendors offer integrated payment platforms or are capable of working with the current POS system. Commissioner Mitchell asked about the Wi-Fi

capabilities necessary to support a new system. Director Davis noted that infrastructure improvement projects are underway, including ongoing construction at Prado Regional Park to enhance connectivity. The Request for Proposal for the new reservation system was officially released on May 6, 2025.

There were several Environmental Science Day Camps were conducted during April and May, with approximately 150 students participating across Glen Helen, Mojave Narrows, and Yucaipa Regional Parks. Recent changes implemented by the recreation team have contributed to increased program success. New recreation programs include "Build Your Own Compost," "Grow Your Own Herb Garden," and Earth Day-themed crafts. In addition, Regional Parks staff collaborated with the County Museums and Library departments to support two community events. Attendance during Easter weekend reached approximately 1,000 participants at each regional park, with 2,429 visitors recorded at Calico Ghost Town.

This year's Bluegrass Festival was lower than in previous years. Regional Parks staff will evaluate the event to determine if changes are needed to increase future participation.

Brian Cox is scheduled to appear at the upcoming Stargazing event at Mojave River Forks. The Summer Kickoff event and the official opening of swim season at Yucaipa Regional Park are both scheduled for May 24, 2025.

Director Davis also provided an update on the Cartegraph system, stating that staff are continuing to work on its development and implementation. Commissioner Mitchell expressed interest in presenting the system to the Commission; however, Director Davis advised caution, emphasizing that the system is not yet fully operational.

8.0 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

9.0 **COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS BY TITLE FOR NEXT MEETING**

Continue Trails Discussion

Update on Parks Maintenance Projects

10.0 **COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Farrell is hoping for positive weather for Memorial Day weekend.

Commissioner Ruiz apologized for missing the previous meeting and is looking forward to the Stargazing event.

Chair Smith thanked Mrs. Placencia for assisting him with his ethics training.

11.0 **NEXT MEETING:**
June 11, 2025

12.0 **ADJOURNMENT:**
Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Gamache seconded by Commissioner Farrell.
Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 P.M.