

Regional Parks

Beahta R. Davis
Director

José F. Cañedo Deputy Director

MINUTES SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION 2:30 P.M. Wednesday, June 11, 2025

1.0 **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 2:30 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
Anahi Perez, Second District

Staff: Jose Canedo Chaquana Bright

Commission Members Absent: None

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3.0 **GUESTS/MEDIA**

None

4.0 REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM MAY 14, 2025

A discussion ensued regarding the last paragraph on page three regarding Director Davis advising caution since the Cartegraph system is not fully operational. It was determined by the Commission to approve the minutes as is.

Motion: Commissioner Farrell Second: Commissioner Smith Abstain: Commissioner Perez Minutes approved.

5.0 **NEW BUSINESS**

None

6.0 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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TRAILS

Regional Parks is continuing to work with the San Bernardino County Information Technology Department to complete the mapping of park trails. The integration of Cartegraph System assets into the Trails Mapping System is currently underway. Once completed, this integration will allow trail users to view nearby amenities in real time. A presentation will be made to the Commission once the system refinements are finalized.

There are no updates at this time regarding the extension of the Santa Ana River Trail. Regional Parks staff continue to monitor the trail twice a week to support ongoing cleanup efforts. The Santa Ana River Trail will also be included in the Trail Mapping System.

PARK MAINTENANCE PROJECT UPDATES

At Prado Regional Park, ongoing projects include the gatehouse, boat dock, boat ramp, and restroom buildings. Cucamonga-Guasti Regional Park staff continue with regular operations. At Glen Helen Regional Park, preparations are underway for the San Bernardino County picnic scheduled for June 21, 2025. Staff have been using the trail groomer to maintain pedestrian paths throughout the park; at the conclusion of the event, the machine will be moved to Prado Regional Park for cross-country trail preparation.

At Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, the arborist is scheduled to remove nine trees and thin out several others to support habitat health. New staff are currently training at Mojave River Forks, while the team at Mojave Narrows Regional Park continues irrigation repairs and works to resolve ongoing water concerns between the park and the adjacent ranch. Additionally, one more weir has been approved.

The swimming pools are fully operational. Beginning June 17, 2025, the pools will be open six days a week.

Regional Parks recently received multiple electric carts to expand the existing fleet. These carts will be utilized at Calico and Cucamonga-Guasti. They were moved to Prado Regional Park to support staff during the Fish and Wildlife Festival and then returned to Glen Helen for the upcoming San Bernardino County Employee Picnic. Chair Smith inquired about the status of the barn and corral at Mojave Narrows Regional Park. Deputy Director Canedo will provide an update at the next meeting.

7.0 **DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL PARKS REPORT**

Deputy Director Canedo presented the Director's Report in place of Director Davis, who was attending a conference.

Deputy Director Canedo reported that Requests for Proposals have been released for both the Glamping project at Prado Regional Park and the Point-of-Sale System.

In April, four Environmental Science Day Camps were held at Mojave Narrows and Yucaipa Regional Parks, serving approximately 140 students. Additionally, the Regional Parks' Recreation team presented an Environmental Science Day Camp for the

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Probation Department. Recent changes implemented by the Recreation team have contributed to the increased success of these programs.

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 attended by 1233 patrons. There was a total of 1898 participants at the program/events in May.

The Stargazing event at Mojave River Forks Regional Park was cancelled due to high winds. The Fish and Wildlife Festival was a fun event with a lot of activity within Prado Regional Park.

The Commissioners were provided with the Summer in the Park schedule.

Commissioner Ruiz and Deputy Director Canedo discussed the Behavioral Autism Therapies collaboration with Cucamonga-Guasti Regional Park on hosting a fishing social for special needs children. They agreed to finish their discussion after the meeting.

8.0 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

9.0 COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS BY TITLE FOR NEXT MEETING

Continue Trails Discussion

Update on Parks Maintenance Projects

Update on the Domestic Violence Memorial Tree at Mojave Narrows Regional Park.

10.0 **COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Mitchell inquired about the "Why You Love San Bernardino" giveaway featured in the County Update, noting that the winner receives a free annual pass to the Regional Parks. Deputy Director Canedo was not aware of the promotion and will follow up with Director Davis for more information.

Commissioner Farrell observed a fish stocking video on Facebook. Deputy Director Canedo explained that these videos are created every week.

Commissioner Gamache stated to remind staff that weather is getting hotter and to make sure they drink plenty of water and look after each other and the park patrons.

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Chair Smith invited the Commission and Regional Parks staff to attend the Joshua Tree Conservation Workshop, scheduled for June 20, 2025, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Hesperia City Hall. Chair Smith announced he will not be present at the next meeting, and Vice Chair Perez will serve as acting Chair.

Chair Smith also requested an update on the proposal to bring cattle to Mojave River Forks Regional Park to help manage potential fire hazards, noting that such an initiative would greatly benefit the community. Deputy Director Canedo did not have an update at this time but will provide one at the next Commission meeting.

11.0 **NEXT MEETING:**

July 9, 2025

12.0 **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Kreeger seconded by Commissioner Perez. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 P.M.