



Present Michael M. Vargas, Chair  
Commissioners: Yxstian Gutierrez, Vice-Chair  
Steve Sanchez  
Agustin Arreola  
Bruce Underwood  
Harvey Ryan, Alternate

Present Staff: Gary Thompson, Executive Officer  
Crystal Craig, Assistant Executive Officer  
Michael Henderson, LAFCO GIS/Analyst  
Elizabeth Valdez, Commission Clerk  
Melissa Cushman, Legal Counsel

Chair Vargas called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

There were no requests.

Counsel Cushman made a statement to the public regarding the disclosure of contributions made to Commissioners.

Moved (Arreola) seconded (Gutierrez) to approve the Minutes of the September 25, 2025, meeting as recommended by staff.

AYES: Ryan, Sanchez, Arreola, Underwood, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
ABSTAINED: None.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

There were no public comments.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR (NON-HEARING ITEMS):**

a. LAFCO Monthly Expenditure Review.

Moved (Underwood) seconded (Ryan) to approve the Consent Calendar as recommended by staff.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Ryan, Sanchez, Arreola, Underwood, Gutierrez, and Vargas.  
NOES: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
ABSTAINED: None.

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**Continued:** There were no continued public hearing items.

**New:**

- a. LAFCO 2022-19-2-Sphere of Influence Amendments between Jurupa Community Services District and Rubidoux Community Services District (removals & additions), and a finding of exemption pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act; and
- b. LAFCO 2022-20-2-Reorganization to Include Detachments from Jurupa Community Services District and Rubidoux Community Services District and Concurrent Annexations to Jurupa Community Services District and Rubidoux Community Service District and a finding of exemption pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and adoption of resolutions making determinations on the proposals.

Ms. Craig gave a PowerPoint presentation. She stated that this proposal has taken three years to complete. She stated that there are 11 different areas with a combined total of 296 acres. Ms. Craig stated that this was a technical boundary clean-up project initiated by RCSD with a coordinated effort of JCSD, RCSD, and West Valley Water District. She reviewed each area and the services that would be provided by each district, RCSD and JCSD, upon completion of the reorganization. She stated that the reorganization would require a protest hearing and she recommended approval of both proposals.

Chair Vargas opened the public hearing at 9:08 a.m. and there being no one wishing to speak he closed the public hearing.

Moved (Sanchez) seconded (Arreola) to approve LAFCO 2022-19-2-Sphere of Influence Amendments between Jurupa Community Services District and Rubidoux Community Services District (removals & additions) and LAFCO 2022-20-2-Reorganization to Include Detachments from Jurupa Community

Services District and Rubidoux Community Services District and Concurrent Annexations to Jurupa Community Services District and Rubidoux Community Service District as recommended by staff.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Ryan, Sanchez, Arreola, Underwood, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**a. Palo Verde Healthcare District - Dissolution Initiation Status.**

Mr. Thompsons gave a status update on the Palo Verde Healthcare District (PVHD). He stated that they filed for bankruptcy and there was no update yet from the County since the staff report was written. He stated that the next step would be to establish a zero sphere of influence and then issue a resolution of intent to dissolve the district. He stated that he believed the bankruptcy process must finalize prior to moving forward with dissolution. Mr. Thompson thanked the PVHD staff for their comments they provided.

Requests to speak:

**Sandra Anaya**, CEO PVHD. Ms. Anaya thanked staff and for those that helped keep the hospital running including RUHS, City of Blythe, EMS, Dr's., IEHP, the County Board, and PVHD Board. She stated they face challenges to keep programs going with local help as well as physicians.

**Michael Rose**, Interim CFO PVHD. Mr. Rose stated there was now 10 days of cash on hand due to payments that have been received. He stated they filed for bankruptcy to keep the doors open and provide emergency care. He stated the working groups are meeting to keep the services in Blythe but there is not enough cash to be sustainable. He stated the District is looking for guidance and support to continue operations while LAFCO and County Staff continue looking for a long term solution.

Mr. Thompson stated that even though LAFCO is taking these initial steps, it doesn't mean the hospital is closing.

Commissioner Ryan asked if this could have been avoided and if we could have known about it sooner. Mr. Thompson replied no, it wasn't anticipated but it became a crisis in February of 2025. He stated the MSR was only done early when staff was notified by the City of Blythe that there was an issue.

Commissioner Ryan asked if a district lets us know earlier could an MSR be done to avoid dissolution.

Commissioner Sanchez stated it came fast and as soon as we heard about it the MSR was done. He stated that most agencies are not going to report that they are not performing well.

This was a receive and file item. The Commission directed staff to move

forward with establishing a zero SOI and to bring back a resolution of intent to dissolve the district at a future meeting.

- b. Conflict of Interest Waiver (General and PVHCD) - Office of County Counsel.

Counsel Cushman presented this item. She stated that LAFCO contracts with County Counsel for legal representation and there is no current conflict that exists however there is a potential for conflict as County Counsel would also represent the County in the dissolution and selected successor agency of the PVHD. She stated that there is a letter that has been drafted that discloses the potential for conflict and that Counsel Cushman will continue to represent LAFCO on the PVHD item and be separated from other members in her office who will continue to represent the County on that item. She recommended the Commission approve the letter and authorize the Chair to execute it.

Moved (Underwood) seconded (Sanchez) to approve the Conflict of Interest Waiver (General and PVHCD) - Office of County Counsel letter and authorize the Chair to execute it.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Ryan, Sanchez, Arreola, Underwood, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- c. LAFCO 2025-11-5-Request for Extra-Territorial Service Provision - Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District (Water) (Oak Valley Village, LLC).

Mr. Henderson presented this item. He stated that the request was to expedite water to the Oak Valley project. He stated that Government Code section 56133 will authorize temporary water service to 5 parcels and will allow for grading to begin for a proposed commercial development. He stated it is within the BCVWD SOI and the annexation proposal will be before the Commission in December.

Moved (Sanchez) seconded (Gutierrez) to approve the Request for Extra-Territorial Service Provision - Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District (Water) (Oak Valley Village, LLC) with a condition that it will expire in three months to ensure completion of the pending annexation.

Chair Vargas called for the vote.

AYES: Ryan, Sanchez, Arreola, Underwood, Gutierrez, and Vargas.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

**7. INFORMATION ITEMS: No action to be taken by the Commission.**

- a. Proposals Received and/or LAFCO Initiated (Government Code Sections 56751 and 56857):

- i. LAFCO 2025-11-5-Request for Extra-Territorial Service Provision -

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District (Water) (Oak Valley Village, LLC)

Ms. Craig stated this proposal was presented by Mr. Henderson on today's agenda.

b. Report on Conducting Authority Proceedings.

Ms. Craig gave an update on the conducting authority proceedings.

**8. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND POTENTIAL POSITIONS. (Oral Report)**

Ms. Craig gave an update on three bills. She stated that the Omnibus bill, SB 489, and SB 777 were signed by the Governor. She stated that at the next CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting appointments of staff members would be made to the Legislative Committee and that this she is currently on the Advisory Committee and is currently a candidate to be a voting member of the Legislative Committee.

This was a receive and file item. No action was taken.

**9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS.**

Mr. Thompson stated that staff are very busy with many inquiries. He stated that he and Ms. Craig would be giving a presentation about LAFCO to a community group in the City of Hemet. He stated the next meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> would be at La Quinta City Hall.

**10. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/FUTURE ITEMS.**

Commissioner Underwood thanked staff for having the meeting in La Quinta and asked staff to consider holding a meeting in Blythe in the future.

Chair Vargas announced that LAFCO received the SDRMA "President's Special Acknowledgement Award". He stated it was to recognize the LAFCO had no paid claims during the prior five consecutive program years in the Property/Liability Program.

**11. ADJOURNMENT.**

The Commission adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth R. Valdez  
Commission Clerk