

“Antelope Valley Regional Planning Advisory Committee Minutes” 09-04-2025

[DATES & TIMES OF ANTELOPE VALLEY COMMUNITY MEETINGS/EVENTS ARE AVAILABLE ON AVIS – 1610 AM RADIO. LEAVE A MESSAGE AT 530-495-2900 TO ADD MEETINGS.]

Antelope Valley Regional Planning Advisory Committee (AV RPAC) Meeting Minutes 09-04-2025

Committee Members Attending: present: Don Morris, Chair; Debie Bush, Vice Chair; Bruce Woodworth, Secretary; Jim Ricks, Katy Buell, John Vannoy, and Mark Langner.

County personnel attending: John Peters, Co. Supervisor; Wendy Sugimura, Planner; Melinda Guerrero, Planner;

Presenters or Public: Peter Stanton, Executive Director Walker Basin Conservancy, C.J. Haramis, Karen Davis.

Action Items:

1. August 7, 2025 Minutes approved [motion Buell/2nd Bush], Vote approved unanimously excepting abstentions.

Announcements:

1. Ricks initiated a discussion on the fee at the Transfer Station.

Information/Discussion Items:

1. Guerrero passed on information from the Forest:
 - a. Prescribed burns are upcoming
 - b. Campground closing dates vary: mid-Sept. through mid-Oct.
 - c. General comments on forest fires.
2. Stanton provided a yearly update on the Conservancy’s work of supporting the restoration of Walker Lake, ultimately restoring the fishery. His information was that 59% of the water needed had been secured. The last known Lahontan Cutthroat Trout caught in the Lake was in 2009.

On the California side of the project, Poore Lake (Pickel Meadows) water had been acquired. “1707” Instream agreements will allow water to be transferred to Walker Lake.

Regarding the regional aspects and restoration of the Lake, there was broad support by the Committee for the Conservancy’s work.

However, in Antelope Valley, because of potential consequences of: 1. likely economics-driven land use changes toward subdivisions due to water transfers, and 2. the loss of irrigation precipitating dry brush and grass fire dangers and 3. Protecting the groundwater levels¹ in the cases where expanded pumping due to diversion of surface water to the Lake -- brought the Committee to place the subject of County support for mitigation measures as a future AV RPAC agenda item.

3. Bush described a recent meeting she had with the President of Liberty Utilities. In discussing a “partnership” between the Utility and the Antelope Valley community, Bush advocated local “office hours” to be provided by the Utility on a regular basis to better hear the concerns -- (especially) over rising rates and related matters.
4. Peters reported:
 - a. Construction on the new County Jail had begun and might be completed by the end of 2027.
 - b. New County Human Resources leader is Steve Rose.
 - c. Updating of the I.T. department.
 - d. \$15,000 has been granted to each Chamber of Commerce in the County.
 - e. Completion of the Recreational Park improvements adjoining the Community Center is anticipated next year.
 - f. Regional cooperation with California agencies adjoining/affected by Yosemite Park.
5. Guerrero announced a local Lot Merger application to merge existing adjoining lots in order to facilitate storage and residence compliance.

Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Woodworth', written in a cursive style.

Bruce Woodworth, Secretary 775-461-6550

¹ Stanton reported the draw of available water for proposed Data Centers in Mason Valley, Nevada underlined the eternal water tensions of the West.