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P.O. Box 232, Bonita, CA 91908 www.sweetwatervalleyca.org

SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
June 4, 2025

Directors Present: President Judy Tieber, Treasurer Stephen Stonehouse, Mike Clowers, Richard Scott, Acting Secretary Liz Stonehouse, Sharmane Estolano

Directors Absent: Theresa Capanis, Guillermo Torres, Carri Fernandez.

Members Present: Tony Tieber, Felix Felix, Mike Parnell, Daryl Hern, Tom Plockington, Janeen Reed, Terry Carr, Jim Groth, Dennise Elliott, Steven Elliott, Sharon Coleman, Bill Coleman

Guest Present: Fire Chief delegate Captian Dan Genevicz, Amanda Angulo from Mayor John McCann's office, Genevieve Fong from Representative Juan Vargas' office, Lisa Schmidt from David Alvarez's office, from the CHP: Captain Reggie Williams, Sgt. Jeffrey Lane, and Officer Kim Gonzales.

1 Call to Order: 7:04 PM by President Judy Tieber at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library Community Room.

2 Pledge of Allegiance: Following the pledge of allegiance, there was a moment of silence to honor the people of our Armed Forces, Law Enforcement and especially our Fire and Safety professionals and express appreciation for those who are currently serving to protect us.

3 Sign In: Everyone was encouraged to sign in, so we have a record of who is attending. Judy introduced the officers and acknowledged that Liz Stonehouse, acting Secretary, would be taking minutes. There was a short discussion about voting.

4 Approval of Minutes: The draft May 7, 2025, meeting minutes were circulated via email prior to the meeting. Move to accept by Tom Pocklington, seconded by Steve Stonehouse, minutes approved.

5 Treasurer's Report: Stephen Stonehouse provided the June Treasurer's report.

\$5061.29	Checking Account Previous Balance, expenses this past month included:
-\$180.00	Check 855 to KIG-March website
-\$45.00	Paypal paid to Mail Chimp
-\$200.00	Cash withdrawal for annual Meeting
<u>+\$233.84</u>	<u>Membership Dues Received</u>
\$4870.13	Total Ending Balance

6 Fire Chief Michael Sims: Captain Dan Genevicz made the following report:

The new chief will be decided by promotion from within. Each of the Captains will be attending future meetings with the Chief shadowing. Juan Vargas earmarked \$2M Federal Earmark in the appropriations bill for money for a new engine. Training topics: Pumping operations, County Wildland Drill in San Marcos; RT-130 (required annual wildlife training): In service Training (Haz Mat): EMS training (infectious control): Career Survival training. Ambulance Data- 100%-time compliance: 98% EMS responses.

7 Elected Officials Representatives Reports:

Amanda Angulo from Mayor John McCann's Office: John McCann came to speak after the meeting.

Genevieve Fong from Representative Juan Vargas' Office: Absent.

Lisa Schmidt from Assemblymember David Alveraz's Office: I am leaving this position for another one. Ernesto Castenada, who most of you know from Nora Vargas will be your new representative. Assemblymember Alvarez's AB 357 & AB 610 Bills known as Expediting the Construction of Affordable Housing, passed the Assembly in Sacramento, CA – It was also announced today that Assembly Bill 357, the Student & Faculty Housing Success Act, and AB 610, the Housing Constraints Accountability Act passed the Assembly yesterday. The two key bills are critical components of a 22-bill housing package aimed at addressing the state's severe housing shortage by cutting bureaucratic delays and closing legal loopholes. With California facing a deficit of 2.5 million homes—driving unaffordability for families, workers, and students—the bills tackle systemic barriers slowing construction. "Housing is the biggest challenge facing Californians because past leaders have made it increasingly difficult to build housing," said Alvarez. "These bills cut through bureaucratic delay and legal loopholes to ensure we build housing faster, smarter, and more fairly. AB 357 will unlock desperately needed student and faculty homes, while AB 610 holds local governments accountable to their housing commitments. This is how we begin to turn the tide on the housing crisis." The bills align with Assembly housing leaders' mission to slash red tape and diminish the time it takes to get housing approved and built. "AB 610 helps keep cities accountable to the housing plans they've already committed to. It stops last-minute changes that slow down, or block urgently needed housing — and brings predictability to a process that too often changes midstream. We appreciate Assemblymember Alvarez's leadership in advancing real solutions to California's

housing crisis,” said the California Building Industry Association. While AB 357 requires an unprecedented 90-day approval for housing permits from the California Coastal Commission. “The housing crisis affects the lives and educational outcomes of millions of students across our state. This is particularly true at California’s coastal campuses, where on-campus housing is limited and off-campus housing is exorbitantly expensive. By streamlining Coastal Commission review of student housing built by public universities in the Coastal Zone, AB 357 is the first step towards reducing the burden of high housing costs for students studying near the coast,” said Kate Rodgers Co-Chair of Students HOMES Coalition. “This bill keeps in place essential environmental review, but implements commonsense reform to ensure that new student housing developments do not experience needless delays” (Rodgers). Both bills enjoy bipartisan backing, reflecting housing’s status as a nonpartisan priority. The bills now move to the State Senate for further consideration. You can read more about them and other legislation authored by Assemblymember Alvarez’s on his website. The 80th Assembly District includes the communities of Barrio Logan, Logan Heights, Sherman Heights, Lincoln Acres, Bonita, Otay Mesa and San Ysidro, along with the cities of Chula Vista, National City and Imperial Beach. Jim Groth commented on solar power.

Ardyel Lim from Senator Steve Padilla’s Office: Good afternoon, everyone, my name is Ardyel Lim and I am a District Representative for the Office of Senator Steve Padilla. I also want to introduce myself as the new staffer who will be attending the Sweetwater Valley Civic Association meetings moving forward. I currently cover the Cities of Chula Vista and National City for the office. The Senator is currently in Sacramento as he, together with the rest of the Senate, votes on bills that made it out of the Appropriations Committee. If they are voted out of the Senate Floor, these bills will be heading to the Assembly. Of the 17 bills that were heard in the Appropriations Committee from the Senator’s current legislative package, 12 made it out of the committee and are currently being heard in the full Senate floor. In line with this, some of the Senator’s bills will be heading to the Assembly, and I want to highlight the following:

- **SB 473** would require the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to ensure errors in estimates of demand elasticity or sales do not result in material over-collections or under-collections of water corporations.
- **SB 243** would require operators to prevent addictive engagement patterns to help prevent users from becoming addicted to the platforms. Additionally, the bill would require a periodic reminder that chat-bots are AI-generated and not human.
- **SB 594** would give communities across the state with pollution burdens scores in the 90th percentile the opportunity to voice their concerns in a publicly noticed hearing when a new landfill development is proposed. The bill would also require that the local enforcement agency certify that the landfill will not disproportionately impact or harm the community.
- **SB 10** would authorize funds from the new toll road at the Otay Mesa East Port of Entry to be allocated towards environmental mitigation, wastewater infrastructure, and the restoration of the Tijuana River Valley.

Lastly, our office will also be launching our monthly newsletter soon! If you would like to receive it, please sign up on our Senate website sd18.senate.ca.gov/contact/updates. If you have any additional questions, please reach out via email, his website, or by calling the Senator’s San

Diego County office and I'd be happy to speak with you more. I'll be leaving a few of my cards here in the front as well. Thank you everyone and have a great rest of your evening!

Contact:

Ardyel Lim, District Representative

Office of State Senator Steve Padilla, District 18

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8 Crime Prevention Specialist Jose Ortiz, Sheriff's Office: Lieutenant Christopher Galve explained who he was and how he came to be the Lieutenant in charge of Imperial Beach. The monthly stats are: one burglary and one theft in the Sweetwater area. The biggest issue is the short-term rental industry and the County's lack of regulations concerning them. Mike Clowers commented on how we could use more traffic enforcement. Just about everyone in the room had a place that needed it. Jim mentioned that Proctor Valley Road had toll avoidance cars of over ten thousand a day.

9 CHP Captain Reggie Williams: Sgt. Jeffrey Lane and Kim Gonzales were introduced. Capt. Williams mentioned that he oversees the areas of Bonita and 4-S Ranch, from Escondido to the Border. Right now, there were 14 new officers in training. There followed a discussion about what had been done correctly and how the area could help.

10 New Business: None

11 Continuing Business: Election Results: Sixteen people voted. All members either got their seats or were reelected.

12 Community Forum:

A) Sweetwater Authority: No report at this time.

B) Traffic and roads: Mike Clowers- No report at this time.

C) Sweetwater Community Planning Group: SCPG Chair Felix Felix:

The Sweetwater Community Planning Group met on May 6th. Two standing ad hoc committees were formed. The first called the San Miguel Watershed ad hoc will investigate the problems caused by the watershed and advocate for improvements, Judy Tieber will chair. The second, named Rural Residential Zoning Ordinances for Community Planning Groups, has no chair. Liz stated that she wanted to do the research only. What this ad hoc wants to accomplish is discover what the zoning laws are like in other California Counties.

D) Membership: Sharon Coleman Had no report.

E) Volunteer Patrol: Senior Patrol spoke about the "You Are Not Alone program" (YANA) and vacation checks. How they needed more people.

13 Other Announcements: City of Chula Vista Mayor, John McCann:

He gave us a short rundown of who he was (comes from this area). He wants to fund the police and cut the SR-125 Toll. He gave us a lot of statistics and information. There is going to be a discussion about Rohr Park next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Liz Stonehouse, Acting Secretary

Mission Statement: The Sweetwater Valley Civic Association (SVCA) fosters and promotes community spirit and civic pride through proactive engagement with local County elected and appointed officials, law enforcement, and emergency first responders with the goal of improving the quality of life within the Sweetwater Valley community.