



IMPERIAL VALLEY FOREIGN TRADE ZONE

IMPERIAL COUNTY WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • 2799 S. Fourth Street, El Centro, CA, 92243

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 @ 10:17 A.M.
2799 S. 4th, El Centro, CA

PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Imperial Valley Foreign Trade Zone – Joint Powers Authority (IVFTZ-JPA) was held on May 17, 2023 @ 10:17 A.M. In person at the conference room of the Imperial County Work Force & Economic Development Building. Members of the public were encouraged to submit their comments via email prior to the day of the meeting.

ATTENDEES

JPA Members

City of Brawley
City of Calexico
City of Calipatria
City of El Centro
City of Holtville
County of Imperial

Primary

Tommy Garcia

Adriana Nava
Nick Wells
Rosa Lopez

Alternate

Andrea Montano

Coordinating Staff

I.C. Workforce & Economic Development
I.C. Workforce & Economic Development
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Jade Padilla
Maria Sanchez
Robyn Cuen

Other Invites

None.



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MINUTES

I. Call meeting to order

- a. Roll call.

Tommy Garcia called meeting to order at 10:17 A.M. Roll call was performed by J. PADILLA with four (4) JPA members present; it was determined that quorum was met.

- b. JPA Member Updates

None

- c. Approval of Minutes

NICK WELLS motions to approve the minutes as presented. ADRIANA NAVA 2nd the motion. **Vote:** 4 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain at the time of the vote. **Motion Approved.**

II. Discussion/direction/action/update

- a. Discussion regarding Strategic Marketing Plan – Sample Brochure

J. PADILLA mentions IMS Inc. has provided the JPA with guidelines as how they format the strategic marketing plan as well as samples of other cities and jurisdictions that they have previously done for FTZ marketing. She also mentions today they have a draft for the Imperial County but they noted they do not do graphic design so it is informational only, if the JPA would like to see something flashier there would be the need to get some graphic designers involved to spruce it up. However, informational wise this is their first draft of the brochure presented. NICK WELLS mentions if the title could be updated to Imperial Valley Foreign Trade Zone (Zone 257) in order to help with clarification to the public. ADRIANA NAVA offers a graphic design worker she recommends to add more visual design to the brochure. NICK WELLS agrees it will help clarify and highlight the project. He also suggest if ADRIANA NAVA (City of El Centro) could pay for the graphic design job then bring it in for reimbursement. ADRIANA NAVA agrees to the suggestion and she mentions she does not see a process description only the benefits and it could be something to work on in the future. NICK WELLS also adds if a document or a link could be created so the cities could add it to their websites.



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b. Update regarding FTZ FY 22-23 Expenditures

MARIA SANCHEZ informs that more expenditures were accrued. Current Pending Balance for IMS Inc. \$4,500 which will be paid at the end of June. In addition, City of Brawley has credit for \$1,134.09 that will be used on FY 23-24 members will see that credit once the invoices are sent. Vertiv Inc. has a pending payment for the current year.

c. Approve the FTZ FY 23-24 Budget

M. SANCHEZ notes spending operation expenditure remains the same. One adjustment for the city of Brawley will be made. The remaining balance to be charged is \$3,921.00 for FY 23- 24. Vertiv Inc. past due amount is included to this budget. M. SANCHEZ opens the floor for any questions. R. LOPEZ ask what is the reason Vertiv Inc. has not paid, J.PADILLA informs Vertiv Inc. did not pay the first year because they were not sure they had to. Therefore, they paid off last year but now currently owe this year. They are now aware since they have asked for the current invoice to complete the current payment. Once received J.PADILLA notes it will be deposit for the next FY year to align to the current budget that will be proposed in today's meeting. P. LOPEZ walks in the room to greet everyone and let them know she will not be able to attend the meeting.

NICK WELLS motions to approve the FTZ FY 23-24 Budget. ADRIANA NAVA 2nd the motion. **Vote:** 4 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain at the time of the vote. **Motion Approved.**

d. Approve the FTZ FY 23-24 Meeting Calendar

J.PADILLA asks the members if they wish to continue with the previous pattern that each member of the JPA would host one FTZ meeting every third Wednesday at 1:30 pm in their own cities. All members discuss and come to an agreement to meet at the current location at 2799 S. 4th St, El Centro, CA and make it the standard location.

NICK WELLS motions to adopt the current calendar with the standard location of 2799 S. 4th St, El Centro, CA. Unless alternative special arrangement. ROSA LOPEZ 2nd the motion. **Vote:** 4 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain at the time of the vote. **Motion Approved.**

e. Discussion / Action regarding selecting a FY 23-24 chair and vice chair of the IVFTZ-JPA



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All members of the JPA discuss and come to a final unanimous agreement to keep TOMMMY GARCIA as chair. In addition, the members agree to keep ADRIANA NAVA as vice chair. JADE PADILLA reminds the members to turn in the new membership forms of for FY 23-24. In addition, JADE PADILLA mentions she has reached out to MARIA NAVA Mayor of the City of Calipatria and her alternate to get a membership form.

ADRIANA NAVA motions to keep TOMMY GARCIA as chair. NICK WELLS 2nd the motion. **Vote:** 4 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain at the time of the vote. **Motion approved.**

NICK WELLS motions to keep ADRIANA NAVA as vice chair. TOMMY GARCIA 2nd the motion. **Vote:** 4 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain at the time of the vote. **Motion approved.**

f. Discussion/Action regarding upcoming NAFTAZ training opportunities

J. PADILLA informs the members she has a list ready with the upcoming NAFTAZ webinars if anyone is interested in attending dates are for 2024-2025.

III. Future agenda items and other business

a. Discussion regarding potential agenda items, issues, or operators

J PADILLA informs that Derick Desert and Fred Mercurio who have previously applied years ago are currently looking into the Mesquite Lake area as potential applicants again and it may be a future item if they decide to move forward.

b. Potential Operator Updates

J.PADILLA updates about El Remate Inc. since they have been previously approved action to submittal of an application but have not yet turned in their application since they have previously shown interest at an area in Calexico, CA. El Remate Inc. has been informed they are pending their application.



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IV. Next meeting date

Date: July 19, 2023 at 1:30 P.M.

Location: 2799 S. 4th St. El Centro, Ca.

V. Meeting adjourned