



**OJAI VALLEY MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Oak View Community Center, Kunkle Room
18 Valley Road, Oak View
Monday, May 18, 2026, 7:00PM**

Chair: Barbara Kennedy, **Vice Chair:** Marilyn Miller
Council Members: Joseph Westbury, Terry Wright, Vacant

OPENING

- 1. Call to Order.**
- 2. Roll Call.**

Council Members Present: Barbara Kennedy, Chair
Terry Wright
Joseph Westbury
Marilyn Miller, Vice Chair

Also in attendance: Matt LaVere, Supervisor, District 1
Lori Key, Executive Assistant
Ana Melgoza, Chief of Staff, District 1

- 3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.**
- 4. Approval of the Draft Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2026.**

Motion: approval with modifications, identifying Marilyn Miller as Vice Chair instead of Chair, the meeting minutes of January 26, 2026
Moved by: Terry Wright, Seconded by: Marilyn Miller

Vote: 3-0, with Joseph Westbury absent
Yes: Barbara Kennedy, Terry Wright, Marilyn Miller

- 5. Adoption of the Agenda.**

Motion: to approve the agenda as presented
Moved by: Marilyn Miller, Seconded by: Terry Wright

Vote: 3-0, with Joe Westbury absent.
Yes: Barbara Kennedy, Terry Wright, Marilyn Miller

6. Public Comments for Items NOT on the Agenda.

Ron Soarzano comments One Book One Coast: The summer reading program features *"They Called Us Enemy"* by George Takei and runs from June 1 to August 1, 2026, across all county libraries; comments on the Ojai Library Friends and Foundation hosting a book sale at the Ojai Library; and comments the Oak View Library will serve free lunch to youth ages 18 and under, Monday through Thursday, from July 7–31 between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m.

Ojai Police Chief Abbott comments the Ojai Police Department along with the City of Ojai hosted an educational E-bike safety forum on Wednesday, May 6th; comments about 30 people were in attendance; and comments on hosting another forum along with a bike rodeo in the future.

California Highway Patrol (CHP) Sergeant Baranowski comments on the department hiring 9 new officers; and comments June 3rd from 1-3:30 p.m. The CHP will have an impact enforcement on the Highway 33 corridor.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7. City of Ojai Planning Commission Update.

Brad Stewart, Ojai Planning Commission, reported on the Ojai Planning Commission's review of the development of a five-unit low-income housing development located at 408-410 N. Montgomery in Ojai; reported on Ojai Planning Commission's review of the Green Coalition development of the ECO Center Master Plan; reported on Ojai Planning Commission's review of the City's Draft of Objective Design Standards for Multifamily and Mixed-Use housing; and reported on Ojai Planning Commission's review of the 2045 General Plan Safety Element addressing the City's Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.

8. Review of Camp Gilga Conditional Use Permit Application, Case No. PL25-0039.

Noe Torres, with the Ventura County Planning Division, gave a presentation.

Council members had comments and questions about the camp operations and who it will serve, how campers will arrive, cars and/or bus. Questions about the length of the CUP term. Questions regarding weather tree protections will be in place during construction.

Susan Curtis, Ventura County Planning Division Interim Director, notes at the direction of the Board of Supervisors, planning is reviewing CUP term limits overall. Planning staff stated tree protection is addressed in the conditions of approval.

Motion: reviewed and accepted staff recommendations as presented.

Moved by: Joseph Westbury, Seconded by: Marilyn Miller

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Barbara Kennedy, Marilyn Miller, Joseph Westbury, and Terry Wright.

COUNCILMEMBER AND EXECUTIVE STAFF COMMENTS

9. Executive Staff Comments.

Lori Key announced Jeff Palmer will be assisting with public works items.

10. Councilmember Comments.

Marilyn Miller comments on the Caltrans' Ojai Valley Highway 33 Multimodal and Community Enhancement Study; comments the potholes on Hwy 33 from the Water District to Santa Ana Road are getting worse.

Terry Wright comments on the potholes hazardous between 540-690 S. La Luna; and comments on the Caltrans non-working flashing speed signs in both directions in Casitas Springs.

Barbara Kennedy comments on delaying the light from red to green at Oak View Ave, to allow for cars to turn left out of Short Street onto Hwy 33; comments on holding a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) meeting in the fall; and comments on the Oak View Memorial Day parade.

CLOSING

11. Adjournment: 7:42 p.m.

Next Meeting is **Monday, June 15, 2026**, at 7:00 PM in the Kunkle Room at the Oak View Community Center, 18 Valley Road, Oak View.