

PIRU NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING

PO BOX 162, PIRU CA 93040 ~ 805-814-6140 ~ piruncinc@gmail.com

COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY August 20, 2025

VOLUNTEER EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT: KEN WISEMAN
VICE PRESIDENT: IRENE RUIZ
TREASURER: JUDY DALEY-LOVETT
SECRETARY: MEGHAN SHEETZ
MEMBER AT LARGE: ANDREA ARREDONDO

MEETING LOCATION: **Train Depot Gazebo – Center St.**

GENERAL MEETING: **BEGINS - 7:13 pm**

- CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – BOARD ROLL CALL
 - Present: Ken, Irene, & Meghan
 - Absent: Judy & Andrea
- MEETING MINUTES July Minutes – Meghan
 - Thanks to Andrea and Irene for July notes!
 - Ken motions to approve, Irene seconds, all ayes.
- TREASURY REPORT: July Treasury Report – Judy via email
 - Balance: \$66,346.10 as of 08/15
 - Received American Water Donation \$4,000
 - Irene motions to approve, Meghan seconds, all ayes.

LIGHTS & SIRENS:

- LOCAL FIRE REPORT – Captain Valdillez
 - Canyon Fire
 - Stats: 5,300 acres & 7 buildings burned. 960 personnel, 92 engines, & 12 tankers used. One major injury (Kern County Captain)
 - Mutual aid with LA County
 - Fired started in Holser Canyon, under investigation
 - Torrey Fire
 - Small fire down the canyon
 - Quick response
 - Rely on the public help: See something, say something
 - Report suspicious cars around burn areas
 - Resident: Evacuation confusion during the Canyon Fire, which app should we be getting our emergency information? Watch Duty or VC Alert?
 - VC Alert is the most accurate and up to date for the Ventura County Area
 - Direct through the OES office: vetted and accurate
 - Thank you from the Piru Community for the Water Day support!
 - Fire filled the pools with water
 - Appreciate Sheriff presence for safety and security
- CHP REPORT – Not Present
- SHERIFF REPORT - Officer Horsewell
 - **Resident:** Any update on the Sanchez Market shooting?
 - Community work key in investigation. Camera work with heavy forensic evidence located subjects. Subjects involved release until court trial.
 - Ring and surveillance cameras were helpful
 - Reminder to be a good witness and document
 - **Resident:** Any update on the race car incident near Finch? Many unmarked cars in the area.

- Not sure but could be connected to the investigation and arrests being made in the case.
 - **Resident:** What is the difference between forensic evidence and Ring camera evidence?
 - Forensics is usually a search warrant for gathering evidence such as drugs and guns. Ring camera is documented footage.
- CERT or Firewise - Irene or Michael Lopez
 - Firewise Vegetation Thinning Park Street Project
 - Thank you, Roy and Paul, for directing traffic during the Canyon Fire event.
 - Call for new CERT members
 - Refresher for continuing CERT members to come
 - 8/28 Meeting with Superintendent Maynard for High Ground and community generator at Piru School campus
 - Piru is a Firewise Community!!
 - Talk to your insurance provider for 2-10% off
 - Michael Lopez on Firewise Board. Thank you, Michael!

GUESTS: Ian Anderson, Edison - Government Relations Manager, Northern Region

- Ian is an Edison representative that can assist connecting Piru to resources and advocates for grants.
- Outage Planning: echos that VC Alert is helpful for power outages
 - Limited for same day outages
 - **Information Outage Line: 1-800-611-1911**
 - Restoration timeframe
 - Cause of outage
 - Cover conductors allow more intention in placement and location
 - Underground cables are told where to place, Edison can't decide location
 - Buckhorn Circuit is 92% grid hardened
 - **Be as prepared for power shut offs as earthquakes**
- Upcoming outages:
 - 08/21: 8pm – 12am
 - 08/23: 9am – 3pm
 - 09/01: 9am – 2pm
 - 09/16: 9am – 3 pm
 - REaching out to impacted customers
- Resources:
 - SCE Marketplace
 - Rebates for generators
 - Smart appliances
 - Pumps
 - **Marketplace.sce.com**
 - Grant Update:
 - Firesafe Council received \$10,000 for home defensible space, creating resiliency for 10-15 homes
 - \$5,000 for 5-10 homes
 - Call 211 for Ventura County resources
 - Make a public safety power shutoff plan with 211
 - Not an emergency line

- Medical baseline patient support
- Create a plan, qualify for resources such as food, transportation, accommodations, rebates for batteries & generators.
- **!!Register in advance!!** Only for Ventura County residents
- All utilities pay into 211 resources for public availability
- Resident: What is the procedure to power on the grid after an outage?
 - SCE aggregates data from multiple weather stations. Averages determine next actions.
 - To re-energize each line has to be physically checked by a SCE operator. Can take longer to re-energize for the need to physically check.
- Resident: How important is it to turn off the main breaker during a PSPS?
 - Should make no difference but would make sense to protect appliances and technologies from surges.
- Resident: My experience with Edison has been the worst. Family has suffered over 40 days of power outages this year yet am being charged for power use during those times we had no power. Was told an SCE representative would come out to check meters and fix the issue, still no one and I'm being told the ticket is now closed and resolved yet I'm still being charged, can you help me?
 - During emergencies will not be readily available.
 - During non-emergencies I can assist.
 - Will reach out to customer service to assist resident is getting clarifications and how to make this situation right.
 - **Ian may have farther reach and can navigate the SCE processes. Ken will connect.**

LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATES:

Events:

- Movie Nights
 - One successful night. The other two events were impacted by fire smoke and power outages.
- 08/10, Sunday: Water Park Day
- 9/20, Saturday: ¡Viva Piru! Event, Warring Park
- 10/30, Thursday: Haunted Halloween at the Newhall Mansion
- Lake Picnic open to Piru residents: Possibly November?
- 12/13, Saturday: Christmas Parade and Festival
 - Grand Marshall Committee
 - Four people – three were past Marshalls
 - Formed by the end of the month for community votes
 - By Sept 30th Grand Marshall chosen
 - Thank you, Juana for the past Marshall list!
 - Deck the Halls Committee
 - Decorating the Gazebo square for Christmas Parade & Festival

- Save the Date, Vendor Application, & Parade Application go out 2nd week of October
- Nov 22/23, Deck the Hall event
- Nov 17-20th Christmas tree goes up in gazebo.

Old BUSINESS:

- Fire Mitigation and Creek access clearing – Ken/Mike Lopez
 - 800 ft clearing
 - Everde Nursery donating use of loader and Pedro to help with creek clearing.
 - Five hours of beautifying soon, may see mounds of mulch
- Status on having generators in town at School, Community Center, and Senior Center
- Main Street Improvements – Parking signage – removal of the turning lane to the Citrus Plant. -Piru Area Plan Update/ **Months away...**
 - Amendment process – David Ward, Planning Director - His team anticipates submitting the amendment to Planning Commission in the September time frame and then on to the Board of Supervisors by the end of the year
- Sidewalk Safety Grant from 2022. From Anitha Balan, Public Works
 - We have started the design of the Piru Pedestrian improvement project. The project will be federally funded.
 - 30% Plans, Specification & Estimate (PS&E) Expected to be completed by Oct. '25
 - 90% PS&E - Feb. '26 (RT will present to the project to the PNC)
 - 100% PS&E – April '26
 - Will need additional ROW needed and utility relocations.
 - Environmental work (for federal funding) is scheduled to be completed by – June 2026.
 - Construction Start – July 2027
- **Event Leadership**
 - Be a Coordinator for one or more of our events: Halloween, Viva Piru, Senior Dinner, Mansion Tour, Christmas Parade, Youth Summer Event, Bicycle Rodeo, Lake event, lots of other opportunities to host events!!!!

New BUSINESS:

- VCTC Trail plan from Oxnard to Piru – Team will be present at Viva Piru – Ken
 - Showcasing new map of trail
- YTD PNC Expenses
- Support Letter – United Water Dam Improvements
- Support Letter – Infrastructure improvements tied to continued Development
- What are some of the bigger projects needed for the community? PNC has identified:
 - Need for generators
 - Parks would like generator at Gazebo Park and Community Center.
 - School may be able to move faster for a generator on school campus.

- Need for Splash pad for our youth
- Continued wildfire preparation
- Open wooded area in front of Piru Creek (grant funds)
- Possible CD investment for HBO money. Looking into possibility. Interest gains until community decides how to spend money.

PUBLIC COMMENT - WE WILL ALWAYS HOLD 30 MIN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

3 MINUTES PER COMMENT PLEASE

Meeting End 8:16 PM

NEXT PNC MEETING – September 17, 2025 – Community Center – Orchard St.

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR VALUABLE TIME WITH THE PNC AND OUR COMMUNITY!