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## **Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes**

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### **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION**

THURSDAY, December 6, 2001  
ROOM 830, KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

*Editorial Note: Agenda sections may be taken out of order at the discretion of the chair. Any reordering of sections is reflected in the presentation of these minutes*

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER OF COMMISSION MEETING**

With the presence of a quorum of commissioners, Chairman Philibosian called the Commission meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

#### **II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES**

Chairman Philibosian asked for a motion to approve absences.

#### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Clayton Anderson  
Isaac Diaz Barcelona  
Annie E. Cho  
John Crowley  
David W. Farrar  
Jonathan Fuhrman  
Jaclyn Tilley Hill  
Chun Lee  
Tony Lucente  
Royal F. Oakes  
Roman Padilla  
William J. Petak  
Robert H. Philibosian  
Clinton Simmons  
Julia Sylva

#### **COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED**

Fred Balderrama  
Joanne Baltierrez  
Hope J. Boonsaft

G. Thomas Thompson  
Tony Tortorice

### **COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING AN EXCUSE**

None

It was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The Commission members requesting an excuse, be excused.

### **III. APPROVAL OF October 4, 2001 MINUTES**

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes or presentation. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The minutes of the October 4, 2001 Commission meeting be approved.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF October 4, 2001 PRESENTATION**

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the presentation. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The presentation of the October 4, 2001 Commission meeting be approved.

### **V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Farrar introduced his assistant, Ms. Christy Lin who recently graduated from U.C.L.A. She has an interest in political science and government and has come to attend the Commission meeting in order to witness "government in action".

### **VII. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Philibosian reported that the various appointees from the five districts of the Board of Supervisors have met and have selected the following commissioners for the Nominating Committee: Commissioners Anderson, Lucente, Sylva, Thompson and Tortorice. The Nominating Committee will meet during the month of December and nominate a person for the office of Chairman of the Economy and Efficiency Commission. The election will be held in January 2002. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

Chairman Philibosian announced that Commissioner Jaclyn Tilley Hill was reelected as Chair of the Quality and Productivity Commission. Commissioner Sylva noted that Commissioner Hill was highlighted in the County of Los Angeles Commuter Connection magazine, which was distributed to all of the commissioners. Commissioner Padilla remarked that he saw Commissioner Hill distributing awards while watching a Board of Supervisors Meeting a few weeks ago.

Chairman Philibosian congratulated Commissioners Anderson, Balderrama, Cho, Oakes, and Thompson for their reappointed to the Commission. The Board has also officially appointed Commissioner Simmons, former Los Angeles County Grand Jury Foreperson to the E & E Commission.

### **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Staniforth announced that the Commissioner's Biography List had been updated and now includes Commissioner Simmons biography. If any other commissioners wish to update or change their biography they should advise the Commission office. Regarding the list of old I.D. Cards: Commissioners Anderson, Balderrama, Baltierrez, Boonshaft, Farrar, Oakes, Philibosian, Sylva and Tortorice need to return their expired cards; and Commissioners Baltierrez and Tortorice need photographs and signatures in order to receive their new cards. Commissioner Sylva asked if these ID's would be changed every year. Mr. Staniforth responded, yes, because commissioners are reappointed by the Board and can change from year to year.

Mr. Staniforth stated that he sent out a copy of the 2002 Commission Meeting dates and with the exception of January 10th the meetings will fall on the first Thursday of each month.

### **IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS**

#### **Economic Development Task Force**

Commissioner Sylva stated that members of the Task Force attended the November 1, 2001 Economic Action Summit (EAS) presented by the County of Los Angeles. The issues discussed were LAX/Visitor Recovery, Activation of

Public Projects, Greenlighting of Private Sector Projects and Workforce Redeployment. The issues pertained to the entire county as well as to the specific regions that the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) addresses. Commissioner Sylva introduced Ms. Lari Sheehan, Assistant Administrative Officer for the unincorporated areas to discuss how the County of Los Angeles would participate in economic development.

Ms. Sheehan introduced herself as the CAO's point person in working on the economic development. The morning session of the EAS had various speakers such as: Robert M. Hertzberg, Speaker of the Assembly; Supervisor Antonovich, Mayor and Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors; Mr. James Hahn, Mayor of the City of Los Angeles and Mr. Jack Kaiser, Chief Economist at the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC). Afterwards there were Breakout Groups on the four subject matters mentioned by Commissioner Sylva. The eight regional groups were set up around eight regional "cogs" which dealt with all four of the issues and prioritized them. Tourism and Public Infrastructure were two issues focused on. The Board of Supervisors, on a motion presented November 20, 2001 by Mayor Antonovich, has taken a number of steps to activate county departments in responding to initiatives that came forward as part of the EAS.

Based upon information from the LAEDC, Ms. Sheehan noted that Commissioner Sylva had chaired a project looking at Los Angeles County (LAC) permitting process. The Board of Supervisors has approved that the CAO work in conjunction with the E & E Commission and in collaboration with the four departments: Public Works (the major department with the Safety Division); Regional Planning (handles zoning reviews and is consistent with the general plan); the Fire Department; and Environmental Health (section of the Health Department). The study would look at Los Angeles County's internal permitting processes for private projects and return to the Board with recommendations on streamlining or process consolidation that would make it more user friendly and faster. This would take place within three to six months and would then be implemented in six to eighteen months.

Ms. Sheehan and the CAO wanted some feedback regarding the study's approach and recommended a meeting with all the departments. The Department of Public Works is in the last stages of selecting a consultant to computerize permit tracking and issuance "on-line" and is working with Regional Planning to digitalize all LAC's zoning maps. It is being researched how Regional Planning can be opened in the regional offices of DPW to facilitate permit application. The customer base needs to be discussed, along with working on departments and funding issues.

Commissioner Sylva made a motion to accept the invitation and to schedule a meeting with the Economic Development Task Force and the CAO to coordinate efforts. Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any discussion, objection or questions. Commissioner Padilla asked if there were a consolidated listing by the four departments of the permits that they issue to see what the Task Force would be dealing with? Ms. Sheehan stated that she was not sure, but felt that the list could be produced. Coming up with a brochure like that for the user would be helpful. Chairman Philibosian asked if the Commission was ready to vote on the motion and asked if there were any objections. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The Commission work with the CAO on finding ways to streamline the permitting process within Los Angeles County.

Chairman Philibosian thanked Ms. Sheehan for her presentation and accepted the assignment from the Board of Supervisors, copies of the assignment will be distributed to the Task Force.

Commissioner Barcelona wrote a three part series of articles in La Gaceta, the Antelope and Santa Clarita Valleys' illustrated publication discussing E & E Commission presentations by Supervisors Antonovich, Burke, and Knabe including a photograph of the Task Force Chairs. Spanish and English copies were available for distribution. Chairman Philibosian commended Commissioner Barcelona's outreach efforts.

Chairman Philibosian introduced the panel of city representatives, who contract with Los Angeles County for public services. Chairman Philibosian thanked Mr. Sam Olivito of the California Contract Cities Association for his collaboration with the various Los Angeles County cities. There were three city managers and one Councilmember (whose biographies were included at Tab 3).

## **X. PRESENTATION (a)**

[The Honorable Cheri Kelley, Councilwoman, City of Norwalk](#)

[Mr. Dennis Courtemarche, City Manager, City of Pico Rivera](#)

[Ms. Maria Dadian, City Manager, City of Artesia](#)

[Mr. Ernie Garcia, City Manager, City of Norwalk; and.](#)

[Mr. Sam Olivito, Executive Director, California Contract Cities Association.](#)

[Topic: Issues Facing Contract Cities within Los Angeles County](#)

The panel discussed various Los Angeles County contract cities and their reasoning for employing various county departments like the Sheriff's Department; the District Attorney's Office; the Probation Department; the Fire

Department; the Animal Control Department; the Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division; and the Health Department rather than creating individual departments within each city.

## **VIII. LIAISON REPORTS**

### **Local Government Services Commission**

Commissioner Andes stated that there was a lengthy presentation at the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). The presentation made by Mr. Michael Collesano, Esquire noted that LAFCO is responsible for timely changes in local governmental bodies and boundaries by conducting special studies to reorganize, streamline and simplify governmental structures. They also prepare a sphere of influence for each city and special district within the county. The commission's efforts are directed towards the protection of agriculture and open space lands. Briefly, the core recommendation was that LAFCO needed to be more potent to accomplish better management of California's growth. The challenge for California was that continued growth was inevitable. An absence of a plan for growth threatens the quality of life. The recommendations were:

1. Streamline the Cortese, Knox, Hertzberg Act
2. Neutral independence and balance among cities, counties and districts. Public members must have a least one vote from the other three stakeholders. Conflict of interest and lobbying disclosure laws must apply to LAFCO members, and LAFCO staff must be jointly funded by all three local government stakeholders
3. LAFCO needs more power for growth – by required rezoning
4. More protection of prime agriculture land and water supplies
5. Comprehension and revision of the fiscal relationship between state and local government
6. State incentive for good planning and sales status should be reexamined
7. LAFCO should coordinate the boundary procedures for schools, the city and the districts
8. LAFCO should seek more public participation
9. Fee wavers and state loans for grass roots reorganization proposals, no city should be able to incorporate with other than a five member at large city council.

### **Quality and Productivity Commission**

Commissioner Anderson stated that items discussed were the approval of the Productivity Investment Funds for three different projects: 1) an air rescue project for horses; 2) a Department of Children and Family Services grant of \$100,000 for a performance based management project within the department; 3) \$1M loan to the Department of Beaches and Harbors for an automated parking lot equipment program (which will be paid back but will save funds over a period of time). Commissioner Hill added that there was a Q & P Commission Luncheon for county department heads and their staff in which 125 people attended from 29 Los Angeles County Departments.

## **IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS (Continued)**

### **Emancipation Services Task Force**

Commissioner Thompson being absent, the Executive Director reported that Dr. Sharon Watson had written a report for the CAO that addressed similar issues that were discussed in the E & E Commission's report. She has been hired by the Commission to prepare a portion of the Commission's Report. Her portion will be completed by next week and will be incorporated in the main report. A draft will be sent to the Emancipation Services Task Force within the next three weeks. Commissioner Fuhrman asked what issues were being covered. Mr. Staniforth stated that Dr. Watson's portion covered transitional housing issues; and his portion dealt with organizational models and MIS systems. Commissioner Padilla asked what else went to the Board of Supervisors other than the final report. Chairman Philibosian replied that Dr. Watson's final report is all that went to the Board. He asked the Executive Director what the estimated time of completion would be for the draft ILP Report? Mr. Staniforth responded within the next three weeks.

### **Grand Jury**

Commissioner Hill said that her report, which was published in July 2001, continues to percolate. In several months there will be more concrete information. Japan requested a copy of the report. A northern county is using the report for the basis for reviewing recommendations that they want to incorporate into their Grand Jury system. Commissioner Hill officially welcomed Commissioner Simmons to the Grand Jury Task Force, which will be meeting again in January to review the original responsibilities, which consisted of recommendations from former grand jurists.

### **Organization & Accountability Task Force**

Commissioner Oakes commented that there were two areas of discussion:

1. The Economic Development Task Force and the O& A Task Force were going to continue to work on a joint basis with focus on the permit streamlining issue. Resource material from the four actions in the break out session will be used as a starting point and a place of analysis.
2. Background material regarding the Workman's Compensation issue has been delivered for review. The next step is to talk with individuals in the county to get an overview on issues.

A memo prepared by Commissioner Oakes regarding the Breakout Session on Permit Acceleration would be distributed to both the EDTF and O&ATF.

#### **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Simmons thanked the Commission and staff for the flowers he received while recovering from a quintuple heart bypass. Commissioner Padilla noted an article from the Sunday, Los Angeles Times regarding emancipated youth entitled "Crashing Hard Into Adulthood" indicating it is a "hot" topic.

#### **XII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Andes wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday. Chairman Philibosian asked which newspaper had been represented at the meeting. Mr. Staniforth stated that the reporter was from the Daily Breeze. Commissioner Cho suggested that when members of the press enter the meeting that they introduce themselves. Chairman Philibosian stated that reporters could be welcomed. Chairman Philibosian reminded the commissioners that the next E & E Commission meeting would be held on January 10, 2002.

#### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion from the floor, Chairman Philibosian adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth  
Executive Director

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