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Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, January 9, 2003
ROOM 140, KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 West Temple St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

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 10:10 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

Chairman Philibosian asked for a motion to approve absences.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Clayton Anderson
Fred Balderrama
Joanne Baltierrez
Isaac Diaz Barcelona
Hope J. Boonshaft
Jonathan Fuhrman
Jaclyn Tilley Hill
Ronald K. Ikejiri
Chun Lee
John L. Lewis
Royal F. Oakes
Roman Padilla
William J. Petak
Robert H. Philibosian
Julia Sylva
G. Thomas Thompson

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Annie E. Cho

John Crowley
Tony Lucente
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 DECEMBER 5, 2002 MINUTES

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The minutes of the December 5, 2002 Commission meeting be approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 5, 2002 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 December 5, 2002 Commission meeting be approved.

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Thompson introduced Mr. Aaron Moore, Program Director, Long Beach Office of Volunteers In Parole, Inc. Mr. Moore described the nature of his organization to assist parolees by matching them with attorney volunteers.

Commissioner Hill commented that she had the opportunity to visit incarcerated individuals and she recognized that the need for mentoring was significant.

Commissioner Thompson also introduced his son Mathew Christian.

Commissioner Sylva introduced Mr. Van Ajemian an attorney in her office who came to observe local government.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Philibosian congratulated Commissioner Sylva on her reappointment to the Commission.

As an aside Commissioner Petak asked Commissioner Thompson why the organization Volunteers In Parole only had attorneys as mentors. Commissioner Thompson responded that working with a number of groups they have been trying to expand the participation.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Staniforth commented that a copy of the Commission Bylaws had been distributed. He also noted that his secretary could only be kept for 90 days and that options were being considered for expanding that timeframe. Discount tickets for Magic Mountain were available if anyone wanted them.

Mr. Staniforth noted that there had been a slight change in the format of the agenda packet.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

Local Government Services Commission

Commissioner Patricia Stitzenberger stated that the Commission was looking at Special Districts a couple of months ago including water agencies. This should prove to be an interesting development for the Economy and Efficiency Commission.

Quality and Productivity Commission

Commissioner Waddell stated that the annual Commission luncheon in December was well attended and that new officers were installed. Commissioner Hill is the Chair of the Commission once again and the Vice Presidents are Alan Sasaki and Greg Collette.

The Los Angeles County Training Academy, working with the Commission has activated a course entitled Productivity Network Manager: The Quality and Productivity Connection to train productivity managers.

Chairman Philibosian took this opportunity to congratulate Commissioner Hill on her election to another term as the Chair of the Quality and Productivity Commission.

Commissioner Waddell also informed the Commission about the grant being awarded to the District Attorney's Office for the purpose of archiving records.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS

Emancipation Services Task Force

Commissioner Thompson commented that there was no report for this month

Grand Jury

Commissioner Hill reminded the Commission of the proposal to develop a master calendar for the County that was made by the task force at the December meeting. After receiving a response from the Executive Office the proposal was revised to address their concerns. The Executive Office has already begun to implement some elements of the proposal. This is an initial step in the revision of a policy to support a master calendar that will help in facilitating County events. Communication and utilization are the keys to the success of this proposal.

X. PRESENTATION (a)

[Honorable Steve Cooley, District Attorney](#)
[Los Angeles County](#)
[Topic: The Status of the District Attorney's Office](#)

The District Attorney and staff members that accompanied him discussed the organization of his Office and a proposal that he will be making to the members of the county justice system to implement "Community Based Justice". This proposal involves breaking up the Central District into three branch area courts.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS (Continued)

Organization & Accountability Task Force

Commissioner Oakes reported that the task force is focusing on worker's compensation fraud. The concept is to find out what has worked and what has failed. Meetings have been held with the CAO to insure that there is no duplication of effort.

Economic Development

Commissioner Sylva commented that at a task force meeting they had determined that an economic development assessment would contribute to the ongoing economic development efforts of the county. It is important to develop a vision for the County.

The CAO will be conducting an internal education meeting to insure that everyone understands what economic development efforts are ongoing in the County. Commissioner Hill felt that such an assessment would contribute significantly to the County efforts.

Grand Jury (Continued)

It was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The Grand Jury Task Force Report be approved. The motion was amended to allow the Executive Director to make minor edits, such as formatting and typos, to the report.

Sheriff's Transportation Task Force

Commissioner Anderson reported that he had been in touch with various stakeholders to discuss the problems involved in this area. Other jurisdictions will be contacted to find out how they conduct their business. Chairman Philibosian suggested that the task force factor in the regionalism proposal of the District Attorney in their deliberations.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Philibosian commenting that since under New Business the Election of Officers was to be considered and that he considered himself a candidate for the office of Chairman, he would turn over the Chair to Commissioner Balderrama to conduct the New Business portion of the meeting.

Chairman Philibosian made a statement that he had opposed the imposition of term limits when it was passed by the

Commission six years ago.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Chairman Pro Tem Balderrama asked the spokesperson for the Nominating Committee to make his report.

Commissioner Padilla reported that three of the five members of the Nominating Committee requested that the Bylaw change be put on the agenda for next month. He expressed his concern that the election is scheduled to be held at this meeting and any action on a Bylaw change would have to be taken at the next meeting.

Chairman Pro Tem Balderrama introduced Ms. Liz Cortez from the County Counsel's Office to assist the Commission on any legal issues that may arise. Commissioner Thompson raised the question of whether the comments of Commissioner Padilla were approved by County Counsel. Ms. Cortez responded that County Counsel had issued this opinion. She further stated that in accordance with the Commission's Bylaws the vote on the Bylaw change had to be taken one month after notice had been posted at a Commission meeting.

Commissioner Thompson moved that the election be continued until March. Chairman Pro Tem Balderrama asked that before entertaining any motion that the Commission hold a discussion on the issue. Commissioner Petak asked about the vote of the Nominating Committee. Commissioner Padilla responded that the recommendation had been passed with three in favor and two abstentions. Commissioner Petak then asked if the Nominating Committee did its job of nominating someone. Commissioner Padilla responded that there was not a majority to accomplish that. Commissioner Ikejiri expressed his understanding that abstentions are considered a positive vote. Ms. Cortez commented that an abstention should be considered neither a yes or no vote.

Commissioner Balterierrez questioned why the Nominating Committee couldn't come up with a nominee? Commissioner Padilla responded that this was in deference to the Chairman since he wanted to run again. Chairman Pro Tem Balderrama commented that the Bylaws can be changed and that is the question being considered. Commissioner Balterierrez raised a question to further clarify the situation. She felt that the Bylaws shouldn't be changed at every election. Chairman Pro Tem Balderrama stated that the procedures of the Commission can be changed according to provisions stated on page 22 of the Bylaws. Commissioner Petak seconded the motion of Commissioner Thompson that the election be delayed until March. Chairman Pro Tem Balderrama asked that before motions be made that a chance be given for everyone to be heard.

Commissioner Hill noted that everyone had been contacted prior to the vote by the Nominating Committee. A decision was not reached because it was their responsibility to bring forth an eligible candidate, but a consensus could not be reached. Thus, the Committee recommended the Bylaw review. Commissioner Lee asked if this change were for a one year extension or elimination of term limits. Commissioner Padilla responded that this would enable a year to year change by a vote of the Commission. Commissioner Lee expressed concern that former chairman have resigned from the Commission at the end of their term and that he didn't want to see that happen to the current Chairman.

Commissioner Sylva pointed out the provision of the Bylaws that states that the Chairman shall be elected at the first Commission meeting of the year. Commissioner Thompson responded that this provision does not require an election since there is also a provision that allows the chairman to continue to serve until a successor is elected. Ms. Cortez clarified the issue by stating that the majority of the Commission has the ability to defer the election. Commissioner Fuhrman stated that he opposed the motion and recommended that the election be held today and the change to the Bylaws be considered at the February meeting.

Commissioner Thompson restated his motion that the consideration of the Bylaw change be taken up at the February meeting and that the election for chairman be held at the March meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Petak. As a part of the discussion Commissioner Petak asked if it were not possible to suspend the Bylaws. Ms. Cortez responded that legally this could probably be done, but she would not suggest taking this approach.

As a point of information Commissioner Fuhrman asked if the existing motion required a 2/3 vote? Chairman Philibosian pointed out the section being referred to by Commissioner Fuhrman referred to footnotes concerning Roberts Rules and not Bylaws of the Commission. Ms. Cortez opined that a 2/3 voted would not be required to defer the election. Commissioner Baltierrez asked if the election were deferred if another commissioner could run and the consensus of the commissioners was that nominations from the floor would be appropriate at that time.

As the question was called, Chairman Pro Tem Balderrama conducted a vote on the motion: That the Commission considers the revision to the Bylaws presented to the Commission at its January meeting at the February meeting and that the election for chairman be held at the March meeting. The vote passed on a vote of 9 Yes and 6 No.

Commissioner Padilla then made a motion that Commissioner Julia Sylva be elected Chair of the Commission. Ms. Cortez commented that the motion that was just passed deferred the election and thus, the Commission would not be

proceeding with the election today.

Commissioner Lee commented that he thought that the Chairman should give consideration to making a woman the Vice Chair of the Commission. Chairman Pro Tem Balderrama then turned the meeting back to the Chairman.

Chairman Philibosian noted that the Nominating Committee needs to get together before the election in March to nominate an individual for Chairman. This does not preclude nominations from the floor. Chairman Philibosian requested an amendment to the minutes of December to reflect and excused absence for Commissioner Balderrama. It was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: Commissioner Balderrama be granted an excused absence for December.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. No members of the public commented.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

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