
Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, November 6, 2003
ROOM 830, 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 a lack of a quorum, Chairman Philibosian convened the meeting as a Committee of the Whole at 10:10 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

Absences could not be approved without a quorum.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Clayton Anderson
Joanne Baltierrez
Jaclyn Tilley Hill
Chun Lee
Roman Padilla
William J. Petak
Robert H. Philibosian
Julia Sylva
Ira Thierer
G. Thomas Thompson

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Fred Balderrama
Isaac Diaz Barcelona
Hope J. Boonshaft
Annie E. Cho
John Crowley
Ronald K. Ikejiri
Tony Lucente
Royal F. Oakes

Tony Tortorice

COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING AN EXCUSE

Jonathan Fuhrman

III. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2, 2003 MINUTES

Although the October 2, 2003 minutes could not be approved without a quorum, Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes. There were no corrections at this time.

IV. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2, 2003 PRESENTATION

Although the October 2, 2003 Presentation could not be approved without a quorum, Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the presentation. There were no corrections at this time.

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Thompson introduced his friend and associate, Mr. Leonard Hern, who has worked in Colorado extensively in empowering community groups.

Commissioner Petak announced that Gunther Burke's wife passed away recently. Mr. Staniforth agreed to express the condolences of the Commission.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Philibosian announced that the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors has re-appointed Commissioner Ikejiri, Commissioner Oakes, Commissioner Hill and Commissioner Thompson to the Commission, as well as appointing former Grand Jury Chair Ira Thierer as a Commissioner.

Chairman Philibosian also announced that former Commissioner David Farar has been appointed to the Metropolitan Water District.

Plans for a Holiday Season Event for the December Commission meeting will be formulated by Commissioner Hill and Mr. Staniforth.

Chairman Philibosian noted that Commissioner John Lewis, retiring Commissioner and former foreperson of the Grand Jury, has been an active participant and has contributed greatly to the Commission. In recognition of his efforts, Commissioner Lewis was presented with his name plaque and a scroll from the Board of Supervisors. Commissioner Lewis commented that he enjoyed his year with the Commission.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Staniforth commented that as part of the three-month rotation, Shiloh Rasmusson had replaced Karl Gambrell as Executive Assistant. Mr. Rasmusson made a short presentation on his experience stating that he was a recent law school graduate.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

Local Government Services Commission

No liaison was present to make a presentation

Quality and Productivity Commission

Commissioner Hill discussed the recent success of the Quality and Productivity Commission's Awards Dinner, honoring employees of the County. The ceremony was attended by more than 600 people, and was the largest awards banquet held to date by the Commission. The winning program this year was the LA County Lifeguard Program within the LA County Fire Department. These individuals protect some 72 miles of beach, and have implemented the use of video technology to monitor the beaches for any health or safety issues that may arise. The annual Commission Chair's award was presented to the Director and Chief Medical Examiner/Coroner, Anthony Hernandez and Dr. Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, respectively, who are world-renowned for the innovation and ethos they bring to the County

Coroner's office.

Commissioner Thompson noted that the State of Hawaii was considering implementing a similar beach-video program. Commissioner Hill also noted that the beach video images may be viewed via the internet at www.watchthewater.com.

X. PRESENTATION (a)

Chairman Philibosian introduced Mr. Taylor and welcomed him to the Commission meeting.

[Mr. Robert Taylor](#)
[Ombudsman, Los Angeles County](#)
[Topic: The Role of the Ombudsman in Los Angeles County](#)

Mr. Taylor's presentation focused on the role which the Ombudsman plays in bridging the gap between government and those governed, and the process by which the Ombudsman's office identifies and seeks to correct issues of concern to both citizens and government within the County.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS

Emancipation Services Task Force

Commissioner Thompson reported that the work of the Emancipation Task Force was largely completed, and that they should assume an oversight role. However, Commissioner Thompson also expressed his concern and frustration over the recent troubling news coming out of the Department of Children and Family Services.

Grand Jury

Commissioner Hill stated that they need to convene a meeting with newly appointed Commissioner Thierer, and that such a meeting would transpire prior to the December Commission meeting.

Organization & Accountability Task Force

Commissioner Oakes was away on business, so no Task Force report was given.

Economic Development Task Force

Commissioner Sylva reported that while no task force meeting was held, the CAO's Economic Development Committee continued to meet. The California Small Business Economic Development Summit, is sponsored by the Governor's office, is scheduled for November 21, 2003 between 7:30AM and 4:00PM. Commission members are welcome. Further information may be obtained from the Executive Director.

Commissioner Sylva also asked that the County of Los Angeles' Strategic Plan be distributed. The thought was to have commissioners review the plan to possibly identify areas where the Commission could offer guidance and assistance.

Commissioner Sylva also described the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, which has a "one-stop shop" for licensing and permits wherein developers can meet with multiple agencies regarding their projects and plans within the County. Commissioner Sylva asked that the Commission possibly consider ways in which it could assist the department in their "one-stop shopping" system.

Sheriff's Transportation Task Force

Commissioner Anderson described an informative session the taskforce had with five representatives of the Los Angeles Superior Court, wherein they discussed policies and procedures that worked, and those that could benefit from improvement. Regarding video arraignment, Commissioner Anderson mentioned that the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee (CCJCC) several years ago had a group that was looking into video-arraignment. Chairman Philibosian noted that the EEC's unique contribution to this issue which is being deliberated on multiple fronts by multiple parties, might be our willingness to move the issue ahead, without becoming mired in endless debate on the issue.

Commissioner Padilla asked what sticking points might exist for the other entities investigating issues surrounding video-arraignment. Commissioner Hill noted that financial concerns continue to be a primary source of concern with regard to this issue, but she also noted that there is more cooperation currently than she's seen in the past.

Commissioner Sylva is also aware that groups were interested in moving forward, but that finances were a major concern.

Asset Management

Commissioner Lucente was not present to make a report.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

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 wanted to address the Commission.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee on the Whole adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

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