
Economy & Efficiency Commission

Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, December 4, 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 AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

With the absence of a quorum, Chairman Philibosian called the meeting to order as a Committee of the Whole at 10:05 a.m. In anticipation of achieving a quorum, he began the meeting with a presentation of informational items from the agenda.

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Philibosian announced that Commissioner Sylva had been reappointed to the Economy & Efficiency Commission.

Chairman Philibosian also welcomed the new Local Government Services Commission liaison, Commissioner William "Bill" Selditz. Commissioner Selditz briefly introduced himself, noting that he had been appointed to the Local Government Services Commission by John Ferraro six years ago, that he is a semi-retired real estate investor and appraiser, and that he had served on the 2002-2003 Grand Jury.

Judge Thompson introduced his colleague John Armstead.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Staniforth reminded the commissioners of the luncheon to be held after the Commission meeting. Commissioner Hill took a count of those planning on attending.

Mr. Staniforth pointed out that the meeting dates for 2004 have been submitted to the commissioners for review. If any commissioner is presented with scheduling conflicts, they are encouraged to contact Mr. Staniforth as soon as possible. Also it is important to note that the January meeting room has been changed from Room 830 to Room 743. This change is applicable to the January meeting only.

Mr. Staniforth took this opportunity to highlight the recent decision by the Board of Supervisors to scrap a \$60 million software investment plan. He reminded that Commission of the presentation made last year by the Chief Information Office regarding the development of the proposed administrative software system. He noted that the Commission had

sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors supporting the need for a new system, while urging a heightened level of scrutiny with respect to the development and implementation of the plan. Mr. Staniforth commented that, sadly, the current situation was an example of a project that can ultimately become undone.

Commissioner Fuhrman expanded on this recent turn of events – noting that it was a difficult situation. The County had been preparing to institute a major, county-wide enterprise level software system for accounting, payroll, and human resources functions, to replace the County's aging systems, many of which are 20 and 30 years old. Commissioner Fuhrman also pointed out that the cost to keep these aging systems upgraded, and indeed functional, is not that much less than the \$100 million investment required to implement a new system. The County went through an extensive review process, narrowing it down to four major proposals. The best offer in terms of both price and functionality was made by the PeopleSoft/Accenture team. However, while the discussions were moving forward, Oracle announced its bid to buy PeopleSoft, and its intention, if successful, to no longer support the PeopleSoft software. This action would leave the County with the prospect of a huge investment in a new system without any guarantee that the system could be upgraded or properly maintained in the future. The County has now adopted a wait-and-see attitude while PeopleSoft's future is resolved.

I. CALL TO ORDER OF COMMISSION MEETING

At this point a quorum of commissioners was achieved and Chairman Philibosian called the Commission meeting to order at 10:20 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
Jonathan Fuhrman
Jaclyn Tilley Hill
Ronald K. Ikejiri
Chun Lee
Robert H. Philibosian
Julia Sylva
Ira Thierer
G. Thomas Thompson

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Isaac Diaz Barcelona
Hope J. Boonshaft
Annie E. Cho
John Crowley
Tony Lucente
Royal F. Oakes
Roman Padilla
William J. Petak
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 MINUTES

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes for the October 2 2003 Commission meeting since a quorum was not present at the November meeting. Hearing none the following motion

was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The minutes of the October 2, 2003 Commission meeting be approved.

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes for the November 6, 2003 Commission meeting. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The minutes of the November 6, 2003 Commission meeting be approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the presentation for the October 2, 2003 Commission meeting since a quorum was not present at the November meeting. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The presentation of the October 2, 2003 Commission meeting be approved.

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the presentation for the November 6, 2003 Commission meeting. Hearing none the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The presentation of the November 6, 2003 Commission meeting be approved.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES (OCTOBER)

Chairman Philibosian asked for a motion to approve absences as enumerated at that time for the October Commission meeting since a quorum was not present at the November meeting. It was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The Commission members requesting an excuse in October are excused.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Philibosian asked for those commissioners having been selected for the Nominating Committee to identify themselves. Representing the districts were:

- 1st District – Commissioner Fuhrman
- 2nd District – Commissioner Lee
- 3rd District – Commissioner Baltierrez
- 4th District – Commissioner Hill
- 5th District – Commissioner Anderson

Chairman Philibosian asked for any objections, and hearing none, appointed these persons to the Nominating Committee. Mr. Staniforth reminded the members of the Nominating Committee that they will need to select a Chair for this Committee. The nomination of the Committee will be announced at the January 8th, 2004 Commission meeting. In addition, any commissioner may be nominated from the floor at that time. Mr. Staniforth agreed, at the request of the Committee, to email its members the email addresses of the other Committee members. At this point, Commissioner Lee recommended to the other Committee members that Commissioner Hill be the Chair of the Nominating Committee. The recommendation was agreed upon and members selected Commissioner Hill to be the Chair.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS

Emancipation Services Task Force

Commissioner Thompson requested to speak since he had to leave the meeting early. He reported that he had recently spoken with the new director of the Department of Children and Family Services and his Administrative Assistant, who indicated they would be in touch shortly with proposed dates when they could meet with the Task Force, probably in late January.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

Local Government Services Commission

Commissioner Selditz noted that the Local Government Services Commission was working on improving communications between CalTrans and various local governments.

Quality and Productivity Commission

Commissioner Hill advised the members that the Quality and Productivity Commission is sponsoring a county-wide

effort, in concert with the strategic plan, to distribution information aimed at educating county employees on how to become ambassadors for the County. The distributed packet will include an information card, a pocket-reference card, and a county pin. It will be distributed through the payroll system, thus insuring that it will reach every county employee. The reference card includes frequently requested and useful numbers that the public may use to contact appropriate county departments.

X. PRESENTATION (a)

Chairman Philibosian introduced Ms. Welborne and welcomed her to the Commission meeting.

[Ms. Martha Welborne](#)
[Managing Director – Grand Avenue Committee](#)
[Topic: The Future of Grand Avenue](#)

Ms. Welborne's presentation focused on the past, present, and future status of Grand Avenue, the scope and authority of the Grand Avenue Committee, their past successes, and their plans and goals for the future.
(<http://www.grandavenuecommittee.org>)

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS (Continued)

Grand Jury

Commissioner Hill observed that there was nothing to report at this time. However, she expressed a desire to have a Task Force meeting prior to the next Commission meeting.

Organization & Accountability Task Force

Commissioner Oakes was not present, so no report was made.

Economic Development Task Force

Commissioner Sylva noted that the Task Force did not meet this month in deference to the statewide Economic Development Summit, at which Mr. Staniforth represented the Commission. The County is currently planning its own Economic Development Summit which will be supported by the Task Force. For information purposes, according to the Los Angeles Economic Development Council, the local economy is improving, and will likely continue to improve.

Sheriff's Transportation Task Force

Commissioner Anderson commented that no meeting was anticipated prior to January.

Asset Management

Commissioner Hill related the success of the recent meeting concerning the revitalization of the Real Estate Asset Management Task Force, comprised of the chairs and selected alternative members of several County commissions, including Local Government Services, Quality and Productivity, Economy and Efficiency, Beaches and Harbors, Small Craft and Real Estate. With the assistance of Mr. Staniforth, the members of this Task Force met, together with representatives from the Chief Administrative Office (CAO), including Mr. John Edmisten. The purpose of the meeting was to receive a status report on the asset management functions from the CAO. Based upon this information, the Task Force determined to meet again.

Commissioner Hill commented that she sensed a real opportunity to help in the development of this effort, and lauded the involvement of Mr. Staniforth, noting that his presence adds a level of consistency that would otherwise be lacking. Commissioner Hill asked that the Economy and Efficiency Commission continue to support the revitalization of the Real Estate Asset Management Task Force. In addition, she suggested a review the Commission's 1996 Real Estate Asset Management Report. By conducting such a review, Commissioner Hill hopes that a comparison between the status quo and the conclusions and recommendations presented in the 1996 report will identify areas which would benefit from the Task Force's attention and energies.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

This is an 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 11:40 noon.

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

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