
Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, September 4, 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
Joanne Baltierrez
Isaac Diaz Barcelona
Annie E. Cho
John Crowley
Jonathan Fuhrman
Jaclyn Tilley Hill
Ronald K. Ikejiri
Chun Lee
John L. Lewis
Tony Lucente
Royal F. Oakes
William J. Petak
Robert H. Philibosian
Julia Sylva

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Fred Balderrama
Hope J. Boonshaft

Roman Padilla
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 JULY 10, 2003 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 July 10, 2003 Commission meeting be approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF JULY 10, 2003 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 July 10, 2003 Commission meeting be approved.

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commission Ikejiri introduced Josh Nicole, a middle school student, as his guest.

Commission Sylva announced that she has joined a new law firm located in Irvine. Commission Sylva also stated that she will be giving a seminar on the "Brown Act".

Commission Barcelona commented that he wrote an article a couple of years ago on the Commission, and it was well received in the community. The Antelope Valley Journal had pick up on the article and asked that it be redone in four parts to be published over the next four months. This paper covers the San Bernardino and Antelope Valley area.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Philibosian announced that Commissioner Sylva has been reappointed to the Commission for other two years by Supervisor Molina.

Chairman Philibosian stated that he and the Executive Director would brief the 2003-2004 Grand Jury on the past performance and the future operations of the Commission.

Chairman Philibosian announced that the Commission's former Chairman, David Abel, will be Chairing the Aviation Committee of the LA Chamber of Commerce to review Mayor Hahn's LAX proposal.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Staniforth reported that the County is holding a Brown Act Workshop at 10:00 am on September 25th in Room 374 of the Hall of Administration. Commission Philibosian stated that there will be a tape of the workshop available in the Commission's library for anyone who cannot attend.

Mr. Staniforth informed the commissioners that on September 22nd that they have been invited to the "Empowering County Commissioners" presentation that is sponsored by the Quality and Productivity Commission at the Music Center, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Mr. Staniforth stated that on the 27th of August a set of articles covering "Fraud in Los Angeles County" and "Surplus Property Situations in Los Angeles County" were sent to each commissioner.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

Local Government Services Commission

No liaison was present to make a presentation

Quality and Productivity Commission

Commissioner Hill reported that the Quality and Productivity Commission has extended an invitation to each E&E commissioner to attend the conference on September 22nd, as well as all the other commission's Chairs, Grand Jury members, and department heads. Some of topics that will be discussed "What is the Status of Los Angeles County" in a number of different arenas. Dr. Garthwate will be making a presentation. There will also be a networking lunch with department heads available to speak with everyone.

Commissioner Hill also reported that on October 29th everyone is invited to the Annual Quality and Productivity Awards Program. Over 600 people are expected to attend this event. It is a platform to highlight the top ten projects over the past year along with the money that has been saved by the county.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS

Emancipation Services Task Force

Since Commissioner Thompson was not present, Commissioner Fuhrman handed out a copy of the CAO's final report on Emancipation Services. The report addressed the key recommendations that were made by the Commission. It appears that the report is addressing the right problems with several of the critical recommendations that we made concerning the decentralizing emancipation services being adopted. Other recommendations made by the Commission on the IT side, i.e. upgrading IT information structure, are still in process. Chairman Philibosian commented that we should put the report on our website.

Commissioner Hill stated that we should also highlight the correlation between the E&E recommendations and actions taken by the county in the area of Emancipation. The purpose of this is to indicate the level of influence of the Economy and Efficiency Commission.

Grand Jury

Commissioner Hill commented that the CAO's response to the Grand Jury's Final Report was accepted by the Board of Supervisors. She also stated that she will be briefing the Grand Jury on the activities of the Quality and Productivity Commission.

X. PRESENTATION (a)

Chairman Philibosian introduced Mr. McCauley and welcomed him to the meeting.

[Mr. Tyler McCauley](#)
[Auditor-Controller, Los Angeles County](#)
[Topic: The Contributions of the Auditor-Controller to County Management](#)

Mr. McCauley discussed with the Commission the roll of the Auditor-Controller in the management of Los Angeles County. He paid particular attention to the Auditor's activities in worker's compensation, risk management, group home oversight, fraud within the county, asset management and the development of new accounting systems for county management.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS (Continued)

Organization & Accountability Task Force

Commissioner Oakes commented on activities in worker's compensation, including what was happening both inside and outside the county. A draft outline was prepared for the Task Force to review. During the information collection phase it appears that one of the major tasks will be going to public and private agencies with the objective of reviewing how what they are doing in the area of employee fraud may be applicable to the county.

Commissioner Oaks recognized that this issue is getting significant press coverage. He felt that it would be valuable to have the head of the MTA as a speaker on the future of this issue. Commissioner Sylva commented that she had read the Grand Jury report which had praise for the efforts of the MTA in this area.

Economic Development Task Force

Commissioner Sylva reported that the Task Force had a meeting prior to the Commission meeting during which the

members agreed on the need to promote economic development. The primary focus should be on small business, as opposed to economic development through planning and zoning.

Commissioner Sylva informed the Commission that the State will be conducting an Economic Development Summit in Northern California, and Southern California. The Southern California Summit is scheduled for November 14th at which the County will be a participant, as opposed to a co-sponsor. The Task Force is looking into proceeding with permit streamlining, perhaps at the city level or at the county on a small scale.

Sheriff's Transportation Task Force

Commissioner Anderson mentioned that he had a meeting with a representative from the District Attorney's Office. A meeting is being scheduled with the Public Defender during which issues on the defendant's rights and the need for privacy will be considered. Mr. Michael Judge, the County Public Defender, has been involved with this issue for a long time and he is very knowledgeable on the history of this issue.

Commissioner Anderson noted that on finding a cheaper way of doing arraignment transportation seems to be focusing on video-conferencing. This approach has been taken before by LAPD, but when the Court lost it's funding for this project it could no longer afford the cost. The current challenge is to get each department involved to contribute so that the impact can be reduced.

Asset Management

Commissioner Lucente commented that the Task Force kick off meeting was postponed until this month. He is planning on following up with Chunk West. The information provided to Commission on the asset management situation in the City of Los Angeles is not a unique situation. In fact, our previous study in asset management indicated that the County, as a primary owner of real estate in the County of Los Angeles, had similar problems.

Chairman Philibosian remarked that the State, County, and City all need space and all have space. Some thought may be given to what we can be done to coordinate the use of the space in each of these jurisdictions.

Discussions of Deliberation Session

Commissioner Crowley observed that there is a need to introduce an awareness of how the Commission considers issues. A conversation by the Commission can address such things as issues in personnel that usually represent approximately 75 percent of the total budget. Commissioner Oaks remarked that the more thinking on the agenda between now and deliberative session about what we should discuss, the more effective the session will be.

Chairman Philibosian asked the Executive Director to e-mail a list of the Task Force Reports for the last five years to all commissioners. Commissioner Cho felt that if the commissioners can go through the list of reports that were published in the last five years they may be able to get a sense of what has happened as a result. One of the rolls of the Commission is to monitor and follow up on what the Commission has recommended. Chairman Philibosian responded that the Commission does follow up on reports, but perhaps it might be valuable to indicate the response. Some older reports that were adopted may not require any follow-up, but some of the reports that may have recommendations that were not adopted may require reconsideration.

Commissioner Hill stated that the impact of the current county culture on Commission operations is a critical area for consideration. To effectively address this issue requires an understanding of the County Strategic Plan which would provide an understanding of the direction of where the County is going and of the climate and culture that is being impacted.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

None

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 11:50

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

[Go to July 10, 2003 Agenda](#)

[Return to September 4, 2003 Agenda](#)



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