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Economy & Efficiency Commission

Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, January 8, 2004
ROOM 743, 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

In the presence of a quorum, Chairman Philibosian called the meeting to order at 10:05 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. Boonschaft
John Crowley
Jonathan Fuhrman
Jaclyn Tilley Hill
Ronald K. Ikejiri
Chun Lee
Royal F. Oakes
Roman Padilla
William J. Petak
Robert H. Philibosian
Julia Sylva
Ira Thierer
G. Thomas Thompson
Tony Tortorice

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Annie E. Cho
Tony Lucente

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 December 4, 2003 Commission meeting. Hearing none, the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The minutes of the December 4, 2003 Commission meeting be approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF PRESENTATION

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the presentation for the December 4, 2003 Commission meeting. Hearing none, the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The presentation of the December 4, 2003 Commission meeting be approved.

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Staniforth informed the Commission that the meeting's presenter, Mr. Roger Snoble, would be on a tight schedule that morning. He also noted that today was the only time in 2004 when the Commission would be meeting in Room 743. All other monthly Commission meetings will be held in the usual meeting room, Room 830, on the 8th Floor of the Hall of Administration.

Commissioner Crowley asked for a point of personal privilege – seeking to hold the election of the Chair prior to the arrival of the speaker, which would facilitate his attendance at a committee meeting for the Bob Hope Airport. Chairman Philibosian also recognized that Commissioner Thompson also had a meeting with a supervisor. He asked if there were any objection to moving up New Business. No objections were made.

Commissioner Thompson introduced his Jordan Thomas, an attorney with the Enforcement Division of the Securities and Exchange Commission and an officer in the Judge Advocate General's Corps.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Philibosian commented that there was nothing to report at this time.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Staniforth reminded the commissioners that contact information questionnaires had been distributed in the monthly agenda packet mailings, and were available at the meeting as well. He requested that they be turned in as soon as possible.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Philibosian asked for the report from the Nominating Committee. Commissioner Hill, Chair of the Nominating Committee for 2004, then informed the Commission that the Nominating Committee had met via conference call some weeks earlier, and that they had unanimously nominated Commissioner Robert Philibosian to continue in the position of Chairman of the Commission.

Mr. Staniforth reminded the commissioners that in order to nominate Commissioner Philibosian to the Chair, the Commission would first need to vote to suspend the term limitation rules in order to allow the Chairman to continue in that position. The second motion would then involve the election that considers the nominee of the Nominating Committee, as well as any nominations from the floor. The first motion, to suspend the term limitation rule was Moved, Seconded and Adopted without objection.

Chairman Philibosian then asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Commissioner Crowley moved that the nominations be closed. The motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted.

Chairman Philibosian then asked for a vote on the current nominee being elected to the Chair. The vote was unanimously passed.

Chairman Philibosian then thanked the Commission for their continued confidence in his leadership.

Commissioner Thompson asked that the Chair consider Commissioner Ikejiri for the position of Vice-Chair, although the appointment remains the prerogative of the Chair. Chairman Philibosian thanked Commissioner Thompson for his recommendation, and proceeded to accept the recommendation by appointing Commissioner Ikejiri as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Ikejiri accepted the appointment, thanked the Commission and the Chair, and expressed his hope to continue making contributions to the Commission.

Commissioner Thompson then asked to be excused from his position of Chair of the Emancipation Task Force, as his health over the next few months would not permit him to devote the necessary energies to the position. Chairman Philibosian thanked Commissioner Thompson for his efforts and leadership in the past, excused him from the position of Chair of the Emancipation Task Force, and expressed the Commission's most fervent hopes for his speedy recovery.

VIII. LIAISON REPORTS

Quality and Productivity Commission

Commissioner Hill related the success of the Q&P Commission's Holiday celebration. At this event they were able to honor Supervisor Antonovich, the founder of the Commission, as well as the longstanding service of other Quality and Productivity Commissioners. In the upcoming year, the Commission anticipates a Commissioner's Conference, to be held on a date to be announced in the spring.

Local Government Services Commission

Commissioner Selditz noted the Local Government Services Commission is pleased at the prospect of working with the Economy & Efficiency Commission on real asset management challenges facing the County. The Local Government Services Commission had also been recently briefed as to ongoing issues from CalTrans. Commissioner Crowley inquired as to the process by which parcels of County land were identified as being surplus. Commissioner Hill responded by giving a brief overview of the process. She also noted the Real Estate Asset Management Task Force's interest in undertaking a careful analysis of this process, and making recommendations for improvement where appropriate.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS

Emancipation Services Task Force

Commissioner Thompson was excused to attend another meeting, and thus no report was given.

Grand Jury

Commissioner Hill related the details of the task force meeting held earlier that morning, attended by all the task force members. Commissioner Hill noted that when a new grand jury is empanelled, they are often interested in the same high-profile issues that might be of interest to other groups, commissions, and even the Board of Supervisors. With this confluence of interest regarding specific "hot-button" issues, Commissioner Hill related the Task Force's concern over selecting those areas of inquiry wherein the Task Force might make the most impact. Per Chairman Philibosian's suggestion, Mr. Staniforth agreed to forward the Table of Contents of the Grand Jury report to all the Commissioners via email so that they may forward their suggestions to the Task Force. Commissioner Hill commented that the Task Force sought areas where little progress had been made in the past.

Organization & Accountability Task Force

Commissioner Oakes reported that Workers' Compensation is still the focus of the Task Force's efforts. Commissioner Oakes has recently spoken with Mr. Staniforth, and a draft of the Task Force Report and recommendations is being diligently pursued. The report includes information on the current state of fraud prevention, as well as addressing improvements that might be made. Commissioner Crowley asked about the phenomenon of employees soon to retire developing worker's compensation claims? Commissioner Oakes replied that this was indeed a fertile ground for inquiry. Chairman Philibosian noted that the email updates from Senator Chuck Poochigian regarding workers' compensation might be a valuable resource in the Task Force's efforts.

Economic Development Task Force

Commissioner Sylva related the Task Force's upcoming meeting to be held on February 5, 2004 at 9:00AM in the Economy & Efficiency Commission conference room. Commissioner Sylva has invited Ms. Dorothea Parks, with the CAO's Economic Development Task Force Steering Committee, which is planning the internal County Economic Development Summit later this year.

Sheriff's Transportation Task Force

Commissioner Anderson commented that the next meeting would be with the Public Defender, at a date yet to be determined. At that point, the Task Force will want to caucus with the other groups and Committees involved with this issue, one being the Sheriff's Department which is sponsoring a group of people involved, and the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (a group chaired by the Public Defender). After consideration of this information a report will probably be generated, encompassing recommendation to those organizations where implementation is most feasible.

Asset Management

Commissioner Hill noted that the task force hoped to have a meeting in mid-January.

X. PRESENTATION (a)

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

Mr. Roger Snoble

Chief Executive Officer, Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA)

Topic: Challenges Facing the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Mr. Snoble's presentation focused on the past, present, and future status of the MTA, its long-term goals, the projects currently underway, as well as the administrative and planning challenges being addressed currently (<http://www.mta.net>).

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 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

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