

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION**
THURSDAY, December 6, 2007
ROOM 525, 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

With the presence of a quorum of commissioners, Chairman, Ronald Ikejiri called the Commission meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

The following was the attendance for the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

*Clayton R. Anderson
Fred P. Balderrama
Isaac Diaz Barcelona
Robert Cole
Jonathan S. Fuhrman
Ronald K. Ikejiri
Chun Y. Lee
Roman Padilla
William J. Petak
Robert H. Philiposian
Freda Hinsche Otto
Robert E. Sax
Solon C. Soteras*

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

*Tony Tortorice
Fred P. Balderrama
Joanne Baltierrez
Hope J. Boonshaft
Royal F. Oakes*

COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

None

Chairman Ikejiri asked for a motion to approve absences. It was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: Commission members requesting an excuse are excused.

III. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 1, 2007 MINUTES

Chairman Ikejiri asked if there were any objections to the minutes of the November 1, 2007 Commission meeting. Hearing none, the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted. The minutes of the November 1, 2007, Commission meeting are approved.

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Ikejiri introduced *Sachi Hamai, Executive Director of the Board of Supervisors; Ginger Vadurro, the Commission's Interim Executive Director; Angie Muneton, contract Secretary to the*

Commission; and, recently appointed Commissioner Freda Hinshe Otto, a Long Beach resident who previously served with the California State University of Chancellors Office.

Chairman Ikejiri acknowledged retired Commissioner Max and welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Sax. Chairman Ikejiri appointed Commissioner Sax to serve as Commissioner Max' replacement as chairman of the "Civil Grand Jury Recruitment Video" project.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Ikejiri requested that Ms. Hamai, Executive Director of the Board of Supervisors discuss the current situation with this Commission and explain Commission Operations, the following was provided:

As a result of a recent IRS ruling, the county was required to create a full time county position for the Commission's Executive Director. With former Executive Director, Bruce Staniforth's announced departure from the Commission due to health related issues, it was deemed necessary to maintain consistency with the Commission and ensure all issues are addressed. As such, Ms. Hamai introduced *Ginger Vadurro* and announced that she will serve as the Commission's *Interim Executive Director* until current recruitment efforts result in a permanent appointment. Recruitment has been underway for the past three weeks via the posting a countywide exam; to date there are five applicants. The selection process is anticipated to include participation by the Commission in the form of a screening panel of 2-3 Commissioners along with an individual from the Executive Office; recommendation for appointment would be presented to Ms. Hamai as the appointing authority. Because a larger applicant pool was anticipated, efforts are underway to modify the bulletin to widen the scope of the undergraduate degree requirement and the number of years required for related experience. Copies of the current bulletin were provided to the Commissioners.

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian offered suggested changes to the job description section and desirable qualifications listed in the bulletin which Ms. Hamai indicated would be incorporated in a revised bulletin to be sent via e-mail to the Commission for review and comment early next week.

There was discussion regarding the Range 12 salary level which was set by the Chief Executive Officer to provide a competitive executive pay level.

In response to *Commissioner Padilla's* query regarding the Commission's hiring authority of consultants for study purposes such as provided for under the master agreement, Ms. Hamai replied that she would work with the Commission to meet their needs.

Ms. Hamai also indicated that efforts are underway to create a full time permanent administrative assistant position in the budget to provide staffing continuity, thereby eliminating the rotation of staff under the current 90 day temporary contract services provisions. Once established, appointment would be at the discretion of the Commission's Executive Director.

VII. PRESENTATION

Chairman Ikejiri introduced Lisa Kahn, Assistant DA for LA County, to discuss DNA as a crime fighting tool. *Chair-Emeritus Philibosian* provided a brief biography of Ms. Kahn citing that she serves as the Forensic Services Advisor to District Attorney, Steve Cooley. She is a nationwide speaker on DNA and scientific evidence and has been on the cutting edge of DNA legislation in California. She was the first prosecutor in California to present DNA evidence in a criminal jury trial in 1989 and since then has played a central role in the expanded use of DNA in California courtrooms. She helped draft Proposition 69 – the DNA Fingerprint, Unsolved Crime and Innocence Protection Act of 2004 and chairs the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee's Proposition 69 Implementation Task Force. (A full bio was included in the agenda packet)

LISA KAHN, ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Discussed high profile DNA cases citing the Belmont Shore Rapist who sexually assaulted over 30 victims over a 7 year period; looked at 75 people with DNA and 1 was exonerated due to DNA. Discussed the issues of Prop 69 not being in effect during the earlier part of the investigation.

A detailed summary of the presentation and discussion, currently subject to final review, will be available on the Citizens' Economy and Efficiency Commission's Website

LIAISON REPORTS

Local Government Service Commission (LGSC) Liaison

Commissioner Fuhrman reported there was a meeting in December, and despite the lack of a quorum, progress was made on the main issue they are addressing which is a regional transportation, taxi cab study. They put together a task force and appointed members and stakeholder groups that will be invited to testify.

Quality and Productivity Commission (Q&P) Liaison

Commissioner Anderson stated that the meeting is on Monday and at this time he had nothing new to report. *Chairman Ikejiri* offered his thanks to the Quality and Productivity Commission for confidence in the video and the attractive affects this will have on recruitment; a meeting is scheduled with the *Interim Executive Director* in pursuing this.

Countywide Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee Liaison

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that the financial implications of DNA as cited by *Lisa Kahn*, who is part of CCJCC Task Force on DNA, reflect that aside from the human costs of crime, there are real financial costs of crime to the County. If the Commission could convince the Board of Supervisors that it is in the best interest of the residents of LA County to spend a little more money on the DNA program, money and lives could be saved by preventing crimes.

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian spoke of the implications of Prop 36, a state mandated program. It costs a lot of money to put people into drug diversion and there is a lot of recidivism. The Sheriff questioned the cost benefits of this program and asked for some studies, which might be an area which the Commission may want to explore.

OLD BUSINESS – TASK FORCE REPORTS

Grand Jury, Task Force

Retired Commissioner Max attended the final meeting where the Productivity Commission discussed awarding the grant request of \$35,000 to develop a 10 minute Civil Grand Jury recruitment video. *Chairman Ikejiri* announced that the grant had been awarded and requested the Commission appoint *Commissioner Sax* as Chairman of the Grand Jury Task Force. *Commissioner Sax* reported that this project is expected to go forward smoothly. *Chair-Emeritus Philibosian* mentioned the possibility of having the Governor included in the video with a 30-second public service announcement.

Organization & Accountability

Commissioner Oakes expressed the interest in meeting with *Chair-Emeritus Philibosian* and with *Supervisor Knabe* or staff. No appointment or meeting has been set at this time.

Child Care Fraud

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian a productive round-table meeting was conducted with staff and the Director of DPSS. The DA and DPSS will continue working along the guidelines we laid out for them and we will be doing a follow up report along those lines within a few months. No follow up meeting has been scheduled.

Commissioner Soteras asked when things will come to a head to bring closure on the Child Care Fraud investigation. *Chair-Emeritus Philibosian* indicated that progress is being made with DPSS and that after a couple months another roundtable will be called to get back together with the new Director of DPSS to check on the status. If they are not doing everything required, then we will give a report to the Board of Supervisors stating here's what needs to be done and we'd appreciate the Board implementing our recommendations.

X. COMMISSION STAFF

Chairman Ikejiri noted that due to an IRS ruling, the CEO and Executive Officer of the Board were required to create a permanent county position for the Commission's Executive Director. This then terminated the previous independent contract status of this position. As a result of former Executive Director, Bruce Staniforth recent departure due to stated health issues, recruitment to fill the new position is underway.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity was provided for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Joe Contreras and Linda Windfield attended as members of the Civil Grand Jury.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Ikejiri thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginger Vadurro

Ginger Vadurro, Interim Executive Director

GV:am