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Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, September 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 Chairmaan Ikejiri called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

The following was the attendance for the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Clayton Anderson
Joanne Baltierrez
Fred P. Balderrama
Isaac Diaz Barcelona
Jonathan S. Fuhrman
Ronald K. Ikejiri
Chun Lee
William Max
Robert H. Philibosian
Solon C. Soteras
Tony Tortorice

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Hope Boonshaft
Royal F. Oakes
Roman Padilla
William Petak

COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING AN EXCUSE

Robert Cole

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

III. APPROVAL OF MAY 3, 2007 MINUTES

Chairman Ikejiri asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes of the May 3, 2007 Commission meeting. Hearing none, the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The minutes of the May 3, 2007 Commission meeting are approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF MAY 3, 2007 PRESENTATION

Chairman Ikejiri asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the presentation of the May 3, 2007 Commission meeting. Hearing none, the following motion was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: The presentation of the May 3, 2007 Commission meeting is approved.

V. INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Ikejiri asked if there were any introductions or announcements. Dr. Robert Sax, former foreman for the 2006-2007 Civil Grand Jury introduced himself. Commissioner Fuhrman reminded the Commission that as the prior foreman Dr. Sax will soon become a member of the Commission.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Ikejiri informed the members that Commissioner Jaclyn Tilley Hill, the former Chair of the Commission, had resigned. He then inquired as to whether the scroll from the Board of Supervisors recognizing Commissioner Hill's service had been finished. The Executive Director responded said that it had, and that it was ready for presentation. Chairman Ikejiri then suggested that after she had recovered from a recent surgery, that at an appropriate time the presentation could take place.

Chairman Ikejiri thanked former Chair-Emeritus Philipbosian for making it possible for the new Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer (CEO), William T. Fujioka, to speak before the Commission. Chair-Emeritus Philipbosian added that the District Attorney (DA), Steve Cooley is scheduled to speak to the Commission in October. For the December speaker he suggested Ms. Lisa Kahn, Deputy District Attorney, who is one of the leading authorities in the nation on DNA. This recommendation is in light of the important development of a DNA Database in California and throughout the nation.

Chairman Ikejiri asked if anyone has a recommendation for a speaker for November. Commissioner Barcelona commented that aside from crime, the water is a major issue in the Antelope Valley. The water shortage and mandated conservation is going to get worse. Chairman Ikejiri asked the Executive Director to invite the Public Works Director to address this and other issues.

Chairman Ikejiri reminded everyone that in December the Commission has an annual "no-host" luncheon. This year we will have it at meeting at Kendall's at 12 noon.

Chairman Ikejiri reported that the Executive Committee had held a meeting and that efforts would be made in the future to ensure that this Committee was reflective of the supervisorial districts.

Commissioner Fuhrman took this opportunity to reflect on the new governance system. By noting that the new CEO Fujioka should have a feeling of whether this new system is working for him and for the supervisors. There was a discussion by Commissioner Fuhrman and Commissioner Max concerning the new Governance System and the need to establish it by Charter amendment vote. Security for the CEO is the overriding issue since without a Charter amendment three supervisors can decide anytime to end it.

Chairman Ikejiri mentioned that during a discussion with Supervisor Antonovich he informed the Supervisor that next year the Economy and Efficiency Commission would undertake a study of the new governance system. Chairman Ikejiri told the commissioners that in as large a county as Los Angeles the best way of delivering needed services was to find ways to make the new system work.

Chairman Ikejiri informed the Commissioners that the Commission would adjourn in memory of Former

Commissioner John Crowley. Staff had prepared a certificate for his family that has been signed by the Vice-Chair and the Chair-Emeritus and the Chair. Mr. Stanforth reminded the commissioners that any member of the Commission can request an adjournment motion.

VII. LIASON REPORTS

Local Government Service Commission (LGSC)

Mr. Stanforth reported that the Local Government Service Commission had not met for two months. The last time they met they had considered the Taxi Cab Regulation issue. They've been having a problem getting an agreement from each affected jurisdiction.

Chairman Ikejiri, who is the current EEC liaison to the Local Government Service Commission, filled in the report with more information on the groups agenda, saying that the biggest issue that they had was competing jurisdictions for taxi cabs, and that what it came down to was being able to go from one jurisdiction to another on a more consistent basis. Chairman Ikejiri asked if anyone would like to volunteer as the EEC liaison to the Local Government Service Commission. Commissioner Fuhrman said that he would take on this assignment. Chairman Ikejiri, then appointed Commissioner Fuhrman to be the new EEC Liaison to the Local Government Service Commission.

Quality and Productivity Commission (Q&P)

Commissioner Anderson said that he would fill the position of Liaison from the Economy and Efficiency Commission to the Quality and Productivity Commission. He went on to say that the Quality and Productivity Awards luncheon is coming up the later part of October. During this event awards are given to different county departments for programs and or activities.

Countywide Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee Liaison (CCJCC)

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian explained that the CCJCC is comprised of all the criminal justice agencies in the County, as well as, affiliated city and county departments that are involved in criminal justice activities. The meetings consist of reports on the activities of various agencies. One of the most important reports from the last two meetings has been the one on DNA by the DA. An interagency gang task force, that is sponsored by CCJCC, brings together all of the criminal justice agencies to exchange information and track gang activities. This has given rise to a new program which is called "The Gang Affiliation Database". The Database will require that gang members convicted of certain crimes register, in the same way as are registered sex offenders. This database will be available both countywide and statewide.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Grand Jury

Commissioner Max reported that the Task Force has selected a director and a director of photography. Although there is no money currently available for the video, there is a real need for the video to assist in recruitment. If the video is made and shown at several venues and in various jury rooms throughout the County, the pool will be expanded. With a wider group of candidates it is easier for the judges to select those that can truly participate in the jury service experience. Commissioner Max encouraged the Commission to complete work on the video to capitalize upon the work that staff has already accomplished.

Organization an Accountability

Commissioner Oakes was not present so no report was made.

Succession Planning

Commissioner Petak was not present so no report was made.

Child Care Welfare Fraud

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian reported on the response from the Department of Public Social Services to the reports recommendations. Commissioner Fuhrman has also commented for purposes of an update. Staff has prepared a matrix of these comments which is still being refined. There will be a Task Force meeting next weeks to develop a task force position. A report will be presented to the Commission at the next meeting. In addition, in the most recent Weekly Update each Commissioner received information on Senate Bill 84 which calls for a study regarding a number of the issues that have been raised. Hopefully, in some way the efforts of the Commission to date have helped in the passage of SB 84.

Non-Interference

Commissioner Fuhrman said that this Task Force had taken the summer off, hopefully the issue can be raised with Mr. Fujioka. From this point the Task Force will decide how to proceed.

Commission Staff Task Force

Executive Director Staniforth stated that he had nothing to report at that time.

IX. PRESENTATION

Chairman Ikejiri introduced William Fujioka, and welcomed him to the meeting.

William Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Los Angeles County

Mr. Fujioka used his visit to the Commission to outline his plan to lay the foundation for the implementation of a collaborative partnership between the various county departments. He wants to build a common administrative along with common IT platforms and systems throughout the County to facilitate departments working together. He described the old method of departmental working culture ("silo" relationships) where each department exists own it's own, making decisions independently. The creation of a new matrix system it will be enable cooperative performance goals as they are identified and made part of those department head's performance objectives. What was once an informal relationship between departments, now becomes formal with goals for everyone involved. Questions of Mr. Fujioka focused on issues such as partnering with the Economy and Efficiency Commission to target inefficiency as the County enters times of slower economic growth.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought up.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. No members of the public commented.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian moved adjournment in memory of Former Chair John Crowley. Chairman Ikejiri adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

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