

**ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
April 21, 2011**

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

Lacking a quorum of commissioners, Chairman Barcelona called the meeting as a Committee of the Whole to order at 10:15 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

The following was the attendance for the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Fred P. Balderrama
Isaac Diaz Barcelona
Jonathan S. Fuhrman
Arne Kalm
Freda Hinsche Otto
Ronald K. Ikejiri
Chun Y. Lee
Edward T. McIntyre
Robert H. Philibosian

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Alan Glassman
Bradley Mindlin
Adam Murray
Janice Kamenir-Reznik
Royal F. Oakes
Roman Padilla
Solon Soteras

COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Hope J. Boonshaft
Robert Cole
William Petak

III. APPROVAL OF March 3, 2011 MINUTES

Chairman Barcelona stated that without the presence of a quorum of commissioners no corrections or amendments to the minutes of the March 3, 2011 could be made.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Barcelona stated that the May 5th Meeting has been cancelled due to the April Meeting being moved later in the month. (April 21, 2011).

Chairman Barcelona stated that the June 2nd meeting will be an offsite Tour of the Central Juvenile Hall in Los Angeles.

Chairman Barcelona stated that in July the guest speaker will be newly elected Los Angeles County Assessor John Noguez. Chair Emeritus Philibosian added that Mr. Noguez was also elected to office in the City of Huntington Park in 2000 and was also the former President of the League of California Cities, Los Angeles Division, and Secretary/Treasurer of the California Contract Cities Association.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Eng stated that there is nothing significant to report.

VI. TASK FORCE REPORTS

1. Child Care Fraud – Chair-Emeritus Philibosian, Chair

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that he would like to defer to Executive Edward Eng. Executive Director Edward Eng stated that the DA's Office has made a number of personnel changes to the Child Care Welfare Fraud team. He stated that the response from both DPSS and the DA's office is that they both indicated that the relationship is as good as it has ever been. The departments confirmed that they are working well together; they meet frequently in person, through emails, and on the phone. In addition, Mr. Eng stated that DPSS is working on an update to the last Fraud Control Plan which was issued in June 2009. He stated that the most significant progress is the development of a new Data Mining Fraud Detection System that is being populated with live data for testing. He stated that the department received money from the Board to develop this system. He stated by the end of May or June, the Commission will receive two reports from DPSS: (1) an upgraded Fraud Control Plan, and (2) a Preliminary Analysis of the new system.

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that this came from the taskforce recommendations. He stated that the taskforce is the one who got the departments talking. He stated that there had been a communication problem historically where the DA would make recommendations to DPSS and then those recommendations would be completely ignored by DPSS. He also stated that the Fraud Detection Program is very interesting because one of the things that was reported was that they administered Childcare Programs so that the parents can go to classes to get into the workforce and get out of the Welfare System. He stated that the State subsidized programs would flow through the County to provide childcare and it could either be in home childcare by a relative or by a private entity. Chair-Emeritus stated that there is tremendous fraud in the private entities because they charge for kids who aren't there, and kids who don't show up. He stated the other areas of fraud that they are now catching with the new detection system is when for instance: grandma is taking care of the kids and grandma is also receiving elderly care through In Home Supportive Services (IHSS). He stated that the fraud in that system state-wide is probably a billion dollars a year. Executive

Director Edward Eng added that Mr. Browning stated that the Detection System is going to first start in Welfare Fraud and if it is successful then it will be expanded into the IHSS Program.

2. Civil Service Reform-- Commissioner Hinsche-Otto

Commissioner Hinsche Otto stated that she would also like to defer to the Executive Director due to him attending the latest Board meetings following the Civil Service Presentation to the Board of Supervisors. Executive Director Edward Eng stated that two things happened (1) the President of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and the Executive Director of CSC appeared before the Board and answered questions on the Civil Service Report. He stated that the CSC has agreed to produce an annual report to the Board delineating the number of appeals, the number that are overturned by the Commission including the details of it. He stated that he is unsure of what the format will be but he will continue to track the process of this annual report.

Commissioner Hinsche-Otto asked what will happen to the recommendations that were made to the CSC and whether they will be implemented. Mr. Eng replied that he is not sure if anything is happening with the implementation of those recommendations. The County is also in the middle of the budget process and a lot of resources and focus is on the budget right now.

Commissioner Fuhrman stated that he has heard some anecdotal reports that the scheduling of hearings seems to be happening more rapidly. He stated that he thinks it is a little early to make any real conclusions but perhaps later in the summer the EEC taskforce should again ask for transcripts from the 10 most recent filed cases and see if there was a shortening of some of the time lags within the cases. He stated that it still a little early due to the recommendations being submitted in early January so the EEC wouldn't see resolution of any cases that were filed at the end of last year or beginning of this year until later this year or early 2012. He stated that it sounds like by talking about the process and publicizing the delays the Commission, Commission Staff, and some of the Hearing Officers have become considerably more sensitive about the delays.

Mr. Eng stated that he has heard some anecdotal reports that the relationship between DHR and CSC is getting a lot better in working to resolve customer complaints. Commissioner Hinsche-Otto asked if there is a formal or informal process that the Commission as a group are entitled to to track the recommendations? She stated that she thinks it is part of the task force's mission to see the report through a little further by returning in 6 months to look at the recommendations since some of them were formal i.e., revising policies, rules, and procedures. She stated she would like to look at even the informal recommendation as Commissioner Fuhrman mentioned where processes are starting to move more smoothly. Mr. Eng replied that as with all the reports, the Commission typically goes back to the originating Board Office to ask if there is a desire for the Commission to follow up on a particular report. Mr. Eng stated that since this report on Civil Service Analysis is still relatively recent, and was approved only in March 2011, the Commission should give it more time before any follow up.

VII. LIAISON REPORTS

1. Local Government Service Commission – Commissioner Fuhrman

No Report

2. Quality & Productivity Commission – Commissioner Lee

Commissioner Lee stated that former Commissioner Robert E. Sax made a comment on the Civil Service Study and stated the EEC did an outstanding job on the report and presentation to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Eng stated that he spoke to Executive Director Ruth Wong of the Quality & Productivity Commission (Q&P) and she also felt that the report was well done. Vice-Chair Lee stated that he is resigning as the Liaison from the Q&P Commission and would like to nominate Commissioner Ikejiri to take his place. He stated that the next Q&P Commission meeting will be held on June 6, 2011.

3. Countywide Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee – Chair-Emeritus Philibosian

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that there is a LA County task force on Raves and there was a report from the Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Department of Public Health. He stated that the report was about the Department of Public Health setting up aid stations to provide more information to people attending the raves about what to do and what not to do. He stated that the Department made a recommendation to develop a public service announcement regarding the dangers of drugs especially ecstasy, that can be viewed by every ticket purchaser and attendee, and is displayed on the event promoter's website. He stated that the department would also like to require the promoter's website to display information on the health effects (including symptoms requiring medical aid) of ecstasy and other illegal drugs commonly associated with electronic music events. He also stated that there needs to be coordination between law enforcement/security and Department of Public Health to test seized and suspected illegal substances from electronic music events, and present results for educational purposes.

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that there was a presentation on Realignment. He stated that State Public Realignment means release prisoners from State Prisons so that the State does not have to pay for the inmates anymore out of the State budget and they can come back to the County Budget. He stated that realignment according to current administration in Sacramento means transferring the expenses to the County. He stated that those are two issues in Justice that people in LA are working on but there hasn't been much of a solution.

Commissioner Fuhrman asked if there is any recent information on the status lawsuits for the circuit court on the State Prisons being over capacitated. Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that there has been no result on it and they are still waiting. He stated that what the State is trying to do is preclude a drastic order from the court by releasing all the inmates in advance. He stated the California pays between 35,000 to 50,000 dollars to keep the prisoners in State Prisons where as Texas pays about 18,000. There is no lawsuit or federal court orders in Texas. He stated there are a lot of inmates housed in their prisons.

VIII. PRESENTATION

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Mayor Michael Antonovich.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Report

X. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Fuhrman stated that he asked Executive Director Edward Eng to place the Video Arraignment item on the Agenda because of something that came to his attention from the local League of Women Voters. He stated that they are doing a study on the County Jails. He stated that in their study, they found that the Century Regional Detention Facility has the equipment for potential use for video arraignment but that it is too costly to coordinate the court and legal teams so it is not being used. He also stated that since the Commission has done a previous study on the potential use of video arraignment, he would like to reconstitute the task force on Video Arraignment to analyze the costs of using this technology.

Commissioner McIntyre stated that this is something that the Civil Grand Jury (CGJ) took a look at but could not publish what CGJ wanted because they were not allowed to report on the Courts. He stated even the CGJ had done a lot of research and work on this report they had to really narrow it down. He stated that he feels that there is so much extra effort. He stated that the second or even first largest bus system in LA County is the Sheriff Bus System.

Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that this is already being done it is just a matter of expanding it. He stated that the Video Arraignment Report was completed in 2004 where Clayton Anderson served as Chair, and Jaclyn Tilley Hill, Tony Lucente, Thomas Thompson served as the Transportation Task force. He stated all the Commissioners that were on the task force are no longer a part of the Commission. Chair-Emeritus Philibosian stated that the Executive Committee accepted Commissioner Fuhrman's proposal to reconstitute a task force to review the barriers for not using video arraignment in the County criminal justice system. The following Commissioners stated that they would like to be a part of the taskforce: Commissioners Robert Philibosian, Jon Fuhrman, Ed McIntyre, and Ron Ikejiri.

Chairman Barcelona replied that since Mayor Antonovich requested the Commission take a broad review of the County's permitting process for new businesses and look for opportunities to streamline the process the Commission needs to form a task force to update this study. The following Commissioners stated that they would like to be a part of this task force: Commissioners Arne Kalm, Fred Balderrama, and Chun Y. Lee.

Mr. Eng stated that the Task force Chairs will be determined at a later date. He also stated that he will send out an email to see if any additional Commissioners would like to join either of the taskforces. He stated that once he sends out the email if anyone would like to be a member (one or both) of the new task forces, they may contact Administrative Assistant Ms. Aisha Pittmon or him directly, and the Commissioners name will be submitted to the Chair for consideration.

Commissioner Kalm stated that he hopes that the Commission could take a broader look then just reviving the previous reports on Business License to include other potential applications in the business to business space similar to the success of Assessment and

Appeals Board (AAB). He stated that there are still things that are being done manually that might benefit from the applications of technology.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Barcelona at 11:15 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward Eng,

Executive Director