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## **Economy & Efficiency Commission**

# **Meeting Minutes**

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### **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION**

9:30 A.M. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1997  
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Buerk called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m.

#### **II. ATTENDANCE**

##### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

David A. Abel  
Fred Balderrama  
Gunther Buerk  
John Crowley  
David Farrar  
Louise Frankel  
Jonathan Fuhrman  
Robert L. Glushon  
Christopher W. Hammond  
Jaclyn Tilley Hill  
Michael A. Jimenez  
Chun Lee  
Carole Ojeda-Kimbrough  
Roman Padilla  
William Petak  
Robert Philobosian  
Marc A. Seidner  
H. Randall Stoke  
Julia E. Sylva  
Tony Tortorice

##### **COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED**

Richards D. Barger

##### **COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

None

Moved, Seconded and Approved: The Commission members noted above be excused

### III. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Frankel noted that her statement regarding Commission parties on page 10 should be changed from "this Commission" to "commissions". She was referring to a different commission, the Economy and Efficiency Commission has never hosted a party. Moved, Seconded and Approved: The minutes of the December 4, 1996 Commission Meeting be approved as amended.

### IV. INTRODUCTION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Staniforth stated that both scheduled speakers, Fred Guido from Supervisor Knabe's office and Alisa Katz from Supervisor Yaroslavsky's office, were unable to attend today's meeting and their presentations will be rescheduled for a later date. All of the Supervisor's Chiefs of Staff or Chief Deputies have been invited to address the Commission within the next few months.

### V. OLD BUSINESS (continued)

#### 1. Constitutional Revision Commission

Task Force Co-Chair Abel reported that the task force met yesterday with the consultants to review a second draft of the report. A sub-committee consisting of the consultants, Commissioners Crowley, Jimenez, Mr. Staniforth and himself has been formed to work on an additional draft to be brought before the Commission at the February meeting. Co-Chair Philibosian stated that this was necessary to insure the tone and direction of the report are in line with views of the Commission.

Chairperson Buerk stated that the Commission had received a letter from Joanne Sturges informing us that the Board requested report is due on January 13, 1997. He requests that the Task Force draft a letter to the Executive Officer informing her of our current status and projected finish date.

#### 2. ISD Restructuring / Purchasing Division Review

Mr. Staniforth reported that Supervisor Antonovich has expressed interest in placing the ISD Restructuring Review on the Board agenda. The purchasing review is still pending while we secure a consultant to assist on the report.

#### 3. Real Asset Management</>

Task Force Chairperson Farrar reported that one modification, related to the Auditor, was made in the progress report sent to Chairman Yaroslavsky. The Auditor wanted to make clear that he had not been able to take action on all the items in the report because he does not have the resources available at this time.

Task Force Chairperson Farrar added that Sharon Yonashiro and Dan Rosenfeld had both made presentations to the Commission on Local Government Services on real asset management within the County. This is one of the commissions the E&E wanted to include in the committee, consisting of the Real Estate Management Commission, the E & E Commission, the Quality and Productivity Commission, and the Beaches and Harbors Commission, to examine real asset issues. Ms. Yonashiro didn't believe the Local Government Services Commission was a good match for the committee. However, the committee was recommended so the CAO would only be dealing with one organization rather than 4 or 5 separate organizations focusing on the same issue. He feels that their participation in the committee, under the leadership of the Real Estate Management Commission, should be revisited.

Commissioner Stoke asked what is the next step for the committee. Task Force Chairperson Farrar replied we will need to informally or formally contact the Board regarding the progress report sent to the Chair. Task Force Chairperson Farrar will also be contacting Thorton Ibbetson of the Real Estate Management to set up a meeting of the committee. Commissioner Stoke suggested that Task Force Chairperson Farrar contact Yaroslavsky's deputy in charge of real asset management before contacting the Board directly.

#### 4. Department of Health Services

Task Force Chairperson Tortorice reported that the update was submitted to the Board. At this time the work of the task force has been completed and the members recommend the task force be terminated.

Chairperson Buerk asked how many of the task force's recommendations were implemented. Task Force Chairperson Tortorice estimated that half of the recommendations which concerned money savings were implemented. The

recommendations which called for money to be spent, such as a change to the physical layout of the facility, were not implemented. He feels that, overall, the Department embraced the ideas of reengineering that were expressed the Commission's recommendations.

Chairperson Buerk agreed that it was time to sunset the task force and thanked them for their efforts. He stated that, if needed, another task force could be formed in the future to revisit these, or similar, issues.

Chairperson Buerk stated that the report on the Unincorporated Areas would be held until Commissioner Padilla arrived. Chairperson Buerk announced that former Commissioner and Co- Chair, Betty Trotter, has broken her arm and hip. He passed around a get well card for the Commissioners to sign.

#### 6. Natural History Museum

Task Force Chairperson Hill reported that the Museum is increasing their visibility and cited the "Ten Top Museum Trips" as listed in the Los Angeles Times which features the Exclusively Egypt exhibit at the Natural History Museum. She stated that the task force will be meeting prior to the February Commission meeting to prepare for the six month review of the Museum's response to our recommendations.

Task Force Chairperson Hill requested that Commissioner Seidner, a former Board Member of the Museum, be placed on the task force. Chairperson Buerk agreed.

Commissioner Ojeda-Kimbrough stated that she took her family to the Museum over the Christmas break and she is concerned that the cost of entering the Museum causes it to be inaccessible to underprivileged or lower income families. She requested that the task force explore the possibility of lower admission to families in need. Task Force Chairperson Hill said she would review that issue and thanked Commissioner Ojeda-Kimbrough for her suggestion.

Vice-Chair Farrar stated that many museums have a designated day of the week for free admission. Task Force Chairperson Hill said she would check on that option as well.

#### 5. Delivery of Municipal Services to Unincorporated Areas

Task Force Chairperson Padilla reported that the task force responded to the CAO's office draft response to the recommendations in the Accountability and Municipal Service Delivery to Unincorporated Areas study. It is the task force's consensus that the CAO draft response did not contain a tactical plan to implement the policies and recommendations of the report. The final response from the CAO is expected in the next few weeks.

Commissioner Seidner arrived and Chairperson Buerk asked if he would serve on the Natural History Museum task force. Commissioner Seidner accepted.

#### 7. Department of Human Resources / Department of Health Services

Mr. Staniforth reported that we are still waiting for these departments to contact us with information on the strategy that the Board directed them to develop. Chairperson Buerk asked Mr. Staniforth to call the parties involved to get an estimated time of action. If they do not respond we will need to send a letter to the Board informing them of the situation.

#### 8. Party Arrangements

Ms. McCloud reported that eighteen individuals have notified the office that they would be attending the Commission's party on Wednesday, February 5, 1997. She requested that all outstanding party contribution checks, made out to Bruce Staniforth, be sent to the office as soon as possible. Ms. McCloud suggested that individual Commissioners contact their respective Supervisors to follow up on party attendance. Commissioner Philibosian requested to hear the list of who is attending and who has declined. The list of current RSVP status was read.

Commissioner Frankel suggested that the Commission find a way to inform people that this party is being sponsored by the Commissioners and is not being financed with County funds.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Term Limits of the Chair - Commissioner Seidner

Commissioner Seidner introduced a bylaw amendment proposing a term limit of two years for the position of Chair.

Commissioner Glushon asked what Commissioner Seidner's goal was for mandating term limits. He feels that a Chair can be most effective after serving a year or more and elections are held on an annual basis. Commissioner Abel stated that he felt the leadership should rotate among all the Commissioner members and he favored the amendment. Commissioner Seidner stated that he proposed the amendment to facilitate the leadership potential of each of the Commissioners. He also felt that a term limit makes it easier for a current Chair to step down, when he or she desires, or for the Commission to change leaders. Commissioner Stoke stated that a two year restriction is far too short and doesn't allow the Commission to gain the strength of leadership that it needs and it diminishes the Commission's power in dealing with officials. He would support a four year term limit. Commissioner Philibosian stated that in his tenure on the Commission, the Commission has achieved more in five years under one leadership, Gunther Buerk, than it had in the past. He does not believe in term limits on any level. The voters have the ability at every election to continue with current leadership or change. Commissioner Fuhrman stated that he supported the two year term limit. He disagrees that the rotation of leadership weakens the Commission. Although the Chair of the Commission may change, the Task Force Chairpersons will remain constant and those individuals will continue to pursue the issues of the task forces. Commissioner Frankel stated that she did not believe the rotation of the Chair would weaken the Commission. Commissioner Farrar stated that he felt that this issue of term limits is more related to the rotating leadership of the Board than the term limits for Representatives. Commissioner Padilla spoke out in favor of the motion. Commissioner Sylva stated that she was for the motion, but wished to propose an amendment to the motion, changing the length of the term to three (3) years.

Moved and seconded that the Commission revise Section 4, Election of Officers, of its Operating Procedures to include a two year term limit for the position of Chair.

Commissioner Sylva proposed amending the motion from a two year limit to a three year limit and change the language "Each officer may serve only" to "The Chair may only serve". Amendment to motion made and seconded. Amendment carried. Amended motion moved and seconded to revise Section 4, Election of Officers, of the Operating Procedures. Motion carried.

Section 4 now reads as follows:

Section 4. Election of Officers At the regular Commission meeting held in January, or at the next regularly scheduled meeting thereafter, the Commission shall elect a Chairperson from among its members using the process defined in Section 5 of this Article. The newly elected Chairperson will appoint the Vice-Chairperson. Their terms of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected and end at the meeting held one year thereafter in January, or at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The Chairperson may only serve three (3) consecutive one (1) year terms. A commissioner elected to three (3) consecutive one (1) year terms, may be elected to the position of Chairperson again after having vacated that position for a period of one (1) year.

## 2. Civil Service - Commissioner Fuhrman

Commissioner Fuhrman stated that he has not had an opportunity to circulate his recommendation to the other interested Commissioners and requested that the matter be tabled until the next meeting.

## 3. Election of Chair

Commissioner Jimenez of the Nominating Committee announced that there were two Commissioners interested in running for the position of Chair, Commissioners Fuhrman and Tortorice. Chairperson Buerk asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. Commissioner Glushon nominated Commissioner Abel. Commissioner Farrar seconded the nomination. Commissioner Fuhrman withdrew his name from consideration, due to work and personal time constraints, and voiced his support for Commissioner Abel.

Both, Commissioner Tortorice and Commissioner Abel gave information on their respective backgrounds and their visions for the Commission.

Commissioner Abel was elected to the position of Chair by an 11 to 9 vote. Commissioner Farrar was reappointed as Vice-Chair by Chairman Abel.

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion from the floor, Chairman Buerk adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth  
Executive Director

[Go to January, 1997 Agenda](#)

[Return to February, 1997 Agenda](#)



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