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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, JUNE 4, 1997  
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

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

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

#### **II. ATTENDANCE**

##### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

David A. Abel  
Fred Balderrama  
Richards D. Barger  
John Crowley  
David Farrar  
Jaclyn Tilley Hill  
Michael A. Jimenez  
Chun Lee  
Roman Padilla  
Robert Philibosian  
H. Randall Stoke  
Julia E. Sylva

##### **COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED**

Gunther Buerk  
Louise Frankel  
Robert L. Glushon  
Christopher W. Hammond  
Carole Ojeda-Kimbrough  
William Petak  
Marc A. Seidner  
Tony Tortorice

##### **COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

Jonathan Fuhrman

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

1. Discussion of Policy on Commissioner Absences

Chairman Abel deferred the discussion of absences until more Commissioners arrived.

2. Announcement of No Commission Meeting in August

Chairman Abel asked if there were any objections to canceling the August Commission meeting. There were no objections, but some Commissioners expressed concern over July vacation schedules. Chairman Abel stated that cancellation of the July meeting will depend upon the agenda and ability to achieve a quorum.

### III. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Moved, Seconded and Approved: The minutes of the May 7, 1997 Commission Meeting be approved.

### IV. INTRODUCTION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Staniforth distributed the information that will be included on the Commission's web page. He asked them to inform the office as soon as possible of any biographical corrections or general suggestions. The web page will go live in the next several days. Chairman Abel announced that Ira Yellin was called out of town and would be unable to speak to the Commission as scheduled.

### V. OLD BUSINESS

#### 4. Real Asset Management

Chairman Abel asked Commissioner Hill to report on the selection panel she participated in to select a consultant to assist the CAO in real asset issues, as recommended by the Commission. Commissioner Hill reported that she served on a panel consisting of herself, Kenneth Ruby and Patrick Prinster of the Real Asset Commission, and Ernie Friedman. This committee reviewed candidates for the consultant position and interviewed the top three. The committee has reached a consensus on a consultant who will be announced shortly.

Task Force Chairperson Farrar stated that the Commission has long believed that the County needs an individual who's sole focus is asset management. This consultant will help the County create a strategy for managing its real assets.

Commissioner Hill asked for the status of the draft motion, generated by the CAO, that calls for a committee comprised of members of several interested commissions to collaborate on the real asset issue. Chairman Abel stated that he believes that the motion will be acted upon. Commissioner Hill asked if the EEC will be able to take a leadership position. Chairperson Abel stated that the EEC's position will be determined in the future.

Task Force Chairperson stated that he was originally invited to participate on this committee, but due to the fact that he previously worked with two out of the three finalists, he had a conflict of interest. He and Chairperson Abel asked Commissioner Hill to participate in his place to avoid any issues of favoritism.

#### 2. Purchasing Review - Request for Consideration by Supervisor Burke

Mr. Staniforth reported that as he was exploring funding options for a purchasing consultant, he discovered that there are two similar efforts currently under way. ISD is conducting an internal audit of purchasing functions and the State is also conducting a purchasing audit. Mr. Staniforth stated that after consulting with Chairperson Abel, he contacted Herb Wesson of Supervisor Burke's office, she is the maker of the motion, and notified them of the Commission's difficulty securing funding and of the other audits. Mr. Staniforth suggested that the Commission defer

any action until the completion of those audits. Mr. Wesson is in receipt of this suggestion and we are awaiting an official response from Supervisor Burke's office. Once Supervisor Burke has responded, a letter will be sent to the Board informing them of the situation and recommending deferral of the project.

Commissioner Balderrama asked what events prompted Supervisor Burke to request the audit. Mr. Staniforth stated that no specific event occurred, that Supervisor Burke had general concerns about purchasing operations.

Commissioner Balderrama inquired about the Sheriff's audit. Mr. Staniforth stated that it was completed and he would send him a copy.

#### 4. Constitutional Revision Commission

Chairperson Abel reported that he and Mr. Staniforth met with David Janssen and the members of the CAO staff to discuss recommendations referred to the EEC/CAO by the Board. Mr. Staniforth stated that Ms. Davis and Mr. Janssen concurred with strategy of the EEC recommendations on charter revision. The CAO is discussing putting together a group that will work with our task force to investigate developing a County position on charter reform.

##### 1. Collections Project

In Task Force Chairperson Jimenez's absence, Commissioner Padilla reported that a consultant, Ken Pride, has been hired to assist the Commission on this project. Commissioner Padilla stated that there is a significant amount owed to the County in back property taxes and other entitlements. The goal of the task force is to maximize the collection of debts owed to the County.

The task force plans to meet in the next few weeks to discuss selection of a consultant that will be selected from a group pre-screened by the County.

Chairperson Abel inquired about the project time line. Commissioner Padilla stated that a report is expected by late November or early December. </>

Commissioner Stoke inquired about the participation of Lockheed Martin. Chairperson Abel stated that Lockheed Martin is currently working on a trial project with the Probation Department which deals with collections. They have offered a loaned executive to assist on this project. Both the EEC and Lockheed Martin requested an opinion from County Counsel covering possible conflicts of interest to determine if their assistance would preclude them from seeking business with the County in the future. County Counsel delivered an opinion that stated that, since there is no contract or payment involved in the loan of an executive, their ability to seek County business would not be affected. However, Lockheed Martin will not be involved in any decision making process regarding recommendations made by the Commission to the Board.

Commissioner Padilla added that there will be two paid consultants working with staff on this project. He stated that Mr. Staniforth has developed a concise scope and work plan for the consultants to follow.

Commissioner Hill asked if the Commission was limited to choosing a consultant from the County's pre-screened list. Commissioner Padilla replied no, the Commission could submit an RFP of its own, but that process is very time intensive.

## 5. Unincorporated Areas

Task Force Chairperson Padilla stated that we are still waiting for a response from the CAO's office. He suggested we approach the CAO's office again for comment.

## Unrelated Issues

Commissioner Crowley stated that he attended a meeting where two different developers spoke of separate contract cities where they are experiencing processing delays. Supposedly, the County planning and zoning functions are having difficulties processing county requests and this, in turn, is now affecting the contract cities. He asked if this was issue for the Commission to address.

Chairperson Abel suggested that this be discussed at the next meeting.

Commissioner Crowley requested that Mr. Staniforth contact City Managers of the contract cities who are currently experiencing difficulty. Mr. Staniforth agreed and asked Commissioner Crowley for their names. Commissioner Crowley stated that one of the contract cities was the City of Irwindale.

Commissioner Padilla suggested that since the Commission may not be meeting in the next two months a social event, such as a lunch, dinner, or happy hour be planned. Chairperson Abel stated he liked the idea and suggested that one of the Supervisors be invited to speak. Commissioner Sylva stated that she believed this event would not be in violation of the Brown Act, as long as it is purely a social event. Chairperson Abel suggested that Supervisor Burke be invited as the first speaker. Chairperson Abel asked Commissioner Balderrama if he would be interested in holding the evening at his restaurant in July. Commissioner Balderrama replied yes, any Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday.

The Commission recessed for a ten minute break.

## VI. PRESENTATION -

[George David Kieffer, Chair](#)  
[City of Los Angeles Charter Reform Commission](#)  
[Topic: Commission Work Plan](#)

## VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Civil Service - Commissioner Fuhrman

Due to Commissioner Fuhrman's absence, this item was not discussed.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion from the floor, Chairman Abel adjourned the meeting at 11:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth  
Executive Director

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